



The Experts' Express

November 26, 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 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.

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International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals

Uniting Rehabilitation Professionals

From the Helm: IARP President Report

President's Report

Neil Bennett
IARP President

"The rumors of my (our) recent death have been greatly EXAGGERATED."
Mark Twain, 1835-1910

This quote marked the spirit of the October 30, 2008, Board of Directors meeting held in conjunction with the Forensic Conference in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. It was also the opening screen of my 'State of the Association' report held Saturday morning, November 1, 2008. This article will be a reiteration of this address.

As of October 24, 2008, we are 2,467

members alive, well and strong: 112 Associate; 2,276 Individual Professional; 20 life members; 59 students; 852 in the Case Management section; 436 in Disability Management; 954 in Forensic; 497 in the IALCP and 158 in no section.

As I know that Secretary/Treasurer John Meltzer has prepared a financial report, I will not elaborate on this other than to say it is very gratifying that our difficult decisions are paying their weight in gold. With our financial status improving, we have already been able to restore funding to our CORE representatives as well as to key committees

(Continued on page 4)

Behind the Calculator : IARP Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's Report

John Meltzer
IARP Secretary/Treasurer

The financial picture for the association through October 31, 2008, continues to improve. We are one third of the way through our fiscal year (July 1-June 30). We are approximately \$23,500 ahead of budget. This is primarily due to membership revenue tracking better than expected, largely attributable to some new corporate members. We will continue to monitor this situation as most renewals are due between November and February. Our financial performance against the budget is also strong because of our continued attention to controlling spending. We held another successful forensic conference (critical success and financial success). While our attendance numbers were down somewhat com-

pared to last year, given the state of the current economy, the conference did quite well. Kudos to those who devoted so much time and energy to this effort.

Because of the improving financial picture of IARP, during the October meeting, the Board of Directors reinstated funding for several key areas that had been cut from our budget. Funding was reinstated to our CORE representatives and for teleconference calls for the membership, education, international and speaker's bureau committees. The finance committee, with oversight from the board of directors, continues to monitor our financial picture on a monthly basis. We recognize the importance of funding areas critical to membership benefit while keeping our eye on the short-term target, that being to return the association to financial health.



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

Catastrophic CM and Life Care Plans©

By Roger Weed, Ph.D., Sue Riddick, RN, CCM and Anne-Sluis-Powers, RN, Ph.D,

8 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.**



**Congratulations
IARP Oregon Chapter
Winner of the 2007 IARP
Global Membership
Challenge**



Chapter Highlights

IARP Texas Chapter

Feeling the Effects of the Nations Economic Downturn

*Tom Selman
President, Texas Chapter*

For more than twenty years the Texas IARP Chapter (TARPPS) has enjoyed the convenience of working closely with various rehabilitation facilities and programs in the State of Texas; these facilities and programs hosted the monthly meetings of the TARPPS Chapter, particularly in the North Texas division, which included providing meeting space, lunch, and all audio-visual requirements. In return, the Texas Chapter provided the continuing education credits, all meeting publicity and mailouts announcing the activity as well as taking all reservations. TARPPS also charged a fee for each seminar and this became its primary fund-raising activity for the year.

However, a number of factors have combined to threaten the continuation of this cooperative means of serving the TARPPS membership as well as dozens of guests from the rehabilitation sector in the state. Rehabilitation facilities and programs have had a number of financial challenges in the last two years – including the implementation of the new Workers' Compensation law which has resulted in fewer referrals to most (but not all) rehabilitation facilities and programs in the state. The creation of Workers' Comp Networks has also had an impact on referrals and lengths of service to some rehabilitation facilities and programs.

These factors, combined with the general downturn in the nation's economy, have forced many facilities and programs to cut back on their budgets for public relations, referral source relations, reimbursement for professional memberships in associations and organizations, and time away for staff to attend meetings, seminars, conferences, and the like. The most immediate impact on the Texas Chapter has been the inability of many rehabilitation facilities to continue to host the monthly meetings where providing all the amenities and services noted above can often run close to or more than

\$1000.00 per meeting.

In addition, the chapter has lost several members due to employers (rehabilitation facilities and programs, rehabilitation firms, etc.) no longer reimbursing their employees for association memberships. Also, some individual members, who were already paying their own membership dues, decided not to renew their memberships when their employers stopped giving them release time to attend TARPPS meetings, seminars, conferences, or other activities.

