



The Experts' Express

July 25, 2008

Welcome to The Experts' Express!

About The Experts' Express

The Experts' Express is a member-only monthly e-newsletter, keeping you informed about IARP issues and upcoming events. Each month a different sections and chapters will be highlighted. You will be provided with the latest news, details on member benefits, and information you will need to stay tuned in to what IARP is doing to give you the most for your membership.

Visit www.Rehabpro.org to enter the online world of rehabilitation professionals.

The International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals

Uniting Rehabilitation Professionals

From the Helm: IARP President Report

President's Message

Neil Bennett,
President, IARP

I am writing again to more fully explain my Experts Express column in the June 2008 issue. Our goal in making the recent budget cuts was to respond to a declining membership and shifts in the economy by instituting a temporary reduction in spending in order to both establish a reserve fund of \$25,000 per year as mandated by IARP Board of Directors (BOD) vote in 2007 and retire the outstanding debt incurred by the 2008 Annual Conference. Here is our plan in more detail:

- We are asking our committee volunteers to be truly volunteers. All BOD, Committee chairs and Representatives will be asked to be self funding. This will save IARP

nearly \$50,000.

- Chapter CEU processing. We are asking chapters to obtain their own CEU's. This will save IARP \$15,000.00 in CEU expense and \$10,000.00 in HQ staff time.
- We are asking committees to be self-funded for their conference calls and other activities. This will save IARP more than \$15,000.00. We have greatly reduced section boards' budgets, saving another \$10,000.
- We are reducing the extent of planned website developments. We are continuing in our initiative to enhance the online membership database that will allow us to be more responsive to membership changes, enrollments and renewals. Combined with combining

(Continued on page 5)

Chapter Highlights

IARP Texas Chapter

Texas Chapter Announces Plans for the Remainder of 2008

Tom Selman
President, TARPPS

The Texas Chapter of IARP has announced a vigorous schedule of activity for the last six months of 2008 – plans that call for three Monthly Educational Seminars in the Greater Dallas – Fort Worth Area and a Fall All-Day Seminar. Plans are also underway to attempt to organize at least one monthly seminar in the Greater Houston Area that might also help establish an All-Day Seminar for that region of the State in the not-so-distant future.

The first monthly seminar will be held on Thursday, August 8, and it will be held at the Golden Corral Buffet Restaurant located 3312

Forest Lane in Dallas. It will feature a presentation by Danny Jones, CRC and Patti Starr, CCM, CDMS, CVE on the subject of Injured Workers: Our Shared Responsibility. Details are found in another article in the Express.

The details for the other monthly meeting and seminars were pending at press time for the Experts Express and will be detailed in the next issue. There will be a monthly seminar on Thursday, September 18 and a final one for Thursday, November 6. Again, negotiations are underway for centrally located venues to help members and guests control their travel time, time away from work, and gasoline expense.

The final two monthly seminars will be separated by an All-Day Seminar to be held on

(Continued on page 4)

Inside this Issue:

| | |
|---|---|
| From the Helm: Update for IARP President | 1 |
| Chapter Highlights | 1 |
| From the Executive Directors' Desk | 2 |
| ExpressJob Bank Highlights | 3 |
| News Flash | 4 |
| Member's Corner | 4 |



www.AAACEUs.com
offers IARP members pre-approved CEUs for CRC, CDMS, CCM, CLCP, RNs and more.

Dual Relationships: Exploring the Limits

This class is presented to help all counselors, social workers, and vocational specialist (including the CRC and CDMS professionals) to meet their continuing education needs in the area of Ethics.

6 contact hours

Go to www.rehabpro.org, log in, go to the Members Only section and click on "Earn CEUs". Members will only **get the 5% discount by going through the IARP website.**



From the Executive Director's Desk

A Message To All

Debbie Trueblood Witt, MSW, IOM, CAE
Executive Director, IARP

IARP Members:

The time has come for me to part ways with IARP. After much careful thought and soul searching, I have decided to leave my position as IARP's Executive Director and return to my previous field of government advocacy. I worked for several years towards becoming an Executive Director, but found over the last two years, that I am more suited to advocacy. As a social worker, I am driven to helping people. I have always done this through advocacy and association work, but I have now found that I need to be in a position where I can directly impact people's lives. Before coming to IARP, I was a lobbyist for home care and hospice and the research, analysis, and negotiations I participated in every day made a direct impact on the lives of those who are homebound and terminally ill.

