



# South Dakota Psychological Association

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SPRING 2013

## INSIDE THE ISSUE

- PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS ----- 1
- FAC UPDATE ----- 2
- COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES UPDATE ----- 3
- LEGISLATIVE UPDATE ----- 4
- SDPA FINAL BILL LIST ----- 5
- NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS - 6

## SDPA Executive Committee

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Jodi Owen, Psy.D.

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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.

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## From The Desk of the President

*Sally Weyer, Ph.D.*

Spring 2013 is upon us! This is usually a time of promise and we begin to see nature throw off the muted tones of winter and don the colorful spectrum that we associate with Spring. Hopefully this year will be a promising one for everyone. It certainly is a year of new things. New CPT coding that is now in effect, and a new DSM that will be coming out in May. There are trainings and information available through APA to help navigate the new changes.

Another new change is the SDPA annual conference is moving to the fall this year. The dates are September 27-28. Our speaker will be Dr. Mike Rosmann. The focus will be rural mental health and more details will be forthcoming as planning progresses. Another new endeavor is a revision of the SDPA By-laws. See associated article for more information. And expect to hear more about it in the coming months.

Also, a new opportunity presents itself. With the resignation of Marie Volbrecht, Ph.D. as our President-Elect, that position is now vacant. Interested persons can contact the SDPA office with a written statement of intent if they would like to

serve out the unexpired term. Information about this is also in a separate article and news went out through the SDPA listserv. Please give this your consideration.

We continue to strive to improve contact and provide information to our membership and others. Our website has new links and soon, individuals will be able to advertise in the newsletter. If you

or your agency is recruiting for a position, or want to advertise your services, you will be able to place an ad and access a targeted population for referrals. We always welcome new ideas so feel free to contact the office with any input or feedback.

Enjoy Spring! ■

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“We continue to strive to improve contact and provide information to our membership and others.”



## State Leadership Conference

The State Leadership Conference (SLC) is the annual advocacy training conference for leaders in professional psychology practice. The conference brings together psychologists from the states, U.S. territories and Canada, along with APA governance and divisions, to advocate for issues important to practicing psychologists. The conference also fosters leadership and effective governance strategies for participating associations.

[Past Conferences](#) have brought together more than 500 psychologists from all different perspectives in professional psychology. The conference culminates in a day of advocacy on Capitol Hill. Past Hill visits have brought psychologists face-to-face with legislators to increase the public's access to psychological services - for example, in achieving true mental health parity and advocating for meaningful health care reform.

The 2013 State Leadership Conference took place in Washington, D.C. Saturday, March 9 - Tuesday, March 12, 2013.

## STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE: COUNTDOWN TO HEALTH CARE REFORM

# FAC Update

*Scott Pribyl, Ed.D.*

Just got back from my 10th State Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C. Current APA/SDPA advocacy issues focused on during our March 12th, 2013 visit to "The Hill" included a strong focus on Medicare issues. The bottom line is that the current reimbursement rates for the most common service, a 45 minute psychotherapy session, have dropped about 39% from 2000 to 2013 when rates are adjusted for inflation (\$98 in 2000; \$81 currently). We are asking Congress to adjust the Medicare payment formula which is not providing a fair and appropriate payment for psychologists in the program; this has resulted substantially from CMS having supported increases in payments to other providers who have higher practice expenses related to "evaluation and management" (E&M), something that psychologists can not bill for.

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"All of the advocacy issues will impact psychological service delivery to a variety of patients/clients to include the elderly and other special needs individuals, and in a variety of settings to include rural and medically under served areas."

Related Medicare issues include having Congress: replace the failed Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR) formula with a payment system that is fair to all providers; find an alternative to Medicare savings other than undermining provider payments through sequestration which if not altered, are expected to decrease provider payments up to 2% per year each year for the next 9 years.