To counter some of these negatives, the Texas Chapter has decided, for the short-term, to forego a complete calendar of monthly seminars interspersed with twice annual all-day seminars and to focus on all-day seminars three times during the year. Two of the all-day seminars will be preceded by special pre-seminar workshops. The net result will be as many or more continuing education credits (contact hours) as before. In addition, the rehabilitation facilities and programs and other vendors will be able to maintain their relationship with TARPPS and its members and guests by exhibiting at the all-day seminars or by sponsoring various activities at the seminars – at considerably less cost than the previous luncheon arrangements.

TARPPS has already planned its calendar of all-day seminars and pre-seminar Workshops for 2009, and they include dates in January (January 29 – 30), June (June 11-12), and October (October 8 -9). At least one of these Seminars will be held in the Houston area or replicated in the Houston area. The others will be held in the Dallas area.

This arrangement will be watched closely and thoroughly evaluated. As the general economy improves and as the state's experience with its new workers' comp law and with workers' comp networks matures, it may be possible to revert to the monthly meetings format or fuse the monthly meetings with the new set-up.

Express Job Bank Highlights

Vocational Rehabilitation Professionals

Multiple rehabilitation professionals sought to fill a variety of positions.

Abilities Group has forged an alliance with Heritage of America (HOA), the primary contract holder, to provide needed services under a new world-wide contract serving our honorable veterans. HOA has asked us to take the lead with coordinating all discrete services under this important and exciting new contract. We are in search of qualified vocational rehabilitation professionals as contract employees to assist in this effort.

Go to: <http://www.rehabpro.org/directory/job-bank/vocational-rehabilitation-professionals/> for more information

Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor & Vocational Rehabilitation Intern/Researcher

Favorite Consultants, Inc. has openings for two positions.

Highly ranked, locally owned consulting firm needs professional (Master's degree, CDMS or CRC preferred, eligible to sit for CRC acceptable) level vocational counselors in the Greater Puget Sound area+ to provide appropriate services to workers' compensation clients in order to return-to-work and normal activity in a timely manner. Also interested in Intern level (BA or BS in related field preferred) level counselors and researchers.

For more information go to: <http://www.rehabpro.org/directory/job-bank/vocational-rehabilitation-counselor-vocational-rehabilitation-intern-researcher/>

Vocational Rehabilitation Consultant

Seeking Consultant in North Carolina, South Carolina and Florida.

ReEmployAbility, Inc. is leading the way with innovative and proven solutions for workers' compensation cases. As a dynamic industry leader of reemployment

services in Florida, we are poised for growth to provide our same innovative solutions to other markets to better serve the needs of our customers.

For more information go to: <http://www.rehabpro.org/directory/job-bank/vocational-rehabilitation-consultant/>

Vocational Rehabilitation/Medical Specialist

Northwestern Mutual seeks to fill position in Franklin, Wisconsin

Unique Opportunity to advance your career at "America's Most Admired" life insurance company as named by FORTUNE magazine for a landmark 25th year. Join us to:

Expand your expertise and learn creative ways to use your vocational rehabilitation, occupational and nursing skills to impact return to work outcome

Go to <http://www.rehabpro.org/directory/job-bank/vocational-rehabilitation-medical-specialist/> for more information.

Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor

Immediate opening in Puget Sound King Snohomish County

IAM C.R.E.S.T. is seeking a certified vocational rehabilitation counselor (CRC; CDMS) with working experience in Washington Workers Compensation and registered or able to become registered with the Department of Labor and Industries as an Individual Provider. Salary without a billable hour requirement. Excellent benefits package offered

Responsibilities: Provide services to and for a case load of injured and or ill employees within a large manufacturing facility located throughout the Puget Sound area. Work includes job analysis, ergonomic assessment, evaluation, and job modification. Case consultation and documentation on case activity required.

For more information go to: <http://www.rehabpro.org/directory/job-bank/vocational-rehabilitation-counselor/>



IARP

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

IARP Board of Directors

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(President's Report Continued from page 1)

to develop additional educational and member benefits programs.

IARP-HQ conducted a member needs assessment in the weeks prior to the IARP Board's strategic planning meeting – a record 700 responses were received from the general membership and all four sections. Interestingly, the reasons reported for membership were as greatly diverse as could be imagined: staying current with trends, networking, education, credibility and credentials, the online directory, expected by my peers/required, and being a stakeholder in my future.

The top five benefits of membership included: networking, *Rehabilitation Professional* and *Journal of Life Care Planning*, conferences, leadership and volunteering opportunities, listserves and web site. Ninety three percent of those responding believed that IARP offers the correct amount of communication to members and that 67.9% of it is effective in delivering

its message.

