



# Nevada Psychological Association

## NPA News

### The Voice of Psychology in Nevada

#### Upcoming CE Events:

- **September 19, 2014**  
**Partnership in Action: Building Competency to Fight Human Trafficking**  
Shera Bradley, PhD  
Lieutenant Karen Hughes  
Las Vegas 6 CEs
- **November 7, 2014**  
**DBT with Parents, Couples and Families: Part II**  
Alan Fruzzetti, PhD  
Las Vegas 6 CEs
- **November 22, 2014**  
**Hot Topics in Ethics and Risk Management in Psychological Practice**  
Eric Harris, JD, EdD  
Las Vegas 6 Ethics CEs



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#### 2014 Spring Newsletter

#### ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ A Message from our President ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

What an honor it is to begin this journey as the 2014-2015 Nevada Psychological Association (NPA) President. I would like to begin by recognizing the founders of this great organization and the many psychologists who have dedicated countless hours to building this organization to what it is today. For those of you who have supported NPA by having served on Boards or Committees, attended continuing education events, donated to the Political Action Campaign (PAC) or continued your membership, I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for helping to make our organization one that is working hard to meet the needs of all Psychologists in our great state.

I want to give special recognition to Melanie Crawford, our outgoing President and Susan Ayarbe, our Board Secretary for developing and initiating the three- to five-year Strategic Plan in 2013. With the implementation of this plan, our organization has launched into a new era of financial stability, membership expansion, organizational efficiency and development of effective leaders in the state thus enabling continued stability of our organization. I am excited to continue with this plan and to carry out our mission to further advance Psychology as a science and profession, locally as well as nationally as we push forward with our growing presence in Washington, D.C.

Our first strategic objective is to grow our membership. NPA membership continues to be at an all-time high. Having a large, thriving membership allows the organization to better represent the needs of all psychologists in the state and provide more opportunities for advocacy of our profession. Please support NPA by renewing your membership and encouraging your colleagues to join you.

The second strategic objective is to improve our financial stability. For the first time in the history of our organization, we have a positive financial balance. However, it is important to remember that it has not been too long ago that we struggled to simply cover our basic expenses. By attending the quality CEU's that NPA provides, you are helping the organization be financially more stable. This results in a win-win for our members, as you gain quality education while also providing dollars that help in advocating for our profession as well as help employ our Executive Director, Wendi O'Connor and Lobbyist, Bryan Gresh.

The third strategic objective is to maximize our organizational efficiency. While we are a relatively small organization, we have done a lot to create an organization that has many moving parts, including committees, boards, and leadership roles. With the results of the survey distributed in April, we look forward to incorporating your feedback and making all of the moving parts of our organization function more effectively.

The fourth objective is to develop and prepare effective state leadership. Every single member of our organization has something great to offer to our organization. Over the coming year, we are aiming to make the different roles and process of getting involved with the organization more transparent so that everyone who wants to get involved knows exactly what will be required and provided. Whether you can contribute ideas, time or finances, I personally invite and challenge you to commit to contacting a board member to determine ways that you can become more involved.

With our roadmap set, NPA will continue moving further towards our strategic objectives over the following year. We will continue to work on identifying ways to measure the outcomes of these objectives and keep you informed of the progress. NPA has a legacy of great leaders, and I truly feel honored and blessed to take on this great responsibility. It is my privilege and pleasure to serve with a talented board composed of passionate leaders and am confident that this will be a great year! I encourage and look forward to each of you actively helping us to implement this strong Strategic Plan.

~Whitney Owens, PsyD, 2014-2015 NPA President

## 2013-2014: A Year in Review by Melanie Crawford PhD

Approximately one year ago, the Executive Board of NPA set out to develop a three- to five-year strategic plan. We began by clarifying the mission and core values of NPA. We then identified four strategic objectives: 1. Improve financial stability 2. Grow membership 3. Maximize operational efficiency 4. Develop and prepare effective leaders. To help us reach these long-term goals, over the course of the last membership year, we have created a three year Road Map, which outlines a sequence of specific action plans. We also identified ways to measure our progress.