I had hoped that with IARP, I could continue to serve people from a distance, but for me, I found that I was too far removed from clients- from the recipients of quality services by rehab professionals. I have a great respect for the work that IARP members do as rehab professionals. However, my work was consumed with budgets and planning for the good of the organization, but without the benefit of personal stories, and those little victories rehab professionals see every day that keep us all going. In my new role, I will be directing the government advocacy program for a medical association in all fifty states, working to ensure access to quality medical care for patients, working on issues like Medicare, Medicaid, nursing shortage, etc. I feel that in that role, I can do more to help people and to make a difference, and yes, even return to my social worker roots.

I submitted my resignation to the board on Monday, July 21 and my service will continue until Thursday, August 7. I have only worked with IARP a short time, just under two years, but I will miss it greatly. I have made many friends and found many confidants all over the country whom I met and got to know through committee work, conference planning, chapter development, phone calls, emails, and travel. I have seen so many strong volunteers who work hard to make this organization strong and thriving.

I am proud of my time with IARP. I feel that we have accomplished so much together. I will always look back on these experiences with much appreciation for the confidence that you had in me as your Executive Director. I feel we have been through so much together and I am sincerely sad to go, but I am also looking forward to my new opportunity. Thank you again and best of luck to IARP and its members in achieving its goals.



IARP Forensic Conference CDs available!
Get your copy today.

Were you unable to attend a
Forensic Conference?

Get an IARP Forensic Conference CD!

It's almost as good as being there.

**Visit our website for
ordering information at**

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Express Job Bank Highlights

Manager, Vocational Case Management & Return to Work Services

It's hard to believe you can find a company that's dynamic and growing, yet has a history of stability since 1912. That expects you to take immediate responsibility – and helps you succeed by offering immediate support. A company that rewards superior efforts with opportunities for growth – in a collegial environment based on treating people with dignity and respect. And a company where you join an international team of professionals, sustaining a single mission of helping people live safer and more secure lives. That's LIBERTY MUTUAL. Hard to believe? Just ask any one of us.

Liberty Mutual's Group Market is currently hiring a Manager, Vocational Case Management & Return to Work Services professional. In this role, you will be responsible for directing, monitoring and analyzing the activities and results of the Vocational Case Management Program in all Group Disability Claim offices.

For more information on this position, please visit the IARP website, www.rehabpro.org, click on Job Bank.

Rehabilitation Case Manager

Immediate full time opening for medical and vocational case manager in Gainesville, Florida. Case manager will provide services to injured workers in the Gainesville, Ocala, Jacksonville, Lake City and Orlando areas. Responsibilities include attending appointments, coordinating treatment, counseling injured workers and maintaining close contact with physicians, insurance representatives, employers and attor-

neys. Must be QRP in Florida. Excellent communication and writing skills essential. Starting salary between 40-50K. Company car included and retirement.

David Jackson, Ph.D. is a private for profit rehabilitation company in Gainesville and has been providing medical case management and vocational services to injured workers since 2001. Please contact: David Jackson at (352) 375-4327 or dmjackson@sprintmail.com

RTW Coordinator

WHY JOIN THE HARTFORD?

As a global leader in insurance, asset management and financial service products, we offer professionals every possibility for growth. And whether we're helping customers or building careers, we're experts at creating the kind of advantages that help people reach their goals.

Overview

This position is responsible to coordinate RTW efforts for claimants who have approved STD claims with The Hartford. This includes, but is not limited to, discussions with the claimant, employer, provider(s) of care, claim examiner and/or other clinical staff for the express purpose of identifying current capabilities and limitations and matching those to work opportunities with the current employer. The RTW Coordinator may suggest modified work hours, duties or accommodations to facilitate a RTW Outcome.

For more information on this position, please visit the IARP website, www.rehabpro.org, click on Job Bank.



IARP

Dedicated to return-to-work services on behalf of persons with disabilities and the economically disadvantaged.

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Looking to fill or find a rehabilitation related position?

Our Job Bank is a great place to start.