The last two issues have also been around for the past several years. First, having Congress add psychologists to the Medicare "physician" definition so that psychologists can practice within their scope of practice without unnecessary M.D. - D.O.

supervision through the Brown/Schakowsky (H.R. 794) bill. Second, making psychologists eligible for HITECH Act incentive payments for electronic health records by passing the soon to be introduced Behavioral Health Information Technology (BHIT) Act which will be sponsored by Senator Sheldon Whitehouse and Representative Tim Murphy.

All of the advocacy issues will impact psychological service delivery to a variety of patients/clients to include the elderly and other special needs individuals, and in a variety of settings to include rural and medically under served areas. It is important that you contact our Congressional delegates at town hall meetings and during advocacy alerts and that you support the APA Practice Directorate & Practice Organization financially as a part of our ongoing journey to provide needed services to those in need. ■



# Council of Representatives Update

*Jodi Owen Psy. D.*

At its February meeting, the APA Council of Representatives reviewed a number of programs and initiatives designed to position the association and psychology for changes in the discipline, the marketplace and the post-Sandy Hook legislative environment.

Included in a number of presentations to the council was a report by CEO Norman Anderson, PhD, on the association's new Center for Psychology and Health. The center, directed by Anderson, will coordinate central office activities intended to ensure psychology's position in the emerging team-focused health-care marketplace. Anderson also briefed the council on APA activities in response to the Sandy Hook Elementary School tragedy. APA mobilized both its staff and member resources after the Sandy Hook shooting to immediately bring psychological expertise to news coverage and White House and Congressional proposals. Two APA member groups will be working on reports and or literature reviews on the issue of gun violence prediction and prevention; a third will focus on the role of media (most notably violent video games and other interactive media) in violence and aggression.

APA Executive Director for Education Cynthia Belar, PhD, updated the council on the first phase of the internship stimulus program funded by the association last year to help programs working toward APA accreditation. During the first phase of the program, 82 applicants sought funding and \$593,000 was distributed to 32 programs. The goal of the program is to increase the number of accredited internships and support the overall quality of graduate training. The council was also briefed on new accreditation status categories designed for internship and postdoctoral programs in the accreditation process: "eligibility status" and "accredited on contingency."

In a separate presentation, Steven D. Hollon, PhD, chair of the APA Clinical Practice Guidelines Advisory Steering Committee, reviewed the association's new process for creating such guidelines. The process is based on three pillars: transparency, empirical evidence, and multidisciplinary and balanced panels writing recommendations. The steering committee will oversee the guidelines creation process. Expert panels do the actual crafting of guidelines and have been appointed in the areas of depression, obesity and post-traumatic stress disorder.

In her role as the executive director of the American Psychological Association Practice Organization, Katherine Nordal, PhD, reported on APAPO's myriad of activities to support the viability of professional practice and the public's access to high quality psychological services. As a 501c6 organization, the APAPO has as its primary mission to serve the interests and needs of practicing psychologists and can undertake activities the APA, a 501c3 organization, cannot, including efforts to improve insurance and managed care company practices and reimbursement policies, unrestricted lobbying on behalf of its members, and working with political action committees to facilitate political giving. Both APA and APAPO are working to ensure an appropriate role for psychologists as health-care reform is implemented. In addition,

APAPO has been engaged in helping members adjust to changes in psychotherapy billing codes for 2013. See [www.apapracticecentral.org/codes](http://www.apapracticecentral.org/codes) for a comparison between the 2012 and 2013 codes.

The APAPO is almost entirely funded by those APA members who are licensed health-care providers, and, pay the practice assessment for membership in the APAPO in addition to their APA membership.