I am happy to report that we have already made significant gains in reaching our objectives. **NPA has exceeded the goal of a 10% financial reserve of our annual budget** for the 2013 fiscal year. Our **membership levels are holding strong** at near historical high levels. In an effort to “do more with less,” we have worked hard to evaluate and refine our organizational processes and with the implementation of the first ever **NPA Membership Survey**, we now have data from our membership that will be essential in helping us improve our membership services. Although, NPA has a tradition of dedicated and passionate leaders, we have historically been few in number. This year, like many years before, we have struggled to fill all leadership positions. NPA needs your help. **We encourage you to become involved** by joining a committee or serving on the Board. Although there is still some room for improvement, I am quite proud of the gains we have made this year. It has been my honor to serve with a Board of highly skilled professionals and I look forward to assisting in the ongoing implementation of NPA's strategic plan. Together, with the support of membership, I feel confident that NPA will be successful in achieving our strategic objectives.

With gratitude,  
Melanie C. Crawford, Ph.D.  
Past-President, Nevada Psychological Association

### 2014 NPA Award Winners



#### James Mikawa Award for Outstanding Contributions to the Field of Psychology:

NPA presented **Martha Mahaffey, Ph.D.** with the **2014 James Mikawa Award** in recognition of her invaluable service to the NV Board of Psychological Examiners as Exam Commissioner and the development and implementation of the State Licensing Exam. NPA also acknowledged her work in promoting the development of future Psychologists as the Director of Training at the Veterans Association Medical Center in Reno.

Left to right: Steven Graybar, PhD, Martha Mahaffey, PhD

#### Outstanding Advocacy Award:

NPA awarded **Lisa Linning, Ph.D.** for her passion and dedication to key issues related to Psychology, both state wide and at the federal level. She was recognized for her diligent work to ensure that psychology has been represented at the table in Nevada across multiple interest areas and workgroups. She has developed multiple working relationships with key legislators and leaders in our community on behalf of psychology and our community-at-large.



Left to right: Lindsey Ricciardi, PhD, Lisa Linning, PhD



#### “Psychologist of the Year” Outstanding Contribution Award:

NPA recognized **Melanie Crawford, Ph.D.** for her efforts during her role as President. Melanie went above and beyond her role by not only leading NPA through a successful year, but also recognizing the need to prepare NPA for the future. She brought a business sensibility to NPA and sought out the assistance of experienced business consultants. With their guidance and support of the Board, she identified 4 key strategic business objectives with specific targets and a roadmap to accomplish these goals within the next 3-5 years.

Left to right: Melanie Crawford PhD, Robyn Donaldson, PhD

## Legislative Update by Lisa Linning PhD & Laura Drucker, PsyD, Legislative Committee Chairs

The Legislative Committee had a busy legislative session (2013) and then a flurry of spring activities. We were actually able to **Get to the Table!** Below are highlights of the advocacy efforts and protection to psychology the committee was able to provide for psychologists in NV.

