

### **International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals**

# The Experts' Express

#### **Upcoming Events**

IARP Webinar Series -Self Awareness Deficits in Brain Injury: Impact on Life Care Planning Dec. 8

IARP CM/DM Conference – Creating a Culture of Care Scottsdale, AZ Feb. 10-12, 2011

> IARP 2011 Forensic Conference Las Vegas, NV Nov. 3-5, 2011

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**IARP** Webinars

#### IARP Board Approves New Strategic Plan

Over the last few months, the IARP Board of Directors have been working on IARP's new 5 year strategic plan for 2010 through 2015. At its all-day, in-person Board meeting earlier this month at the Forensic Conference in New Orleans, the Board devoted the majority of its attention on reviewing, improving and accepting a draft strategic plan.

The plan is now moving into a prioritization and budgeting process whereupon all the goals of the plan and the tactical steps needed to achieve those goals are detailed and budget and activity estimates are developed. Then, at its February meeting at the CM/DM Conference, the Board will approve and fund a



detailed implementation plan. Here are some of the highlights of the new plan.

#### **Strategic Plan 2010-2015** (Approved Draft Plan)

*Vision*: The leading professional association of choice by rehabilitation professionals and those with interest in private sector rehabilitation.

*Mission*: Providing a community for private sector rehabilitation professionals in their quest for education and professional growth.

#### **Core Values**

IARP commits to its vision and mission through five core values:

- We believe in doing "good."
- We are committed to advancing the profession of private sector rehabilitation as one with ethical and enlightened practices.
- We believe in the importance of continuing education and research.
- Our strength lies in excellence of service to members of all rehabilitation fields the association represents.
- Our elected leaders strive to operate the association based on trust, transparency, and integrity.

Also included in the plan are Vision Statements that help to guide the ongoing evolution of the association. See page 4 for a look ahead to IARP in 2015.



## SSVE Section Fundraising Campaign Update

The SSVE section has initiated a fundraising campaign to support hiring a Government Relations Representative. The goal of hiring the government relations representative is to address the inadequate fee schedule paid to Social Security Vocational Experts. **We are 25% of the way towards our targeted fundraising goal of \$100,000.** 

There are 510 IARP SSVE's, so if each person gave \$250 (=3 hearings), we would reach our goal of \$100,000. We would hope that all IARP-SSVE's would make this investment in their profession and future income but realize that some will not give and allow other SSVE's to take the lead. We are suggesting all SSVE's donate \$500 (=6 hearings) and we will definitely be able to meet our fundraising goal, engage the lobbyist and secure a fair and appropriate contract.

People have asked why they should donate to a government relations representative. There are a number of reasons. A well-structured Government Relations campaign will have the effect of delivering a sense of national importance and urgency to our issue, inform and persuade key legislators and regulators of the fee issue and obtain support for change. A Government Relations Representative will make sure that this message is consistently heard by key legislators and regulators. The focus of our grass roots campaign as well as the campaign once we engage the lobbyist will be that SSA's ability to schedule cases, deal with the backlog of hearings, recruit and retain skilled Vocational Experts, and ensure that vocational opinions are of the highest quality is dependent on a fair fee schedule. The Government Relations Representative will make sure our message is heard by key members of the House Ways and Means, Social Security Subcommittee and Senate Finance Committees. SSA has acknowledged the issue but to get them to act on it we have to provide constant pressure and a professional lobbyist is the key. If they were going to act based on what is "right or fair" we would not have gone 31 years without a fee increase. As you choose the amount to donate, consider how increasing one section of your business by 100%, 200% or 300% would impact your business and earning potential. So Donate Now!

Special thanks to those SSVE's who have donated \$500 or more.	
Robert Barber	\$500
Jill Brown	\$500
Ray Burger	\$500
Gail Corn	\$500
J. Stephen Dolan	\$500
Linda Ferra	\$500
Joel Greenberg	\$500
William Irvin	\$500
Marilyn Kinnier	\$500
Patricia McFann	\$500
Michele Robb	\$500
Joyce Shoop	\$500
Lynne Tracy	\$500
Amy Vercillo	\$500
Cynthia Ward	\$500
Linda Gels	\$800
Michael Blankenship	\$1,000
Mark Boatner	\$1,000
Evelyn Hartman	\$1,000
Scott Stipe	\$1,000

Donations can be accepted online on the IARP website, or you can mail your donations to: International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals 1926 Waukegan Road, Suite 300, Glenview, IL 60025-1770 (\*\*note on the check--SSVE Govt. Relations)

We will also continue with our grassroots effort of maintaining contact with key leaders of SSA, ODAR and the SSA Office of the Inspector General as well as key legislators that control the SSA budget. If you live in any of the districts of Senators or Congresspersons that sit on the following committees please send a letter or email to them asking them to send a letter of support to SSA Commissioner Astrue and Deputy Commissioner Sklar.