In other action, the council:

- Approved the association's 2013 budget with a projected very small deficit. The 2013 operating revenue is forecast to be \$108,156,000 with expected expenses of \$108,299,000. The council amended the 2013 budget to increase spending by approximately \$76,000 to provide \$500 in additional funding for members of council whose travel expenses are not otherwise paid by APA. All council members will now be eligible for reimbursement for two nights' lodging plus \$500 to help offset their expenses for attending the July 31 and August 2 Council meeting.
- Approved continued funding for the APA/ASPPB/APAIT Joint Task Force for the Development of Telepsychology.
- Approved APA's endorsement of the document Structure and Function of an Interdisciplinary Team for Persons with Acquired Brain Injury. The document was authored by a joint committee on interprofessional relations drawn from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association and APA Division 40 (Clinical Neuropsychology).
- Approved APA endorsement of the report Core Competencies for Interprofessional Collaborative Practice. This report was written by the Interprofessional Education Collaborative (IPEC) consisting of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing, the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine, the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy, the American Dental Education Association, the Association of American Medical Colleges, and the Association of Schools of Public Health. IPEC was created by the Federation of Association of Schools of the Health Professions, of which APA is now a liaison member.
- Approved inviting each of the seven regional psychological associations to send an observer to future Council meetings. Funding for travel to council meetings would be the responsibility of the regional associations. ■

# Legislative Update

*Brittany Novotny, JD, MBA*

During the 2013 Legislative Session, the SDPA monitored many bills of interest to the profession and your patients. Below you will find a list of bills that the SDPA monitored along with an explanation of each bill and its current status. Bills that were Tabled or sent to the 41st Legislative Day were killed.

The final day of the session focused exclusively on the budget and amendments to it. Nearly 60 amendments to the budget originally offered by Governor Dugaard were heard over the course of a 10 hour budget hearing. The highlights included:

- No Medicaid expansion this year. Deb Bowman of the Governor's Office did indicate that she will be putting together a Medicaid Opportunities and Challenges workgroup this summer. The workgroup will be made up of providers and decision-makers with a September 15th report back date.
- FY 13 budget was amended to give a 1% across the board one-time increase to Medicaid provider rates. An additional 1% was also given to "Medicaid Reliant" providers – the definition of which seems to be unclear at this time, but most likely a tiered system favoring the community level providers.

- FY 14 budget contains a 3% across the board on-going increase for Medicaid providers on a tiered system. The net effect of this increase is different by provider group, but it is an on-going adjustment to the base. Attempts to increase that amount or provide one-time money for health care were defeated in the budget amendment process.

- The final approved budget left nearly \$1.7 million unobligated for FY 14. This unobligated amount was originally thought to be more, but in the end, ended up being a relatively small amount compared to the overall budget for FY 14.

- The economic development package approved with bipartisan support contains a clause that requires education, health care and state employees to see annual increases before money can flow to the economic development projects.

Thank you to the SDPA Executive Committee members and Division 1 for the guidance and assistance provided during the legislative session. ■

## 2013 Legislative Session – SDPA Final Bill List

Click on the bill number below for full text

BILL #	TITLE	EXPLANATION	STATUS	
<a href="#">SB 3</a>	Require the reporting of the outcomes of certain licensure and certification examinations	Requires boards who administer a licensing exam to any person who completed a degree program at an institution under the control of the Board of Regents to report the number of persons who completed degrees at each institution and the number who successfully pass the examination. This bill is the result of the Interim Committee on Post-Secondary Purpose and Funding.	Passed Senate 35-0; Passed House of Representatives 61-7	Monitor
<a href="#">SB 51</a>	Revises certain provisions regarding the application of the collection allowance credit for collection sales tax	Provides a collection allowance of 1/2 percent of collected sales tax (not to exceed \$75 per month) for those submitting sales tax returns in a timely manner beginning January 1, 2014. After January 1, 2015, the allowance credit is only available to those returns submitted electronically.	Passed Senate 31-2; Passed House of Representatives -	Monitor
<a href="#">SB 139</a>	Regulate certain market activity in a health insurance exchange	Requires that any health benefit plan sold in South Dakota through an exchange shall provide for placement through a licensed insurance provider	Passed Senate 35-0; Passed House of Representatives 67-1	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 1185</a>	Appropriate money for the ordinary expense of the legislative, judicial, and executive departments of the state, the expenses of state institutions, interest on the public debt and for common schools	This is the general bill and provides the final funding package for state government. As passed this bill contains a 3% increase for Medicaid Providers for FY 14	Passed House of Representatives 48-17; Passed Senate 31-4	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 1233</a>	Facilitate the provision of voluntary medical services to the disadvantaged under certain circumstances	In its original amended form, it allowed an MD, DO, DC or DDS that is providing services at no cost to require that a recipient sign a waiver of civil liability. In its current form, it revises 47-23-29 to include any healthcare professional licensed under title 36.	Passed House of Representatives 68-0; Passed Senate 32-0	Monitor



