

February 2010 Florida Chapter NAPNAP Newsletter

Wow, what a great way to start off the year!!! The 2nd Annual Developments in Pediatric Healthcare Conference was such a great CEU opportunity to organize with the Gulf Coast Chapter. On January 30, 2010, ten students, twenty-eight members, and six non-members attended our conference. We had six amazing speakers and offered 6 CEUs. According to the attendee evaluations, most all seemed to enjoy the conference greatly. We hope we see even more in attendance next year in the Tampa/ St. Pete area. After the conference, it was brought to our attention that the date was not printed on the CEU certificate next to the printed location. We contacted National NAPNAP (the CEU certification department) and were given permission to have you write in the date manually. We apologize for overlooking this important detail when printing the certificates. We were happy to donate a little over \$5 per person (\$250 total) attending the conference to the Haiti Relief via "Help Brings Hope for Haiti" Non-Profit Organization. We were also able to raffle off seven gift baskets due to the generous donations provided. We hope to have the opportunity to present this conference with the Gulf Coast Chapter on a yearly basis. Please visit our photo gallery to view pictures from this year's conference.

WEBSITE

Now, as we continue through the first half of 2010 and the end of our current fiscal year (June 30, 2010) I encourage you all to continue updating your profile on our website regularly. Our website remains a great place for communicating and networking with other NPs in the area and staying up to date on activities, meetings, and news which are constantly posted. Also, please sign up on our preceptor list if you are willing to precept NP students. The link is easily found as you scroll down the left side of the home page at www.flnapnap.org. This is a necessity for students looking for preceptors each semester. Do not forget to utilize our job board while searching for current job openings or assisting your own employer in job posting.

EXECUTIVE BOARD ELECTIONS

This June we will be looking to replace the following board positions: Treasurer, Secretary, President Elect, and Legislative Chair. The Treasurer, Secretary, and President Elect positions will be voted on while the Legislative Chair is a voluntary non-elected position. Melissa Kelly, our current President Elect, will be taking my position as President on July 1, 2010. During the July 2010 to June 2011 year, I will be the Immediate Past President. Each newly elected position holds a 2-year term. I have listed text from the Chapter By-laws describing the roles of these positions:

President-elect

The President-elect shall become familiar with the duties of the President and shall automatically succeed to the presidency at the conclusion of the President's term of office. The President-elect shall perform the duties of the office in the absence of the

President or in the case of inability to act. When so acting, the President-elect shall have all powers of, and be subject to all the restrictions, placed upon the President, and shall perform such other duties as the members of the Executive Board may specifically prescribe.

Secretary

The Secretary shall keep and maintain the minutes of the meetings and give all notices that are required to be given by these bylaws; be custodian of the bylaws, membership roster, and records of the Association; attest all documents, the execution of which has been duly authorized by the members according to these bylaws; send copies of Chapter meeting minutes and newsletters to the Membership/Chapters' Coordinator of NAPNAP; and in general perform all duties incident to the office of Secretary and such other duties as the members of the Executive Board may prescribe.

Treasurer

The Treasurer shall have charge and custody of and be responsible for all funds and securities of the chapter; receive and give receipts for all monies due and payable to the chapter from any source whatsoever, deposit all monies in the name of the chapter in banks or other depositories as shall be decided by the Executive Board; account for and record all financial transactions by the chapter; prepare and render an annual report to the chapter and to the National Association at the last regular meeting of each fiscal year and whenever requested by the National Association or chapter membership; authorize an annual audit/review of financial records of the Chapter in such manner as directed by the Executive Board and perform such other duties as may be assigned by the members of the Executive Board.

Legislative Chair

Although this position is not definitively described in the by-laws, it has traditionally been a Committee Chair position filled by a person interested in the legislative aspect of pediatric nurse practitioners on the local and national level. The Legislative Chair is responsible for staying up to date on local and national legislative issues which directly and indirectly affect PNP's in Florida. The position is part of the Executive board and therefore the Chair has access to member contact information so they are able to deliver all needed information to the members electronically. They are also expected to participate in legislative

activities in the community, which help benefit PNPs in the legislative arena and promote “improved access to” and “quality of” pediatric healthcare here in Florida. This person represents the Florida Chapter of NAPNAP in the legislative community.

LEGISLATION

I was fortunate enough to attend the Region 11 Invitational Leadership Meeting on February 6, 2010. We were able to discuss professional practice issues among our region states, AL, FL, GA, and MS along with a review of the Health Care Reform and how NPs are defined within it. We discussed how the Health Care Reform was created and how it is currently on hold. Many other specific issues in the NP legislative arena were discussed and you can review a summary of items discussed in the Legislative section on our website.

It is important to stay active legislatively as a member of our organization and as an NP in general. We are asking as many of you as possible to please join the FNPN on March 24th for the **Rally in Tally** to show your presence in the Capital and to voice your opinions to our legislators face to face. The numbers present are so important; I cannot stress that enough! The more NPs there, the more the legislators will listen. We need all types of NPs represented on the Hill, including PNPs. Please visit the “Announcements “ section on our site to find the “Rally in Tally” announcement along with the registration link. This activity also provides 2 CEUs for the day’s activities. The legislative session is so short and this is the time to act!!!

NEXT MEETING

Hopefully you have already RSVPed for our dinner meeting on February 23, 2010 at 6:30 at Dubsdread Gulf Club in the Florida Room in Orlando, Florida. If not, please visit our “Events” section on the website to RSVP. The RSVP is required and the seating is limited. Our speaker is a local NP and DNP student, Kathleen Jones. She is discussing Probiotics. You can view her talk’s objectives on the posted invite. One CEU has been applied for. Don’t miss out!

MEMBERSHIP

Since the unification of National NAPNAP and the local Chapters, beginning the summer of 2009, we have acquired more members than ever before. Currently we have 153 members! We have new members joining each month (Thank you new members!!!). Please tell all your co-workers and other NP friends about our organization if they are not current members.

Lets have another great year! Thanks for your participation in our organization!!!

Janel P. Saunders, CPNP
President Florida Chapter NAPNAP