

Leadership in Action

FPA members inspire others in many ways, helping lead in their practice, local Chapter, community, family, and especially with their clients. FPA Leadership in Action helps highlight these “everyday” qualities of our members and remind us that we all have opportunities to lead.



NAME: Leighann Miko, member since 2009
COMPANY: Silver Oak Wealth Advisors LLC, Los Angeles, CA

If I Can Do It, Anyone Can

A Leader in the Profession

Leighann Miko’s talent and passion for the financial planning profession have always stood out. Leighann’s “day job” is a paraplanner, but that’s only one source of satisfaction and success in her life. Leighann has been inspirational in the FPA of Los Angeles New Professionals group, which she currently serves as President. She has helped organize the group in a “grassroots” fashion, and has successfully—and quickly—gained student and career transitioner interest and awareness. Colleagues are always impressed with Leighann’s initiative and proactive stance, and agree that her enthusiasm and passion for this new group, and ultimately her vision for its potential, were evident from the beginning. “She has not stopped advancing since. She continuously inspires others to think and move in the direction of creativity, action and accomplishment by example,” says one colleague.

Always a team player and strong collaborator, Leighann lives her life with a “just do it” mentality. As she says, “If I can do it, anyone can!” This positive attitude never fails to bring people together to accomplish an objective.

Lessons Learned

- Have a clear and vivid picture of where you want to go, as well as a solid grasp on what success looks like and how to achieve it
- Surround yourself with people you can learn from, do whatever it takes to get the job done, and inspire others by setting an excellent example
- Go the extra mile; seemingly small actions can have a big impact down the line

Leighann’s Leadership Portfolio

Leighann serves on the Pro Bono Committee of FPA of Los Angeles and is a member of FPA NexGen, a unique community for up-and-coming professionals who represent the future of financial planning. Additionally, Leighann serves on the FPA New Professionals Advisory Council, which helps to connect those new to the profession with the resources needed to jumpstart a successful career in financial planning. In 2010, she was the recipient of FPA’s Diversity Scholarship. Leighann is currently enrolled in UCLA Extension’s CFP Board-registered certificate program in Personal Financial Planning and plans to sit for the CFP® Certification Examination.



“Leadership is action,
not position.”

— Donald H. McGannon