## 2013 Legislative Session – SDPA Final Bill List (cont.)

Click on the bill number below for full text

Signed Bills				
BILL #	TITLE	EXPLANATION	STATUS	POSITION
<a href="#">SB 70</a>	Protect Public Safety	Provides for a number of reforms to the criminal justice system, including additional funding and support for drug and alternative courts throughout the state	Passed Senate As Amended 31-2. Passed House of Representatives 63-7; Signed into Law	Monitor
<a href="#">SB 117</a>	Provide for an expedited endorsement of certain licenses, certificates, registrations, and permits for spouses of active duty military personnel	Requires the issuance of certain licenses to spouse of military personnel who are subject to relocation to South Dakota if the spouse was previously licensed in another state. Licenses must be granted within 30 days of a completed application or a temporary permit must be grant if action on a final license cannot take place in the 30 days	Passed Senate 35-0; Passed House of Representatives 69-0; Signed by Governor	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 1020</a>	Revise certain provisions relating to the evaluation and treatment of persons with mental illness	Provides updated definition of qualified mental health professional (QMHP) for purposes of treating persons with mental illness. Among other things, this bill allows a QMHP to directly transfer to a crisis team, changes immediate discharge requirements for a minor and modifies procedures considered intrusive in relation to minors.	Passed the House of Representatives 59-6; Passed Senate 24-11; Signed by Governor	Monitor
Defeated Bills				
BILL #	TITLE	EXPLANATION	STATUS	POSITION
<a href="#">SB 24</a>	Revise certain provisions pertaining to the Board of Examiners of Psychologists	Revises the definition of doctoral program to be education or training accredited by the APA or the CPA and makes other slight modifications to the licensure process.	Passed Senate 34-1. Tabled by House Health and Human Services 13-0	Monitor
<a href="#">SB 50</a>	Authorize the Department of Revenue to provide certain lists to other agencies	Allows the Secretary of Revenue, in her sole discretion, to share lists of taxpayers, licensees or applicants with other state agencies to be used to carry out the official duties of the requesting agency.	Deferred to the 41st Legislative Day 5-2	Monitor
<a href="#">SB 77</a>	Require certain information be provided to debtors when entities are collecting certain debts	Requires any entity attempting to collect a debt for medical expenses to notify the debtor at least once in writing that the entity is attempting to collect the debt and provide a copy of the claim bill	Passed Senate 35-0; Passed House of Representatives 67-1	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 1136</a>	Affect medical services	A placeholder bill for possible additional funding for medical services or provider reimbursement increases	Tabled by House 69-0	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 1142</a>	Promote patient choice in selecting health care providers	Allows a patient to see "any willing provider" without penalty of out of network coverage costs for insurance premiums (Amendment sunsets the law in June 2018)	Passed House of Representatives 39-30; Failed in Senate 11-23	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 1199</a>	Prohibit the sharing of patient records in a health information exchange by the state without written authorization from the patient	Prohibits transmission of medical records into a health information exchange without written consent of the patient	Deferred to the 41st Legislative Day 10-3	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 1205</a>	Expand Medicaid	This bill is a placeholder for possible Medicaid expansion	Tabled 11-2	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 1244</a>	Prohibit the expansion of Medicaid Eligibility	Prohibits the expansion of Medicaid from levels in effect on January 1, 2013	Deferred to the 41st Legislative Day 11-2	Monitor



PLEASE CONTACT THE SDPA OFFICE IF YOU HAVE IMPORTANT DATES OR NEWS TO SHARE.

