If you have not already done so, I would recommend that you register for our annual conference. It will be held again at Drury Lane in Oak Brook Terrace. We still have seats available. The date of the conference is Tuesday June 5. This year’s conference is titled Navigating Work Life Transitions: Meeting Clinical, Professional & Workplace Needs. We have a great keynote presentation this year. This year we are having our keynote in the theatre. Plan on getting there early, so you can get a great seat. The presenters are Erasing the Distance. The day promises to be great for learning, networking with old friends, and time to visit our exhibitors to learn about their services that will allow us to help our clients at the highest level. Everything you need to know is on our website NIEAPA.com.

I would encourage you to save the date for the EAPA conference that will be held in Minneapolis, MN. The pre-conference dates are October 9-10 and the Conference dates are October 11-13.

Make sure you buy raffle tickets this year, we have some nice prizes this year. We will be raffling two registrations for the 2019 NIEAPA Conference, so make sure you are present for the raffle.

The Board brought back free meeting. The meeting will rotate to different locations and all members will be able to bring a guest to that meeting. The bring a guest program is a one-time opportunity,
Message From The President continued...

during the year, for a member to bring a guest to any of our Chapter Meetings. New this year all students can attend our Chapter Meetings free, so I hope you will find a way to spread the news to any students, interns, and training programs.

I would like you to save the date for our next Chapter Meeting. It will be Friday, August 24, 2018 at Adler University in Chicago. This is a change from the original date. This is our annual business meeting. All the information about our Chapter Meetings can be found at NIEAPA.com.

Lastly, I would hope to see you at our Conference June 5th.

40th Annual Conference Information

Tuesday, June 5, 2018
Drury Lane Oakbrook Terrace, 100 Drury Lane,
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181

Do you have any photos, programs, flyers or other NIEAPA related memorabilia to share at our Anniversary Table? Please bring items with you to the Conference.
The Employee Assistance Credentialing Commission has been working in collaboration with the world EAP Association leadership to examine the usefulness and relevance of the Certified Employee Assistance Professional credential. An inescapable fact is that the CEAP is no longer a “primary” professional credential, as it was originally imagined. Most current CEAP holders are also licensed as social workers, counselors, marriage and family therapists, or psychologists.

In the early days of employee assistance, many practitioners came from the ranks of recovering people and had a great deal of “on-the-ground” work experience. In those days, the CEAP may have been the only credential (aside from a basic level drug and alcohol counselor credential) for which these pioneers of the field would have qualified. The credential was therefore designed as a standalone certification for the profession, and also formed the basis for other public practice credentials (notably the federal DOT SAP credential and a handful of state Licensed EA Professional credentials). The task for the CEAP in the early days was therefore to establish that the individual had not only a knowledge of the EA field at the organizational level, but also the clinical knowledge and skills to serve employees, heavily emphasizing substance abuse counseling.

In the evolution of EA programs into more general “broad brush” programs that include mental health and work-life services, the CEAP has also evolved. The EACC (of which I am a member) has worked to keep the content areas, requirements, and exam questions current and relevant. This has been a challenge, especially as the CEAP has evolved into an international credential.

Currently, the EACC has a “CEAP Refresh” committee that has been looking at various strategies to keep the CEAP useful, marketable, and worthwhile as a secondary (or even tertiary) credential. In this task, the focus may shift from the current three-way balance of services to individuals, services to organizations, and workplace policy/benefit design areas.

If you have thoughts about the future direction of the credential and how we can continue to make it useful and valuable to future EA practitioners, please let me know and I will be sure to pass your ideas and suggestions along to the committee.
40th Annual Conference Schedule

7:45 a.m. - 8:15 a.m.
Continental Breakfast and Visit Exhibits

8:15 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.
Keynote Speaker - Erasing the Distance

9:45 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.
Break and Visit Exhibits

10:15 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.
Session 1 - Modern Marijuana and the Implications of Legalization, Presented by: Karen Wolownik Albert, LCSW
Session 2 - Stress Wellness, Presented by: Serena Wadhwa, Psy.D., LCPC, CADC, RYT
Session 3 - “Plan” Might Be A Four-Letter Word But “Planning” Isn’t, Presented by: Larry Gard, Ph.D.
Session 4 - Trauma Informed Care and Clinician Self Care, Presented by: Nancy Little, LCPC and Jasmine Watkins, LCPC

11:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.
Lunch & Speaker

1:15 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Break and Visit Exhibitors

1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.
Session 5 - Incorporating Families into Treatment for Co-Occurring Substance Use Disorders and Brain Illness, Presented by: Mary Woods, BC-RN, LADC, MSHS
Session 6 - Work-life Balance 2.0, Presented by: James Porter, M.A.L.S.
Session 7 - Ethical Solutions for EAP and Therapy Clients Facing Separation and Divorce, Presented by: Ann Cerney, MS, LCPC, Gail Petrich, JD, PsyD, and Danya Grunyk, MBA, JD
Session 8 - Shame in the Workplace: How To Navigate Difficult Emotions in Professional Settings, Presented by: Sarah Buino, LCSW, CADC, CDWF

3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Break and Visit Exhibitors, Raffle

3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Session 9 - Integrating Addiction Treatment and Trauma Healing, Presented by: Bob Carty, LCPC, CADC, CCJP, Vanessa Lowrey, LCPC, CADC and Jim Nicholas, LCPC, CRADC, EAS-C
Session 10 - Integrating Positive Psychology into Clinical Practice, Presented by: Val Jencks, MS, LMFT, LCPC

Please be in the theater for the performance by 8:10 am

REGISTER HERE TO ATTEND
40th Annual Conference Tips

No Food or Drink is Allowed in the Drury Lane Theater
Grab a bite before you head in for the Keynote.

Bring a Sweater!
The room temperature fluctuates.

There are some great raffle prizes! Bring cash or a check if you are interested in purchasing tickets.
Want to get more involved?
Submit your resume to join the Board

Is the time right for you to grow your professional experience by becoming a NIEAPA board member? According to our bylaws, it is time for a few of our dedicated board members to step down to allow for new members to step up! The benefits are valuable and the commitment is worth the time and effort. If you are considering this opportunity and have questions, please contact one of our current Board members.

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