



Fall 2011

South Dakota Psychological Association



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A Letter From the President

SDPA has had the same stresses that many organizations have had during the recession. The organization is short on funds. Expenses are mounting. Our new director, Brittany, reminds us that there are things that we could and should do to be more current. APA has been cutting back on funding.

Now, for those of us who have been in the organization for a while, none of this is new. We have always struggled for money. We have often changed directors. The positive thing is that we are still here.

The other positive is that though we number less than 40 people in membership currently, there are 200 licensed psychologists in the state. The SDPA board has agreed to do things to encourage more membership. If you (or your fellow SDPA member), enlists someone who has never joined or is inactive (more than 2 years without paying), you will receive \$10 off your dues next year for each person you enlist (so if you enlist two people you receive

\$20). There is no limit but the enlisted person must be a full paying member (sorry, no student fees). You will also be receiving a mailing on this as well.

The other thing I would like to do as president is get a sense of what is keeping people from joining to see if there are barriers that could be eased or erased.

I am also going to be contacting people, inside and outside of our membership, to get a sense of preferences and needs in the larger psychologist circle. Certainly our active members are important, but if we can attract even a few new people per year, we will increase our resources and have the advantage of new ideas and perspectives. Also, I sense that we are losing some of our membership through retirement, moving and so on. We can always use new blood.

We hope to have a survey in the mail in a few weeks. When it is ready, we will make it available on the web as well. Any feedback from you as members will be welcome. Have a great summer and beautiful fall!

Senator Tim Johnson Aims to "Keep Psychologists in Mind"

In May of 2011 Senator Olympia Snowe (R-ME) introduced the Medicare Mental Health Access Act (S. 483) to include psychologists in the Medicare definition of physician. This legislation is pending in the Senate Finance Committee.

Senator Tim Johnson said that he would keep South Dakota Psychologists' in mind if this issue were to come in front of the full Senate. He also noted, "many providers and beneficiaries alike have expressed concerns about access to mental health care, especially in the most rural areas of our state. As a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee and the Rural Health Caucus, I will continue to fight on behalf of all Medicare beneficiaries in South Dakota, assuring their access to the full range of providers, as well as quality, affordable health care."

2011 CESPPA Annual Meeting

Submitted by Brittany Novotny, JD, MBA

In August, I attended the Council of State, Provincial and Territorial Psychological Associations (CESPPA) Annual Meeting in Washington, DC. This was a great opportunity to network with executive directors from across the nation. There were approximately 31 executive directors attending this year.

One item of concern addressed at this meeting was a potential cut to the CAPP grant funding. For those that may not know, SDPA has historically received a CAPP grant through APA Practice Organization (APAPO) annually. This grant accounts for a significant portion of the annual SDPA budget. Recently, many psychological associations, including the SDPA, received information regarding potential cuts to this program amounting to a 40% decrease in funding. However, the information being disseminated was not clear about the process to achieve such a cut, what committees/boards must approve such a cut and what discussions or approval had occurred to date.

At the CESPPA meeting, we received clarification that this cut must be approved by the APAPO Board and it had not received such approval. Additionally, CESPPA representatives were able to meet with the APAPO Board to convey the message that CESPPA supports restoring full funding to the CAPP grant program. A 40% cut to the grant funding would have a significant impact on the ability of many small and

very small psychological associations to keep their doors open and, in turn, the ability to ensure representation for psychologists in all states, territories and provinces. We will continue to support restoration of the CAPP grant funding as we move forward. It is important to note that the decrease in CAPP grant funding was a result of a decrease in the number of psychologists paying practice assessments, so please pay those assessments! The funding for the CAPP grant program depends on these assessments.

The CESPPA meeting included many other interesting sessions, including an APA Good Governance Project update, a session on the impact of healthcare reform, technology and how to utilize it to the advantage of our psychological associations, membership and budget issues. As many associations encounter issues surrounding membership and budget, revenue and ways to increase membership are always top of mind. This is true for the SDPA as well.

I would like to thank Jodi Owen, who serves as the SDPA Representative on the APA Council of Representatives. Jodi attended the APA Convention that followed the CESPPA meeting. Jodi has been an outstanding advocate and voice for SDPA. We are fortunate to have her serving in this role and I thank her for volunteering her time and resources to ensure our SDPA voice remains strong.