- House Ways and Means Subcommittee on Social Security
- · House Ways and Means Subcommittee on Income Security and Family Support
- Senate Finance Subcommittee on Social Security, Pensions, and Family Policy
- Senate Appropriation Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education Related Agencies

Committee Members and their States can be found here. A Sample letter can be found here.



### Helping Hands of Rehabilitation debuts in New Orleans!



A group of generous and dedicated volunteers descended upon New Orleans for a Day of Service to precede this year's annual IARP Forensic Conference. On November 3, 33 persons, comprised of IARP members, families and friends, and even the Conference Keynote Speaker, dug in and gave to volunteer opportunities in New Orleans. Hosts for the group, who organized for the first time in IARP history, were either Goodwill Industries or the Beacon of Hope organization.

Under the site leadership of Enrique Vega, the Career Day activities and evening Youth Presentation at an inner-city Goodwill was a phenomenal success. "I wanted to thank you again for providing a wonderful program for our participants this week. The written and verbal comments (from participants) were outstanding; everyone was enthusiastic about the entire experience. Please extend a sincere thanks to all the volunteers. Their willingness to share their knowledge and expertise is greatly appreciated. I feel that this experience will enhance the job searches and successful outcomes of all that participated," commented Ann Bonne of Goodwill.



Plans with Beacon of Hope meanwhile had to be changed at the last minute, due to weather conditions. With John Meltzer at the site helm, an alternate service site was coordinated at a small neighborhood church and gym, not far from Lake Pontchartrain. Stepping up to the plate with many extra gestures of giving included Doug Palmer who paid for some transportation and contributed to the lunch costs. Mike Blankenship also took up a collection for a new shop vac donation and Debbie Bailey recruited a local contractor who provided a dumpster that volunteers filled with the outdoor and indoor debris and brush. The Church Pastor touched our hearts with his own quiet demeanor and incidental quips of physical survival, spiritual reawakening, and faith in the days of Katrina at its worst.

Katherine Dunlap served as registration and organizational logistics coordinator for the group. Among ourselves, we have shared the multiple resources of goodwill, time, money, talent, pictures, stories and special gifts that all went above and beyond the volunteer tasks that served to gather us for this most memorable day. A small after-service party, hosted by Paulette Freeman, served as a token of gratitude and camaraderie among us.

In response to enthusiastic requests from volunteers and IARP alike, Helping Hands of Rehabilitation hopes to continue with similar projects in the future. Sharing with those less fortunate strengthens the community within humanity. Helping Hands of Rehabilitation members are proud of having risen high in response to the challenge. Again commendations and thanks to all!



Bob Paré, 2010 DOS Coordinator



## Looking Ahead: What IARP Will Represent in 2015

As part of the strategic planning process, Board members identified vision statements for the association.

#### Five-year Vision Statements

In five years, 2015, we would like to see IARP Represent/Stand For/Embody:

- IARP is financially strong;
- IARP membership be the standard for rehabilitation professionals;
- IARP members have pride in their membership;
- IARP has a reputation for setting standards for private sector rehabilitation practitioners; IARP is embraced as the umbrella organization that supports all life care planners;
- IARP chapters operate consistently in managing their operations and meeting the needs of their members;
- IARP journals are prestigious and respected;
- IARP is a vibrant, healthy organization that is successfully developing the next generation of private sector rehabilitation professionals;
- IARP is receiving acceptance and support from faculty for the promotion and recruitment of student members;
- IARP sections regularly come together and hold joint conferences for all members;
- IARP provides members the opportunity to move seamlessly through all sections;
- IARP is a strong supporter of high quality, respected research that can benefit the entire industry/profession;
- IARP has diversification of revenue streams and less reliance on membership dues as its main revenue source;
- IARP solicits funding support to seed new programs;
- IARP influences legislation that is important to our members' interests;
- IARP leadership challenges itself and examines new ideas;
- IARP sections work collaboratively;
- IARP's Web site, newsletter, and other communication technologies are the primary information sources for private sector rehabilitation; and
- IARP has a significant role in the Academy of Forensic Rehabilitation Research.

