

Darlene Ehling was born and raised in Berwyn, Illinois, where she attended Michaels and Morton West High School.

Darlene began her career at Associate Commercial in Chicago in administrative services and was quickly promoted to supervisor of a staff of 27. In addition to administrative and leadership accomplishments, she participated in fundraising and was responsible for corporate relocations, meeting planning and management trainee programs. Upon leaving Commercial, Darlene began her own business - a personnel temporary placement service, where she was responsible for interviewing and placement, as well as administration, public relations and accounting.

As Executive Director of the Cystic Fibrosis Greater Illinois Chapter, Darlene was responsible for an agency of almost 1 1/2 million dollars that covered over half the state. Here she developed a year round public relations program, supervised staff and volunteers and supervised over 200 special events yearly.

Darlene has also served as Vice President of United Way of Suburban Chicago, where she liaised with 54 member United Ways, covering 160 communities, that served 280 affiliated agencies. In addition to managing communication among the agencies and their affiliates, she coordinated the community assessment process and implemented the agency review process. She was also responsible for the affiliated agencies achieving a 100% increase in dollars pledged over five years.

Darlene shares her vast experiences with not-for-profit agencies in the areas of fund development, staff and volunteer management, and human resources.

Darlene lives with her husband in an active seniors community in Romeoville, Illinois.