

 MPI  
**TAMPA BAY  
AREA**  
CHAPTER

BE CONNECTED

I am MPI.  
I Love What We Do.



#TellYourStory

**Angie Harris, CMP**

**Practice Point Communications**  
Project Director

MPI Chapter: Tampa Bay Area  
Membership in MPI: 1.5 Years

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I am extremely blessed to be a member.

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My conference and meeting planning profession began like every job I've been blessed to have...by falling into it out of the blue. Heck, I didn't even know meeting planning was a career or a job title for that matter. It all started when...

- a) I was laid off from a wonderful job (out of the blue).
- b) I mistakenly called a wrong number that;
- c) Got me placed with an association in Tallahassee, FL as an emergency temp when their current planner went to lunch and early labor at the same time.
- d) 6 years, 13 conferences, 6 tradeshows, and 1,200 CPE programs later, I think I finally have gotten the hang of things.

As an Association planner in Tallahassee, I was heavily involved with the Florida Society of Association Executives but that membership didn't translate upon my move to Tampa. I moved to Tampa of February 2016 on a whim and a prayer, and found myself at dead ends professionally and personally. I knew I would find a familiar place among Tampa meeting professionals which lead me to eagerly register for membership with Tampa Bay's Chapter of MPI and join MPI's Meetings Academy Committee. Within a short period of time, I've made wonderful connections and can sincerely say, I call many of them my friends now. I am extremely blessed to be a member of the MPI Tampa Bay Chapter, and (remember what I said before about falling info new jobs...?), I was presented an opportunity to move to a new position with company I am proud to be a part of - and it all happened around a cheese platter during a Meetings Academy Committee meeting. Blessed!