1. Legislative Session 2013
  - a. Changes related to child abuse reporting laws, child welfare services, human trafficking, sex trafficking, gun violence and the mentally ill, court-ordered outpatient treatment, billing practices of certain healthcare providers, sex offenders, mental health screenings for children, terminology changes for intellectual disability, to name a few...
2. Legislative Retreat Oct. 5, 2013
3. Interim Subcommittee Meetings, Healthcare Reform meetings, and Presentations
  - a. Southern NV Healthcare Subcommittee – Senator Jones, Assemblyman Eisen meetings 2-3x/month since January 2014
  - b. Summit on Gun Violence, Progress Now – by invitation of Senator Jones meetings south and north
4. Presentations to Medicaid, The State of Nevada Commission on Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, and The Board of Psychological Examiners
  - a. Recommendation for the Board of Examiners to register psychology pre-doc interns and for Medicaid to qualify and reimburse for intern services as QMHPs
5. Community Conversations, southern regions – Jan – April, 2014 monthly meetings
6. ACA Workforce Mapping – Department of Public & Behavioral Health
7. Topics/themes addressed in the meetings legislative committee has attended
  - a. Reimbursement rates for psychology services are very low, psychology interns have not been eligible for reimbursement, many providers are opting out of Medicaid and Medicare due to low reimbursement rates, cumbersome paperwork and credentialing, etc...
  - b. Need for more internship positions, (in-state, salaried)
  - c. NV has difficulty retaining the new psychologists completing UNR, UNLV, and other doctoral training programs.
  - d. More student loan repayment programs needed: federal, local, and state grants
  - e. Legal 2000 barriers
    - i. Psychologists may admit but not discharge patients on Legal 2000. Backlog of patients needing discharge and follow up treatment is especially acute in So. Nevada. Need to have more efficient medical clearance, separate from the mental health clearance, as well as a separate hospital discharge.
  - f. Barriers to integrated health and wellness, continuity of care
  - g. Corporate Practice Laws prevent integrated health practices with mental health and medical services, including psychiatry
  - h. Licensing barriers such as Telehealth allowance, state license reciprocity, fewer postdoc hours
8. ACA/Healthcare Reform, monitoring roll out of state exchange and integration of psychology into health care plans
9. Committee conference calls 4<sup>th</sup> Fri. each month at noon. We welcome new committee members, especially when it comes time to review BDRs during the session.
 

\*\* Legislative Session begins February 5, 2015\*\*
10. **PAC donation drive** - only raised \$7,500 of our \$15,000 goal. **Please contribute!!** [NVPsychology.org](http://NVPsychology.org)

Respectfully submitted, Laura V. Drucker, PsyD, and Lisa M. Linning, PhD (NPA Legislative Co-Chairs)



Nevada  
Psychological  
Association

Let's talk about money, politics, and  
mental health policy in Nevada...

**NPA PAC  
Needs  
Your  
Help!**

The 2013 Legislative session has drawn to a close. Your NPA legislative committee, with our able lobbyist, Bryan Gresh and his team, was again active in advocating for the profession of psychology, and the provision of mental health services to Nevada residents during the session. We tracked bills related to autism, human trafficking, child abuse reporting laws, gun sales to people with mental illness, and more.

**Why are we talking money and politics now?  
The session is over, right?**

**Two reasons: elections and the implementation of Healthcare Reform**

We have worked for years to become known and trusted at the Nevada Legislature. However, due to term limits, there are many new legislators who don't know us. Each session we must work to gain their ear and their trust. In the last legislature there were nine new Senators, plus eight who had been in ONE previous session as a Senator. Some of these seats and all those in the Assembly will be on the ballot in 2014. Primaries are in June, so campaigns are starting now, while the work of the Interim legislative committees and commissions continues on issues like healthcare reform.

Why does this matter? Let's use an example from the 2013 session. SB 221 was about guns and mental health. When it passed out of the legislature it included language to make Tarasoff part of the law in Nevada. That was not how this bill read when it was introduced – it was because we, our lobbying team, and other mental health practitioners, worked with a first term Senator to get the language right (note: SB221 was later vetoed by Governor Sandoval). Also, the ACA (Affordable Care Act) changes are already underway. We want to have access to our legislators when they are fine-tuning the implementation of health care reform – we want to be voices that will be heard when policies are made that affect us all.

### **NPA-PAC Fundraising Drive**

Unfortunately politics never sleeps, and neither can we. We need to build our PAC **now** for political contributions soon. We are trying something new this year – we are asking members to consider making a monthly contribution to our PAC. Your contribution really does help us continue to be involved and engaged with the political process in Nevada and my hope is that we raise enough money to be visible in this election season!