The International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals unites REHABILITATION PROFESSIONALS around the world and is the premier recruitment resource for organizations looking for rehabilitation professionals. With a professional membership of over 2,500 individuals, employers and recruiters have access to the most qualified talent pool with relevant work experience to fill their staffing needs. Visit www.rehabpro.org and click on Job Bank to submit an ad.

News Flash

IARP 2008 Forensic Conference

"Don't Get Swamped...Navigating the Forensic Waters"

Ever feel like you need a good laugh? Want to learn fun ways to manage daily stress and release pent up anxiety? If you plan to be at the 2008 IARP Forensic Conference October 31st, 2008 – November 1st, 2008, you will not only be provided industry updates about critical data sources, methodologies, courtroom tips and earn CEU's. You will learn the benefits of humor and start off the experience rolling on the floor in laughter.

"NO MORE BUMMERS!" is the philosophy of life and title of the newest book by Humor Therapist Elaine M. Lundberg, M.A. This philosophy applies to the workplace, the home, and the world. Elaine's popular keynote presentation will educate, motivate, and help anyone concerned with wellness and stress management learn to effectively incorporate positive humor into their personal and professional lives.

"On Friday, October 31st come prepared to lighten up and learn how to take your very important work in life seriously, but yourself lightly while you find out how LAUGHTER CAN HELP HEAL YOUR HUMORROIDS!" -Peace and laughter~Elaine

Plan to join us Oct. 30 - Nov. 1, 2008 in southern Florida at the Hyatt Regency Bonaventure!



The Hyatt Regency Bonaventure

A wonderful 23-acre retreat in southern Florida.

(Chapter Highlights Continued from page 1)

Friday, October 10 at the Spring Creek campus Conference Center of Collin College in Plano, Texas – the site for the last 5 such occasions. Planning is already underway and invitations have gone out to a number of well-qualified Presenters who will bring important information, discussion of issues, and issue analysis to those present. It is also hoped that Rodney Isom, a fellow Texan IARP/TARPPS member and President-Elect of IARP will be able to address the group, and several state regulators have also been extended an invitation to speak.

In the mean time, the new slate of officers and the new Board will undertake obtaining a commitment for continuing education activity in the Houston Area, and hope to have an announcements sometime in the early Fall.

Anyone needing information about TARPPS and its activities can find up-to-date contact information in the State Chapter section of the IARP website www.rehabpro.org, by clicking on Texas.

IARP Pennsylvania Chapter

Sharon Murphy-Potts
President, Pennsylvania Chapter

The Pennsylvania Chapter joined with the New Jersey Chapter to host our 9th Annual Conference, "Rehab: Head to Toe" June 4th-6th, 2008 in Atlantic City, New Jersey. We were thrilled to increase our attendance this year for a total of 181 participants who were able to obtain a total of 12 CEU's. Our vendor support was capped at seventy. This has become a popular conference in our

area; one that many look forward to each year. Our topics included medical issues related to brain injury, orthopedic issues of the spine, shoulder, foot, as well as vocational topics, insurance, legal issues, and ethics. We had some interesting attorney presentations that provided a great deal of lively discussion on Workers Compensation cases. We will have our tenth annual conference in June of 2009, and all are welcome to join us for a great educational and fun experience.

IARP West Virginia Chapter

Adrienne Stahl
President, Pennsylvania Chapter

Per passage of legislation, the West Virginia workers' compensation market is in transition from a state-operated, monopolistic arrangement, to a private sector market. To prepare incoming insurance carriers, the Office of the Insurance Commissioner, in conjunction with the National Council on Compensation Insurance held a forum on September 5, 2007 to provide information needed to begin writing business in the state.

As of July 1, 2008, employers will have the opportunity to package compensation insurance with carriers who may also be currently providing their non-occupational employee benefits. They will no longer be required to carry their workers' compensation benefits through Brickstreet Insurance, the former state-operated system. This is an exciting period of change and the private sector rehabilitation community is facing the challenges with enthusiasm!

Suits for Soldiers

Make room for the new
Donate your old suits to a good cause

Please visit

<http://www.rehabpro.org/news/iarp-is-collecting-suits-for-soldiers/>
for more information.