Council of Representatives Report

Submitted by Jodi R. Owen, Psy.D.

Council of Representatives meeting was very productive for “very small states”. As you may know APAPO has had a reduction in its finances due to fewer people paying the practice assessment portion of dues. Therefore we were facing possible HUGE cuts in the CAPP grant, that basically keeps a large portion of SDPA Budget afloat.

A bunch of us banded together from the Rural Interest Caucus, State, Provincial, and Territorial Associations Caucus, and “Very Small States (informal) Caucus, and wrote a letter that I posted on the SDPA listserv a while back. We were urging against the cuts in CAPP grants, given how much those grants keep some of us going (ie SDPA!).

Well in a very favorable outcome, small states, APAPO, APA, and CAPP had informal discussions (rather than bringing this to Council floor) and agreed that CAPP will review/revisit their plans and we have been assured that “no state will be allowed to “go under” as a result...”

I encourage you to pay your APAPO dues along with your APA Dues. ALL of what gets paid in comes back to us in SD and probably even more so in the form of the CAPP grant.

South Dakota DSS - Mandatory Reporting: Elderly Neglect & Abuse

During the 2011 Legislative Session, Senate Bill 14 was passed unanimously amending SDCL Chapter 22-46 to establish a mandatory reporting system for abuse and neglect of elders or adults with disabilities similar to the mandatory reporting process that exists for child abuse.

Effective July 1, 2011 South Dakota law requires individuals in the medical and mental health professions and employees or entities that have ongoing contact with and exposure to elders and adults with disabilities, to report knowledge or reasonable suspicion of abuse or neglect of elders and adults with disabilities.

Mandatory reporters include any person who is a:

- Physician, dentist, doctor of osteopathy, chiropractor, optometrist, podiatrist, religious healing practitioner, hospital intern or resident, nurse, paramedic, emergency medical technician, social worker, or any health care professional;
 - Long-term care ombudsman;
 - Psychologist, licensed mental health professional, or counselor engaged in professional counseling;
 - State, county, or municipal criminal justice employee or law enforcement officer;
- or
- Any staff member of a nursing facility, assisted living facility, adult day care center, or community support provider, or any residential care giver, individual providing homemaker services, victim advocate, or hospital personnel engaged in the admission, examination, care or treatment of elders or disabled adults.

The process for reporting is different for different groups of mandatory reporters. The following mandatory reporters who know, or have reasonable cause to suspect, that an elder or adult who is disabled is being abused or neglected, must within twenty-four hours make an oral or written report to the Department of Social Services' Division of Adult Services and Aging (ASA) as the State of South Dakota's protective services agency, law enforcement, or the state's attorney:

- Physician, dentist, doctor of osteopathy, chiropractor, optometrist, podiatrist, religious healing practitioner, hospital intern or resident, nurse, paramedic, emergency medical technician, social worker, or any health care professional;
 - Long-term care ombudsman;
 - Psychologist, licensed mental health professional, or counselor engaged in professional counseling;
 - State, county, or municipal criminal justice employee or law enforcement officer;
- or

The following mandatory reporters who know, or have reasonable cause to suspect, that an elder or adult who is disabled is being abuse or neglected, must within twenty-four hours report to the person in charge of the institution where the elderly or disabled adult resides or is present, or the person in charge of providing the services. (Continued on next page)

*Welcome
New
Members*

**Angela
Severson**

&

**Dr. Mark
J. Moir**

(Mandatory Reporting from page 3)

The person in charge shall report the information to the Department of Social Services' Division of Adult Services and Aging (ASA) as the State of South Dakota's protective services agency, law enforcement or the state's attorney.

•Any staff member of a nursing facility, assisted living facility, adult day care center, or community support provider, or any residential care giver, individual providing homemaker services, victim advocate, or hospital personnel engaged in the admission, examination, care or treatment of elders or disabled adults.

A mandatory reporter who knowingly fails to make the required report is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

This law does not preclude others from making reports of abuse of elders or adults with disabilities on a voluntary basis. Any person who knows or has

reason to suspect that an elder or adult who is disabled has been abused or neglected as defined in § 22-46-2 or 22-46-3 may report that information, regardless of whether that person is one of the mandatory reporters listed above. Persons who in good faith make a report of abuse or neglect of an elderly or disabled adult are immune from liability.