Thank you for your attention and for your support of NPA's advocacy for psychology in Nevada!

Laurie Drucker, Psy.D.  
Legislative Chair and Former President of NPA

# NPA-PAC FUNDRAISING DRIVE

**Option 1: Monthly PAC Donation (billed to a credit or debit card on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month)**

\_\_\_\_\_ \$15 monthly contribution (for 12 consecutive months)

\_\_\_\_\_ \$25 monthly donation (for 12 consecutive months)

\_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (enter amount) (for 12 consecutive months)

**NPA PAC  
THANKS YOU  
FOR YOUR DONATION**

Please supply your credit card (Visa/MCard/AmEx/Discover) information below:

Cardholder Name (as it appears on your card) : \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

(street)

(city)

(state)

(zip)

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Exp Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code (on back of card) \_\_\_\_\_

By signing below, I authorize NPA to bill my card monthly for 12 consecutive months

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Option 2: I wish to make a one-time donation to the NPA-PAC:**

\_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (please fill in your amount, suggested donation of \$125 much appreciated)

You may pay by check or supply your credit/debit card information below:

Cardholder Name (As it appears on the card): \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address (if different from above): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Visa/MCard/AmEx/Discover (circle one):

Account #: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration: \_\_\_\_\_

Security Code (3 numbers on back of card or on American Express, 4 numbers on the front): \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Checks may be mailed to NPA-PAC at PO Box 400671, Las Vegas, NV 89140

Fax this form to 1-888-654-0050

Donations may also be made online at [www.NVpsychology.org](http://www.NVpsychology.org)

Donations are NOT tax-deductible, NPA-PAC is an affiliated organization that makes contribution directly to those running for political office in Nevada.

## 2014-2015 Nevada Psychological Association: Executive Board Members



**President: Whitney Owens, Ph.D.** has been involved with the NPA since moving to Las Vegas in 2008. In 2009, she became the Southern Region Secretary and involved in the Southern Region events. Professionally, Whitney is an ECP who became licensed in the Spring of 2009. Her specialties include addictive disorders, depression, anxiety and relationship issues.



**President-Elect & Treasurer: Robyn Donaldson, Ph.D.** Graduated from UNLV's Clinical Psychology program during which time she served as Campus Rep for NPA southern region. She completed her pre-doctoral clinical internship at the CAPS of Oregon State University and post-doctorate year at Healthy Minds where she continues to conduct disability assessments part-time. After earning her license, she started her private practice in Henderson, where she continues to provide psychotherapy to adults.



**Past-President: Melanie Crawford, Ph.D.** is a licensed clinical psychologist in private practice specializing in the neuropsychological assessment of children and adolescents. She received her doctoral degree in child clinical psychology and developmental cognitive neuroscience from the University of Denver and completed her predoctoral internship in child clinical psychology at the University of CA, San Diego School of Medicine. This is her fifth year with NPA Northern Board and third term as Northern Region President.



**Secretary: Susan Ayarbe, Ph.D.** received her degree in Clinical Psychology from UNR in 1988. After working for eight years at the Rocky Mountain Multiple Sclerosis Center in Denver, Co as a staff neuropsychologist and research assistant, Susan spent the next six years in corporate consulting, providing training in process improvement and change management. After moving to Reno, Susan started her private practice, which is focused on the neuropsychology assessment of children and adolescents.



**Diversity Chair: Johanah Kang,** is a Clinical Psychology Doctoral Student at UNLV who is passionate about all things diversity related. She is also the Diversity Graduate Assistant in the Clinical Psychology department at UNLV. The Diversity Committee plans to continue promoting diversity issues in NPA and Nevada in the upcoming year.