(Presidents Report Continued from page 1)

the CM and DM listserves, these modest reductions will save IARP \$4,500.00

- We are going to distribute the *Rehabilitation Professional* and *Journal of Life Care Planning* electronically to those who are able to receive these journals in this format. We have been working closely with our publisher, Tim Field, and we estimate this may save us as much as \$33,000.00. Details of this distribution strategy will be announced in the very near future.
- Finally, on July 14, 2008 the Board of Directors unanimously voted not to host a 2009 Annual Conference. This decision was driven by overwhelming fiscal responsibility in light of the consequences of the 2008 Annual Conference liabilities. We were forced to accept that although these conferences are valued and serve to meet our core mission statement of providing quality educational opportunities (this year's evaluations were the highest in 5 years), we just could not expose IARP to additional financial risk. The last two years of conferences have not paid for themselves, so while we regret the absence of this long standing, interdisciplinary rehabilitation event, for the short term, we just can't afford it. This policy will be revisited by the Board of Directors in future years (or hopefully, months), with a goal of reinventing our annual conference to make it more attractive to membership and thus fiscally viable.

The budget is posted on the IARP website for everyone's viewing under the members'-only area. As we move forward with this budget, we will be looking for every opportunity to be creative in ways to deliver the services and benefits every member deserves, increase revenues and memberships. This is where you can help:

- ♦ **Participate:** We plan to offer webinars over the next year. These will not be free – they will be designed to replace lost conference revenue. Our most recent webinar had more than 60 participants and that's great!
- ♦ **Recruit:** Every ONE of you 2,500 members make a commitment to recruit or sponsor a new member – if you just can't attend an IARP conference, by sponsoring a new member you will be making a contribution to YOUR Association, (deductible as a business expense), providing immediate assistance and **building for the future** when that new member renews. **I HAVE, you can too. I sponsored Krista Price, VRC** at OSC. Krista is the new mother of a baby boy. She is very appreciative of the opportunity to participate in our association and may not have been able to join during this point in her career without the sponsorship. She is already looking forward to renewing her membership next year. Let me know when you do and I will write a both you and your sponsoree a personal note of welcome and thank you (and sailboat excursion if you are in Seattle). I will also send out notices to the entire membership of all the new members and the names of the individuals that sponsored them.
- ♦ **Keep the faith:** There is much about IARP that is strikingly vibrant. The Forensic Conference in October is looking to be dynamite. Even if you do not practice in a Forensic setting, this conference will offer you incredible educational value in a truly exceptional setting. If your certifications will be renewing next year, this is an excellent opportunity to earn more CEUs.

IARP has many irons in the fire: we are actively developing a chapter in Canada; we are promoting a corporate sponsorship program; we have desire and determination. Now IS the time to come to the aid of your association.



International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals

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Uniting Rehabilitation Professionals

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IARP UNITES REHABILITATION

PROFESSIONALS across North America and beyond to promote the availability of effective, interdisciplinary services for persons with disabilities.

- ◆ IARP serves a diverse membership practicing in the fields of long-term disability and disability management consulting, case management and managed care, forensics and expert testimony, life care planning, and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) consulting.
- ◆ IARP supports professional growth of its 2,500 members by providing an ethics code, professional competence standards, continuing education programs, networking opportunities, and group-discounted packages of professional benefits.
- ◆ IARP fosters rehabilitation research and management innovation through national conferences and the publication of peer-reviewed articles in RehabPro, its quarterly journal.
- ◆ IARP strives to shape public policy favorable to private-sector rehabilitation by working closely with other professional associations, government, and industry. Explore this website to learn more about the IARP mission and how we work to achieve it.

Member's Corner

The New IARP Corporate Discount Membership Program

The International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals now offers corporate discount membership to employers enrolling ten or more employees as individual IARP members. To qualify for the corporate discount membership program an organization must have multiple members enrolled in IARP. Discounts are based on volume and will be determined according to the numbers of employees enrolled.

For more information on this program, please visit the IARP website at <http://www.rehabpro.org/membership/member-categories/corporate-membership>.

IARP Offers Group Rates on Insurance!

The International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals has great new programs to offer our members! **We now have group rates with Marsh Insurance for IARP members for professional liability insurance and more. IARP has now made available medical insurance (for your family or your staff), dental insurance, long-term care insurance, and pet insurance.** That's five kinds of insurance for you to participate in through IARP. Go to <https://www.personal-plans.com/iarp/welcome.do> for more information.