In next month's issue, we will look at the goals set for the association and key strategies and tactics outlined to reach these goals.

## Questions recently discussed on IARP Connect

Forensic eGroup:

- WLE and LE Start Age

- Loss of Labor Market Access

- Federal Rules of Civil Procedure amendments

SS-VE eGroup:

- Off-Task/Loss of Concentration

- New Invoice Form

Life Care Planner eGroup:

- Duration of Recovery from Job Loss, Divorce

Coffee Talk eGroup:

- Best Way to Get Best Deal on Cars

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### **Industry News**

### **OIDAP Quarterly Meeting – December 8, Baltimore**

For those members in the Baltimore area, the Occupational Information Development Advisory Panel (OIDAP) will hold its next meeting Wednesday, December 8, 2010, in Baltimore, MD at the Radisson Plaza Lord Baltimore. Time: December 8, 2010, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. EST

Those that cannot attend but wish to listen in, please call: TOLL FREE: (866) 961-5938 CALLER ID: OIDAP Quarterly Meeting

The Panel will hear public comment during the Quarterly Meeting on Wednesday, December 8, from 3:45 p.m. to 4:15 p.m. (EST). If you wish to give public comment, you must reserve a time slot. Please email debra.tidwell-peters@ssa.gov if you wish to give public comment. Individuals wishing to give public comment will have five minutes maximum; organizations have a maximum of ten minutes.

Lynne Tracy, Chair IARP OIDAP Liaison Committee

### Save the Date

Remember, to mark your calendar for the 2011 CD/DM Conference! Building on the enthusiasm and excitement generated by this new conference in 2010, the 2011 IARP CM/DM Conference is guaranteed to advance a culture of care. Please consider joining us.



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HM2090B: Cognitive and Perceptual Rehabilitation: Optimizing Function -Part 2; (12 contact hours); Textbook: FREE; Test: (with 10% discount) \$75.60

New Class Just \$50.40 with your IARP Discount NL0510: Chronic Sleep Loss and **Sleep Disorders** (8 contact hours)

### I am IARP Featured Profile

Meet Katherine Dunlap, a case manager, forensic expert and life care planner with more than 15 years experience.

"My practice has developed gradually. I established myself as a professional in the workers' compensation arena and built those connections. In performing this type of work, I have worked with many claimants who were legally represented. A number of my clients' attorneys like the work I did and have used my services in other areas. This provided an entree into performing forensic



work. A natural complement to the forensic work is life care planning - which also builds on my clinical experience working with people with neurological impairments.

My greatest Ah-Ha moment occurred when I realized that my educational and work experiences to date built the foundation for my present work. I would never have anticipated that I would be working as a vocational consultant!"

Read Katherine's complete profile

Read all the I am IARP Profiles



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IARP is professionally managed by The Center for Association Growth

## IARP Webinar Series

Self Awareness Deficits in Brain Injury: Impact on Life Care

December 8 9 am Pacific; 10 am Mountain; 11 am Central; 12 pm Eastern

<u>Presenter</u> Brian Preston, MS CRC CLCP CBIS Regional Director, Learning Services – North Carolina Region

#### Learning Objectives

Participants will learn about the impact of lack of selfawareness or insight (anosognosia) that often occurs following a traumatic brain injury on life care planning development.

Participants will recognize how an impaired self-awareness can impact many aspects of life for a person with TBI: participation in therapy / rehabilitation efforts; independent living skills; money management skills; decision making and problem solving; vocational options/success; and ultimately safety in the community.

Participants will learn about a Self-Awareness Screening Inventory (SASI) and will be able to consider using this as part of their interview process. <u>Read more</u> or <u>Register Online now</u>.

### IARP Webinar Series

Missed one or more of IARP's Webinar Series? No worries. You can still access any of these previous webinars and earn CEUs. IARP's on-demand archive includes:

- Job Numbers and Labor Market Resources for Occupations - What Works at Work Following TBI SSDL Clients' Ontions for Returning to Competitive
- -SSDI Clients' Options for Returning to Competitive Employment
- -Adaptive Transportation Safety
- -SSA Vocational Experts: The Basics
- -Neurofunctional Assessment: How to Find out What You -Really Need to Know to Plan for Your Clients

Visit <u>http://rehabpro.org/events/webinars</u> for complete details.

