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Fall 2015

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A Message From the President Rick Kronberg, LCSW, CSADC, CEAP

NIEAPA Fall 2015 Newsletter

This October marks the end of the first year of my 2 year term as the President of NIEAPA. It has been a great experience for me, so far, as we have assembled a very positive, responsive and responsible group of professionals on our current Board of Directors. They provide leadership for our various committees and along with the committee members, contribute a tremendous amount of volunteer time for our members, activities and our profession(s). This has led to a number of successes that I highlighted at the Annual Business Meeting, during the August Chapter meeting. My thanks to all, for your contributions and I hope I am serving you well.

Also this October, at our Chapter meeting on 10/16 at the IBEW Hall in Warrenville, we are hosting “**Legal and Ethical Issues in Employee Assistance Programs**”, presented by: **Joe Monahan of Monahan Law Group, LLC and Valerie Jencks of Prairie Family Therapy**. This is a special 3 hour presentation that meets the licensing requirements for Ethics training. The biannual ethics training to meet license requirements has been done for a number of years by NIEAPA. At our last Board meeting, we committed to also provide a training on **Diversity**, biannually on the alternate years, as this has become a requirement for many professionals. In addition, we will be sponsoring a seminar on some topic related to diversity every year, in our attempt (as one member put it) “to make diversity more a part of our organizations fabric”. There will be more information forthcoming related to this, as our Diversity Committee continues to grow and develop. Here are a few of the highlights presented at the annual business meeting.

Conference Report: We had record number of attendees (304), exhibitors (70), advertisers (30) and food sponsors (31), which resulted in record for net income (\$26,249). 91% of those who attended reported they thought the conference was beneficial and 77% reported the presentations attended were very good (Strongly agreed or agreed). Thanks to conference Chair Linda Lewaniak and co-Chair Maureen Collins and the conference committee for their hard work putting together such a tremendous day! We will use the participant feedback and revenue earned to continue to improve the conference.

Treasurer’s Report: NIEAPA continues to be in solid financial shape. Our revenue for the year is broken down as follows: \$74,325 from the conference; \$7,320 from membership; and \$1,135 from meeting dues. As you can see, our annual conference is not only an excel-

(Continued on Next Page)



Register Now for 2015 NIEAPA Chapter Meetings:

October 16 [Register Here](#) (More information on Page 3)

December 4 [Register Here](#)

A Message From the President
Rick Kronberg, LCSW, CSADC, CEAP (continued)

-lent networking and educational opportunity; it is also by far our largest fundraiser. Our expenses for the year totaled \$75,934 (primarily conference expenses and administrative expenses) so the net income for the year was \$6,971. 2015 Members Survey: Our annual membership survey was done in August and 47 responded, up from 37 last year. We had a drawing for a \$100 gift card for those who completed the survey, to encourage more members to respond. The results are used by the NIEAPA board in making decisions. We appreciate the many suggestions for educational topics, improvements for the Chapter meetings and other recommendations. Many respondents indicated an interest in further participation with the chapter which we appreciate.

I will be attending the EAPA World Conference to be held Tuesday, Sept. 29 — Friday, Oct. 2, in beautiful San Diego, CA at the Town & Country Resort & Conference Center, along with several NIEAPA members. We continue to have a presence with our International organization, with Steve Haught serving as Past President and Chris Drake as Director at large. The big news that we recently received, is that the 2016 World conference will be held in Chicago! More information will be coming soon.

Rick

A Message From the Vice President
Charley Galassini, LCPC, CSADC, CEAP, IBEW Local 701

Let's Start Looking at Diversity

What is diversity? There can be several layers to it; race, religion ethnic group, sex or sexual orientation, age, and other differences. According to Webster, diversity is the differences among groups. As counselors we will have the opportunity to help a variety of people, many which will be different from us. What are the responsibilities to the persons we serve to know about those different from us? It is our responsibility to learn about the various sub-groups we will help. How do we do that you ask? I think part of our professional responsibility is to recognize the differences and the need to get educated. It is our responsibility to seek out training on a regular basis, because the area of diversity is an ever evolving area and a onetime seminar is not going to get you the real exposure to such a vast subject area.