**ECP Co-Chair: North - Ruth Gentry Ph.D.** earned her degree from UNR in 2010 and is licensed in California and Nevada. She completed her internship and postdoctoral fellowship in integrated care/health psychology at the West Los Angeles Veterans Affairs. She is in private practice in Reno specializing in treatment of sleep disorders, chronic pain, anxiety, depression, and PTSD.



**ECP Co-Chair: South—Bree Mullin, Psy.D.** earned her undergraduate degree in Psychology at the University of Arizona. After working with youth in foster care for two years, she earned her Psy.D. in Clinical Psychology from Alliant International University in San Diego, California. Bree returned to Las Vegas in September of 2010 and became licensed in February 2013.



**APA Council Rep: Lisa Linning, Ph.D.** is a Licensed Psychologist at DRC, Children's Program, in Las Vegas and part-time private practice. She is involved with treatment of severely abused and disabled youth through research, youth corrections, residential and inpatient treatment centers, and outpatient services. Dr. Linning started with NPA in 2002 as UNLV/APAGS rep, spent several years on the Southern Board and committees

**APAGS Rep: Travis Loughran (UNLV)**

**Campus Reps: Leiszle Lapping-Carr (UNLV) and Olga Cirlugea (UNR)**

## 2014-2015 Nevada Psychological Association: Regional Board Members



**Northern Regional President & Treasurer: Brie Moore, PhD.** is a Licensed Clinical Psychologist in private practice in Reno, Nevada. She specializes in the evidence-based treatment of behavioral health concerns, including childhood anxiety, depression, and noncompliance. Dr. Moore also specializes in the family-based treatment of childhood obesity. She has been active in NPA for several years and served 2 terms as Secretary of the Northern Board.



**Northern Regional Vice-President: Yani Dickens, Ph.D.** is a Licensed Psychologist working in private practice and also at the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) Counseling Services. He provides UNR student athletes with counseling and sport psychology consulting services as an adjunct clinical faculty member with the University of Nevada School of Medicine. In private practice, Dr. Dickens provides sport psychology consultations, psychotherapy, and assessment.



**Northern Regional Secretary: Kelly Cramond, Ph.D.** is a Clinical Neuropsychologist and Certified Brain Injury Specialist. She graduated from Brigham Young University in 2010 and is currently employed by Rehab Without Walls and the VA Sierra Nevada Health Care System in Reno, NV. Her works includes outpatient neuropsychological evaluation, concussion management, and cognitive rehabilitation.



**Southern Regional President: Sarah Ahmad, Psy.D.** is a native of Las Vegas and received her B.A. from UNLV. She completed her graduate work in California and then secured a Postdoctoral Fellowship in Las Vegas at Desert Psychological. Eager to actively participate with NPA, she now serves as the Secretary for the Southern Board and looks forward to the upcoming year.



