

## **ARIELLE BITTONI, CFA, CFP® NAMED VOLUNTEER OF THE QUARTER**



After countless hours of hard work and dedication by Arielle Bittoni, CFA, CFP®, CFA Society Los Angeles was proud to honor her with the *CFA Society Los Angeles Fall 2021 Volunteer of the Quarter* recognition.

Bittoni presently serves as the chair of the Women's Group Member Community, a role she has held for over three years. A staple of the Women's Group's programming has been the Intimate Chat events, a series designed to provide professional guidance for women, though all members are welcome, and that is running indefinitely. The Intimate Chat events are lauded, well-attended, and uniquely durable—the group has held at

least four such events in each of the last three years and as many as eight in 2020.

"Women make up such a low percentage of CFA charterholders, less than 20%, so I felt a duty to play a more active role in the community," Bittoni explained. "I want to encourage and inspire other women to pursue the designation."

Bittoni's activity goes beyond spearheading the enormously successful Women's Group. She has also volunteered as a mentor in the CFA Society Los Angeles Career Mentorship Program, an annual Society initiative to pair CFA charterholders who have extensive experience (10+ years) with members who are beginning their career in the industry.

"I feel strongly about being a role model to younger people entering our industry," Bittoni said. "It can be very difficult to navigate a career in finance and having someone provide guidance and be a sounding board is very beneficial."

Though Bittoni routinely emphasizes that her exclusive focus in volunteering has been to give back to the community, she acknowledged that her volunteerism ultimately gave back to her by enriching her life in more ways than one.

"I joined without an agenda and with the attitude that I am here to give and be part of a community," Bittoni recalled. "Over the years I have met some amazing people that I would never have had the opportunity to meet otherwise. I have made close friends and was fortunate to meet my now business partner who I am very grateful for."

Bittoni currently holds the position of Chief Wealth Strategist at Refresh Investments LLC. Prior to Refresh Investments LLC, she worked at Capstone Partners Financial and Insurance Services, Hilltop Securities Inc., Oppenheimer & Co. Inc., E.J. De La Rosa and Co, and Countrywide Securities Corporation. Bittoni has earned the CFA and CFP® designations and received a BA in Applied Mathematics & Economics at the University of California, Berkeley.