There is no charge to reporting requirements already in place for facilities or programs that are licensed or regulated by the Department of Health or Department of Human Services.

For more information, contact the Department of Social Services, Division of Adult Services and Aging at (605) 773-3656 or (888) 854-5465 or visit www.dss.sd.gov



Board Member Highlight Scott Pribyl, Ed.D., SDPA-FAC

Scott grew up in an Air Force family of six, living at various times on the east and west coasts, in the south and mid west, as well as in Japan. He is married, has two daughters and five grandchildren. Scott enjoys a variety of activities, getting reacquainted with racquetball this last winter, developing a new interest in kayaking this summer, and is currently in training for The Twin Cities Marathon on October 3, 2011 along with his wife and a niece. This will be Scott's 4th marathon, but first in 10 years. Training to endure 26.285 miles is an interesting mind-body interface that Scott thought he might never revisit, but reactivating an elbow tendonitis condition while playing racquetball did the trick!

Scott graduated high school in northern Indiana, completed his: B.A. in Psychology at the University of California, Santa Barbara; his M.Ed. in Guidance, Counseling and Personnel Services at the University of South Dakota; Ed.D. in Educational Psychology and Counseling from the University of South Dakota.

He has been practicing in the mental health field in South Dakota since 1987, first in non-profit and correctional settings, and since 1993 at Great Plains Psychological Services in Sioux Falls, obtaining psychology licensure in 1998.

He is currently the sole owner of GPPS, being joined by two other psychologists, two social workers, and six licensed professional counselors. Scott is a member of APA, a member of the Association for the Advancement of Psychology, is in his third, three year term as SDPA Federal Advocacy Coordinator, and is a clinical and research member of the Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers (ATSA), and a member of SD-ATSA and MN-ATSA. He provides forensic evaluations to include psychosexual evaluations for males and females from elementary age on up, provides sex offender treatment, and works with clients on more standard presentations to include anxiety, depression, PTSD, and family and life adjustment issues.

FAC Update

Submitted by Dr. Scott Pribyl, Ed.D., SDPA-FAC

FAC news includes that the APA Practice Organization has been successful in getting legislation introduced to give psychologists recognition in the Medicare "physician" definition. Currently, psychologists remain the only doctoral-level, independently licensed providers not included in the Medicare definition. The impact of this non inclusion goes far beyond Medicare as the "Medicare physician definition" ends up in private insurance plans, and federal and state regulations. Passage of such legislation will be enhanced by making your voice heard and through your financial support of the APA Practice Organization and the Association for the Advancement of Psychology.

In addition, the Budget Control Act has changed the politics and process of Medicare reimbursement. Twelve members of the House and Senate have been appointed to the Joint Selection Committee on Deficit Reduction, which is charged with finding \$1.2 trillion in savings over the next 10 years. If that process fails to bring an agreement that can pass both chambers, automatic cuts to Medicare and other programs would be implemented, triggering yet further provider reimbursement cuts of 2%. Psychologists must understand, and communicate with their representatives, that without legislative action, they face a 5% cut to psychotherapy payments in addition to the 29.5% Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR) cut to all services scheduled for 2012. APA has been able to work with other provider allies to prevent the SGR cut in past years, but recent political and budget dynamics have increased the stakes and difficulty. If you have done so, please contact Senator's Tim Johnson and John Thune, and Representative Kristi Noem. Urge them to extend the Medicare mental health add-on through 2012 and prevent the 5% cut that would otherwise harm your patients and practice.

All of us are busy with career, family and other pursuits. Most of us probably take a lot of things for granted, to include all the work that has been done by our past and current colleagues to obtain Medicare, Mental Health Parity and related progress that has provided psychologists the opportunity to help others while earning a living. We often ask what APA and SDPA have done for us, when we might be better asking what have we done for APA, SDPA, our colleagues and our patients. Your grassroots support, your financial support, your energy and your input are all needed. Psychologists remain at the low end among health professionals in their financial support of political giving that would impact positive change for their patients and their practices. If you are not already a member, please strongly consider joining the Association for the Advancement of Psychology (AAP) so that collectively, we can effect positive changes. Going to the AAP web site or calling 1-800--869-6595 will get you started.



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**South Dakota
Psychological
Association!**

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This e-newsletter has been sent to you as a member of the South Dakota Psychological Association (SDPA) or as a subscriber to this newsletter. SDPA's mailing address is:

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