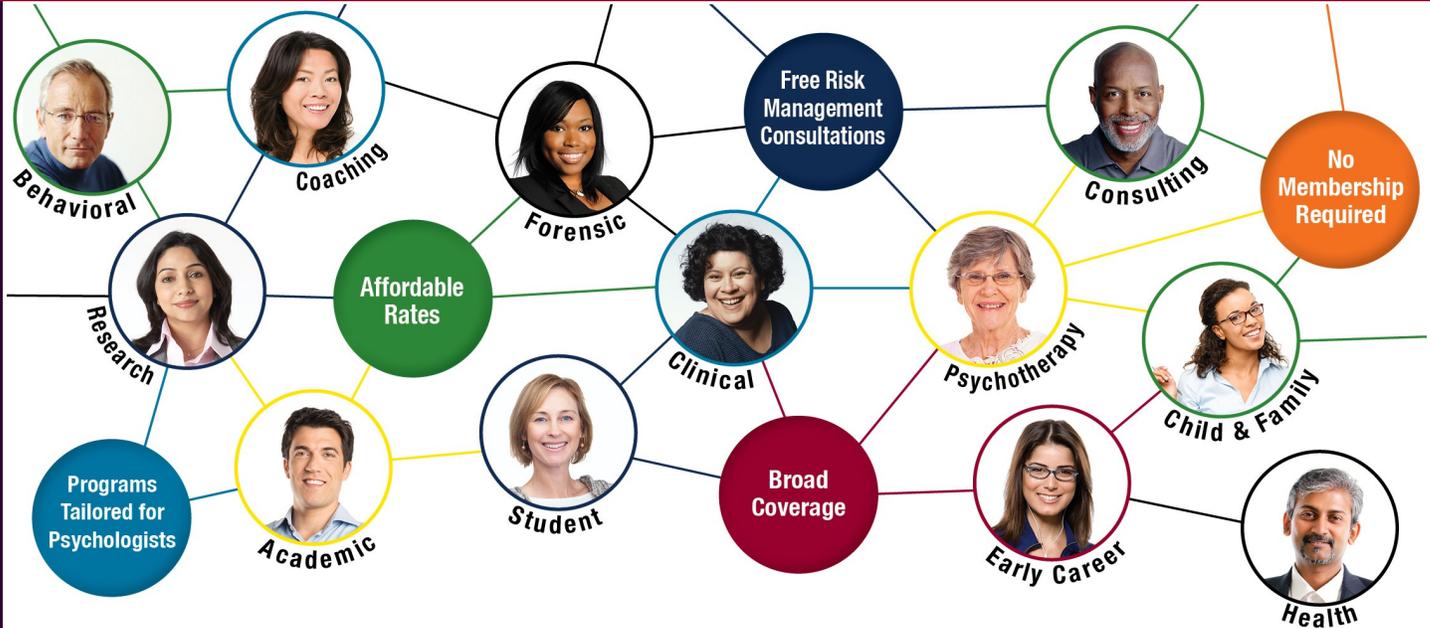
**Southern Regional Vice-President: Cindy Schmidt, Ph.D.** graduated from University of Connecticut in 1999 and now has a private practice in Henderson specializing in chronic health conditions. She owns the Tapestry Center for Integrated Living, weaving mind, body, spirit for lives filled with meaning and abundance.



**South Regional Treasurer: Sheri Bardos, Psy.D.** is a post-doctoral fellow at Owens Psychological Services. Her interests include working with adults, couples and relationship concerns. Sheri recently moved to Las Vegas from New York where she earned her Psy.D. at Long Island University: C.W. Post.



**Southern Region Secretary: Kelly O'Neil, PhD** is a Postdoctoral Fellow under the supervision of Dr. Stephanie Holland. She has worked at Desert Psychological for 4 years and is completing her postdoctoral fellowship with this practice. Her therapeutic training has focused on services provided to adjudicated youth at Caliente Youth Center; and, individual, family and couples therapy provided to those in the greater Las Vegas area.



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## NPA recognizes our 2014 Platinum Level CE Sponsor—Willow Springs Center



690 Edison Way  
Reno, Nevada 89502

800.448.9454 or 775.858.3303  
[www.willowspringscenter.com](http://www.willowspringscenter.com)

Willow Springs Center is a locked residential treatment facility that helps children and adolescents recover from emotional, psychiatric, behavioral and substance abuse problems. Founded in 1988, Willow Springs Center provides individualized clinical services by identifying problems, developing treatment plans with specific solutions and involving families in treatment. We accept males and females, ages five through 17.

Our program is particularly helpful for youths who continue to need intensive treatment after hospitalization, or for whom outpatient treatment is not effective.

### Services & Programs

#### The Children's Program

This program is designed to help our youngest patients starting at age five to make successful transitions from childhood to early adolescence. We strive to instill in each child a sense of trust, self-respect and self-confidence.

#### The Up & Away Program

This unique program helps patients ages 10-13 successfully travel through a difficult developmental transition in their lives.