We also welcomed three of the four past presidents who had authored an opinion paper on the state of IARP to participate in this strategic planning meeting. After much insightful, thoughtful and sometimes spirited discussion, they offered a challenge to board: re-examine the association's mission, focus and structure. And we did, ultimately revising our mission statement to reflect the contribution we offer to the greater rehabilitation community.

IARP - Offering a Community for Rehabilitation Professionals in their Quest for Education and Professional Growth.

Over the coming months, the board will continue to examine the results of the member needs assessment. We know we have just scratched the surface of the iceberg and that there is much more to be gleaned in terms of how the association can better position itself to continue to be the pre-eminent resource to the rehabilitation community.

**Thank you to the many gracious and generous contributors
that made it possible for
Elizabeth Edwards
to join us for the 2008 Forensic Conference**

Arizona IARP Chapter	Anonymous
Adolfo Arsuaga	Sarah Moore
Anonymous	Barb Nelson
Anonymous	Ann Neulicht
Jeff Carlisle	James Newton
Tony Choppa	Jan Nixon
Lisa Clapp	Rick Ostrander
Steve Cooley	Anonymous
Judi Drew	Patricia Reilly
Katherine Dunlap	Care Planner Network (Susan Riddick-Grisham)
Elliott & Fitzpatrick (Tim Field)	Steve Shedlin
John Fountaine	Anonymous
Paulette Freeman	Scott Stipe
Carl Gann	Bob Taylor
Reg Gibbs	Lynne Tracy
Life Care Services/National Life Care Institute (Bill Goodrich)	Eugene Van de Bittner
Angela Heitzman	Enrique Vega
Rodney Isom	Ann Wallace
Kent & Michelle Jayne	Roger Weed
Cloie Johnson	Janice Wexler
Betty Kohlenberg	Kelly Winn-Boaitey
Suzanne Lazarus	Alan Winship
Sharon Levine	Steve Yuhás
Jan Lowe	Anonymous

Happy Thanksgiving from IARP Headquarters



Welcome New IARP Members

We would like to welcome the following new members to IARP and offer a hearty thank you to those that referred them. Great job!

Neil Bennett,
President, IARP

New Member:

Alice Carnahan
David Pritchard
Lilly Lauga
James Rogers
Valerie Jeune
Rhonda Wynne
Cary Bartlow
Sandra Guest Poulin

Referred by:

Dan Miears
Cindi Pottinger
Nancy Favalaro

The International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals

Would like to express our deepest regrets to the
family, friends, and colleagues of Mr. Randy Porter.

FIALCP: Do you have what it takes?

Show your life care planning experience.

Show your life care planning expertise.

Show your commitment to the field.

Become a Fellow.

Becoming a Fellow in the International Academy of Life Care Planners shows that you are competent in life care planning and conduct your practice in accordance with accepted standards of practice.

Criteria for becoming a Fellow are:

- Minimum of 50 completed life care plans
- Contribute to the field through publishing, teaching, research, or mentoring
- Participate in professional organizations
- Letters of reference
- Successful blind review of two plans showing adherence to standards of practice
- Participate in continuing education

"My FIALCP adds to my credentials and designates the highest honor and distinction within my profession as a Life Care Planner."

Tracy Wingate, OTR/L, FIALCP, CLCP, MSCC, CCM, CDMS

"Whether certified or not, achieving Fellow status from the IALCP underscores one's commitment to the practice of life care planning. I consider the FIALCP a true honor."

Roger O. Weed, Ph.D., CRC, LPC, CCM, CDMS, FNRCA, FIALCP

For further information and an application, go to <http://www.rehabpro.org/ialcp>



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Uniting Rehabilitation Professionals

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WWW.REHABPRO.ORG

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 Re-habPro, 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

IARP Web Site

The IARP web site has expanded and added more features for our members. Through the web site you can automatically access information about your membership, educational events, employment opportunities and more. This web site offers a full listing of IARP members and their certifications, accessible by consumers. This gives members more opportunities for referrals.

Group Discounted Services

Firms that grant group discounts immediately enhance the value of membership in IARP. Please visit the IARP website (www.rehabpro.org) to view a listing of discount partners located under the Membership section.

Discounts for insurance

IARP members receive a discounted rate for professional liability insurance, medical insurance, pet insurance and more. For more information contact Marsh at <https://www.personal-plans.com/iarp>.