NIEAPA has recently brought together a group who are committed to bring this important subject to the forefront of our organization and its members. NIEAPA has formed the Diversity Committee. The Chairperson is Carole Hoffman. Diversity is an important area that has not been part of many educational opportunities. The NIEAPA Board is committed to expanding the knowledge base for its members. At the recent Board meeting, a decision was made to have a regular chapter meeting every other year on a topic related to the subject of diversity. The committee is openly seeking professionals who have expertise on a subject related to diversity to present at the NIEAPA annual conference and possibly at the October 2016 chapter meeting at the IBEW Local 701 Union Hall. If you go to the NIEAPA website you will find all the information on how to submit a proposal to present.

If you would like more information about the diversity committee, you can contact Carole Hoffman by going to the NIEAPA website and click on Carole's name to obtain her contact information. The committee is open to new members and ideas on how we can raise the awareness of this very important topic.

Charley

POST YOUR EVENT ON THE NIEAPA CALENDAR!

NIEAPA offers professional organizations the opportunity to post events on the NIEAPA Website CALENDAR OF EVENTS. Events must be related to EAP, Behavioral Health, Work/Life, Health, and/or Home Health. The Calendar is free to both NIEAPA members and non-members. Companies wishing to post can submit requests here. Please be sure it includes all of the information requested on the NIEAPA form. Postings will be subject to review and approval process. For additional information, please contact NIEAPA@CorpEvent.com by email or call us at 312-756-7756.

INTERESTED IN HOSTING AND/OR SPONSORING A NIEAPA CHAPTER MEETING?

If so, please contact Bill Heffernan, wheffernan@ers-eap.com or Laura Adams, ladams@insightillinois.com or Maureen McLeod, mmcleod@presencehealth.org

ADVERTISE IN THE NIEAPA E-NEWS

For more information, visit http://nieapa.org/news or call Kelly Collins at 312-756-7756

JOB POSTINGS ON NIEAPA WEBSITE

NIEAPA is offering members and others within professional organizations the opportunity to post EAP and EAP-related job openings.

Companies wishing to post, please download the form here and follow the instructions.

COMING SOON!

NIEAPA will soon have its own Twitter account to keep you updated on all things NIEAPA! This will be a great resource much like our Facebook page.

NIEAPA's 38th Annual Conference

NIEAPA's 2016 conference will be held on June 7, 2016 at The Drury Lane in Oak Brook, Illinois. We are currently accepting proposals for presentations. The presenters are asked to submit proposals for programs that are 1.5 hours or three hours in length.

To increase your chances of being selected to present, your proposal should be elastic enough to be used in either time slot. The presentations should address the topics relevant to people in the workplace and the work of EAP professionals. Popular topics include those related to addictions, mental health concerns, balancing work and family, organizational development including managing change, dealing with conflict and diversity in the workplace.

Those submitting proposals may have their proposal considered for the annual conference as well as monthly meetings, while the conference presentations are generally 90 minutes in length the meeting presentations must be two hours in length, so flexibility is important. *The deadline for submitting proposals is December 18, 2015.*

To submit a proposal, please complete the 2016 NIEAPA Conference Presenter Proposal Form.



Register Now!

NIEAPA General Chapter Meeting

Friday October 16, 2015 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

IBEW Local

701 28600 Bella Vista Parkway, Suite 1000
Warrenville, IL 60555

8:30-9:00 am Networking

9:00-9:45 am Business Meeting

9:45-10:00 am 15 Minute Break

10:00-1:00 pm Program

1:00 PM - Optional Networking Lunch -
Rock Bottom, Warrenville

***CEU Certificates given out upon
completion of the program***

Click Here for more information & to register!