#### The Journey Program for Adolescents

Teens ages 13 through 17 often struggle with internal and external distress. Our evidence-based program helps these youths develop more successful ways of building coping skills and strengthening relationships. We seek to enhance confidence, psychological balance, interpersonal skills, family cohesiveness and academic achievement.

#### The Ascent Program for Substance Abuse Treatment

Our chemical dependency program for teens uses evidence-based treatment protocols including the Matrix Model on Addictions to treat co-occurring substance abuse diagnoses. We provide individualized treatment plans and a variety of groups such as relapse prevention, early recovery and Alateen (12-step). All appropriate patients are evaluated via self-assessments and the SASSI (Substance Abuse Subtle Screening Inventory).



#### The Adolescent Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) Program

Our DBT program is one of only a few teen residential DBT programs in the United States. The program provides comprehensive therapy based on the Marsha Linehan, Ph.D. model for individuals with such chronic behaviors as self harm, chaotic interpersonal relationships, history of suicide attempts, gestures or threats, rapid changes of emotion and multiple hospitalizations. Using compassion to affect change, we help patients learn unique skills to decrease intensity of feelings. These skills include mindfulness, distress tolerance, emotion regulation and yoga.

#### Truckee Meadows School

Staffed by Nevada state-certified teachers, Truckee Meadows School is a year-round licensed school that emphasizes behavior management and self-control with improved academic and social skills.

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Nevada Medicaid Approved

TRICARE Preferred Provider

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Member of Military Child Education Coalition

## Nevada Psychological Association: Membership Benefits

### MEMBERSHIP HAS ITS BENEFITS....

#### NPA Keeps You on the Cutting Edge

- Reduced fees on NPA's Continuing Education programs - Keep up to date on standards of practice and develop your skills and knowledge base

#### NPA Helps Shape the Profession Through Advocacy

- Advocacy for psychology and psychological services in the State Legislature
- NPA Legislative Committee works with our lobbyist to identify and speak out on issues relevant to psychology
- Meet with our national representatives in our nation's capitol to influence federal legislation through the State Leadership Conference in Washington, DC

#### NPA Can Help Your Practice Grow

- Free statewide Referral Service Network
- Website advertising and low-cost credit card processing services
- Market your practice with a professional webpage
- Make presentations to businesses and community groups through public education programs that enhance the general understanding of psychology and promote psychology services.
- Outreach to businesses, the media, and other social service organizations

#### NPA Can Connect You with Your Colleagues

- Meet and stay connected with your peers across the state through networking events, meetings and workshops
- NPA's listserv allows members to discuss and keep abreast of relevant issues
- Find an outlet for your talents and interests by serving on any of our active committees and task forces
- When you join NPA, you become a member of one of our regional chapters. These regional groups offer a smaller, more easily accessible, and intimate setting in which to interact with your colleagues

**WE'RE PSYCHED ABOUT NPA!  
ARE YOU?**

**WWW.NVPSYCHOLOGY.ORG**

**Join  
Today!**



# Membership Application/Renewal Form

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 400671  
Las Vegas, NV 89140

Phone/Fax: 888-654-0050

You can also renew online at:

[www.NVPSYCHOLOGY.ORG](http://www.NVPSYCHOLOGY.ORG)

## Membership Year: June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014–May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015

**Information about you:** Please complete the box below. This information updates the NPA database. PLEASE print clearly.

IS YOUR INFORMATION THE SAME AS LAST YEAR/NO CHANGES?  Check box, sign below, skip to Pg 2

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Degree \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_ Sex:  M  F  Other  
(optional) (optional)