# News and Announcements

## • 2013 SDPA Annual Conference and Meeting

The 2013 SDPA Annual Conference and meeting is scheduled for September 27-28, 2013. The location will be in Chamberlain at the Cedar Shore Hotel and Conference Center. This year's speaker will be Dr. Michael R. Rosmann, Ph.D. and he will be speaking on Issues in Rural Mental Health. Please stay tuned for more details! ■

## • Seeking President Elect Nominations/Volunteers

The SDPA Executive Committee is seeking nominations/volunteers to fulfill the unexpired term of President-Elect of SDPA. Marie Volbrecht, PhD, who held the office, resigned after taking a position of employment in Minnesota. At this time, internal re-organization in the current Executive Committee is not possible. Interested individuals need to contact the SDPA office with a written outline of their interest and qualifications before March 15. The Executive Committee will then review the list of interested individuals and make an appointment. Duties of the position as stated in the SDPA By-Laws are:

"The President- Elect shall be a Member of the Association and it shall be his/her responsibility to serve as a member of the Executive Committee and to perform the duties of the President in the event of the absence or incapacity of the latter. In the event that the President shall not serve out the full term for any reason, the President-Elect shall succeed to the unexpired remainder thereof and continue through his/her own term as President."

Membership in APA is strongly encouraged for this position. Individuals need to have shown an interest in, and perhaps have attended annual meetings of, SDPA in the past. Access to and use of electronic media (i.e. email) is required. The President-Elect also oversees the planning and implementation of the continuing education portion of the Annual Meeting. The Annual Meeting this year will be held in September. Some work has already been completed in the planning process.

The time commitment needed: Commitment to ascendancy to office of President and then Past President on the Executive Committee. Commitment to participation in meetings of the Executive Committee. These are accomplished through conference calls that are one-hour in length and occur roughly monthly or, at a minimum, quarterly. Involvement in other correspondence as needed to carry out the duties of the position. Much of this is accomplished through use of email. Attendance at the Annual Conference/Meeting of the Association.

The appointed person would fulfill the unexpired term, and assume the role of President upon vote at the annual meeting of SDPA in September this year. ■

## • New By-Laws in the Works

The Executive Committee initiated the task of updating the SDPA By-laws. The committee included Mark Perrenoud (who participated in the last revision in 2006 and provided a historical perspective), Laura Hughes, and Sally Weyer. The committee began the task last summer and worked diligently to review the existing document and engage in the process of giving form to an updated document. Changes included: 1) writing in the new position of Public Education Coordinator, 2) better defining the tasks of Officers of the Association, 3) allowing for the ability to complete business through technological devices and applications, 4) revisions that better reflect how the Association completes business, and 5) minor changes in wording and restructuring for better flow. The proposed document was sent to the Executive Committee for input and feedback in February. Following that process, a final draft proposal will be developed and sent to Members for a reading before voting to adopt. This process will be completed by the Annual Meeting in September. ■



## *Advertise with SDPA*

The SDPA Newsletter is published three times per year and sent to the SDPA membership electronically.

### SDPA Advertising Policy

• The SDPA allows advertising for job announcement, mental health continuing education workshop opportunities or announcements regarding psychology practices. These advertisements must come ready for publication. SDPA will not modify advertisements received.

• Each advertisement will be approved by the SDPA President or the President's designee before it is published.

• Once approved, the advertisement will be posted according to the following:

\$25.00 for each posting on the listserv.  
\$25.00 for inclusion in each newsletter.

• The following disclaimer will be included at the top of advertisement postings: "The following are advertisements. The SDPA does not endorse these entities nor are they affiliated with the SDPA. Please contact the entity directly for further information."

If you have any questions regarding advertising in the SDPA Newsletter, please contact SDPA at (605) 224-8118 or [SDPA@midwestsolutionsd.com](mailto:SDPA@midwestsolutionsd.com).

### SDPA Newsletter Advertising Deadlines:

- Spring Edition: March 1st
- Summer Edition: July 1st
- Winter Edition: November 1st

