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2011 Class of Licensed Consultants Advance Standards for Excellence Mission

Baltimore, MD - November 15, 2011 The Standards for Excellence Institute®, an initiative designed to help nonprofit organizations operate more ethically and accountably, announces its 2011 Class of Licensed Consultants. Recently completing the intensive, three-day training, class members are now licensed in every aspect of the Standards for Excellence program and are capable of assisting nonprofits nationwide.

Standards for Excellence Licensed Consultants can use their new, extensive knowledge of the multi-faceted initiative to help nonprofits strengthen their governance practices and exceed the rising demand for nonprofit accountability. They can provide nonprofit organizations with organizational assessments, consulting, training, and assistance in the application process for national Standards for Excellence certification. Licensed Consultants can also use the Standards for Excellence training curricula and educational materials in all areas where the Institute does not have replication partners nationwide. Many licensed consultants will also work with [licensed replication partners](#).

"The Standards for Excellence training was comprehensive, well-designed, and chock-full of useful information to help nonprofits raise their game," said Robin Talbert, former President of the AARP Foundation and a new licensed consultant. "I am delighted to be affiliated with this initiative at a time when it's more important than ever for organizations to demonstrate their impact in concrete, measurable ways."

The Standards for Excellence program was designed to evolve with heightened expectations in the nonprofit world. "This class of licensed consultants was our largest group to date, which we think reflects the growing importance of nonprofit accountability," said Sally Patterson, Interim President and CEO of the Maryland Nonprofits' Standards Institute, adding that as nonprofits increasingly "strive to demonstrate strong performance and to implement the highest standards of ethics, the role of these consultants becomes ever more critical. We are planning to expand our program in the fall of 2012 to ensure that we can continue meeting the growing need for consultants by nonprofits across the nation."

The Licensed Consultant Program has grown each year since its inception in 2006. A full list of consultants can be found [on the Institute's website](#).

Standards for **excellence** Institute

Here are the most recent Licensed Consultants:

Shannon Ammons, Birmingham, AL

Felicia Benjamin, Laurel, MD

Mark C-B Brunswick, Wilmington, DE

Allison Black Cornelius, Birmingham, AL

Jeane Gaiennie, Annapolis, MD

Donna Handley, Birmingham, AL

Joy O'Neal, Birmingham, AL

Susan Detwiler, Wilmington, DE

Lisa DeGori, Pitman, NJ

Zelda J. Holcomb, Columbia, MD

Tatia W. Knight, Montgomery, AL

Sharon Walker McCall, Baton Rouge, LA

Susan Eriksen-Meier, Jackson, WY

Ana-Astrid Molina, Rockville, MD

Beth Blanchard Schaffer, Washington, DC

Glen Stubbolo, Dover, DE

Robin Talbert, Silver Spring, MD

John H. Verrill, Hebron, MD

The Institute, an operating division of Maryland Nonprofits, uses the Standards for Excellence program as its vehicle for effective change. The Standards for Excellence program works to help nonprofit organizations act ethically and accountably in their management and governance, while enhancing the public's trust in the nonprofit sector. To learn more, visit www.standardsforexcellenceinstitute.org.