Home Address	
Home Address _____	
City _____ State _____ Zip _____	
Home Telephone ( _____ ) _____ Fax ( _____ ) _____	
Toll Free Phone _____ Preferred E-Mail _____	
Primary Employment	Secondary Employment
Title _____	Title _____
Employer _____	Employer _____
Address _____	Address _____
_____	_____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____	City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ Fax _____	Phone _____ Fax _____
County _____	County _____
<b>PREFERRED MAILING ADDRESS:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Home Address <input type="checkbox"/> Primary Employment <input type="checkbox"/> Secondary Employment <b>I Do ___ DO NOT ___ WISH TO BE LISTED IN THE NPA ON-LINE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY</b> <b>PREFERRED MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY ADDRESS:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Home <input type="checkbox"/> Primary Employment <input type="checkbox"/> Secondary Employment	

**Subscribe me/keep me subscribed to the NPA Member listserv** an interactive email communication list used by members to discuss pertinent information with colleagues, i.e., referral sources, ethical questions, practice information etc.

**Receive NPA E-NEWS.** This is a brief informational email with links to further information on-line.

My e-mail address is \_\_\_\_\_

I authorize NPA to send e-mails to me as necessary. \_\_\_\_\_ (initials)

Graduate College/University \_\_\_\_\_ Graduation Date \_\_\_\_\_ Degree \_\_\_\_\_

Licensed in NV- License# \_\_\_\_\_ Year Licensed: \_\_\_\_\_

Licensed in other State: \_\_\_\_\_ License# \_\_\_\_\_ Year Licensed: \_\_\_\_\_

APA member  Yes  No National Register  Yes  No ABPP  Yes  No Specialty ABPP Area

I agree to abide by the ethical principles set forth by the American Psychological Association and I certify that all statements made herein are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please note that 30% of dues is designated for the lobbyist and is not tax deductible. \$15 of your dues payment will go to support your respective region (North or South) and its activities.

**Full Members, Step #1: (✓ box below, proceed to Step#2 below)**

Full member, 5 years post licensure \$160.00 base dues

**Full Mbrs, Step #2: add assessment by income (choose 1 and ✓):**

\$150,000 and up add \$130 to base dues of \$160

\$75,000—\$150,000 add \$80 to base dues of \$160

Up to \$75,000 add \$35 to base dues of \$160

**Early Career Psychologists (choose 1 and ✓):**

4 years post-licensing \$200.00 flat fee

3 years post-licensing \$185.00 flat fee

2 years post-licensing \$160.00 flat fee

1 year post-licensing \$145.00 flat fee

Licensing year \$115.00 flat fee

Post-doc/Unlicensed \$100.00 flat fee

**A. TOTAL: Add Step #1 & #2 for Full Members (left) or ECP Flat Rate (right) \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**B. Other Membership Categories: (for those that are neither a Full Members nor an ECPs):**

Associate/Affiliate/Out-of-State Member \$75.00  
*Graduate or undergraduate students with an interest in psychology., Please include proof of student status with your application.*

Student Member \$50.00  
*Graduate or undergraduate students with an interest in psychology., Please include proof of student status with your application.*

Retired Member \$65.00  
*detailed description available online*

**C. Additional Donation Opportunities:**

Lobbyist/Legislative Fund \$100.00 or \_\_\_\_\_ (other donation amount)  
*Your donation supports our Legislative Committee activities*

Political Action Committee (PAC) \$100.00 or \_\_\_\_\_ (other donation amount)  
*Your donation to PAC allows us to support Nevada State Legislators who share our passion and positions. This is NOT tax deductible.*

NPA Training Consortium Fund \$100.00 or \_\_\_\_\_ (other donation amount)

NPA Century Fund \$100.00 or \_\_\_\_\_ (other donation amount)  
*Your donation supports our Central Office operations and ED*

NPA Student Fund \$100.00 or \_\_\_\_\_ (other donation amount)  
*Your donation will help fund Student travel to SLC and Strategic Planning*

**D. Total of A or B, and C: \_\_\_\_\_**

**E. Make Your Payment (choose 1 and ✓):**

Check enclosed, **made payable to NPA** (mail to PO Box 400671, Las Vegas, NV 89140)

Credit Card Payment (circle one): Visa    MasterCard    Discover    American Express

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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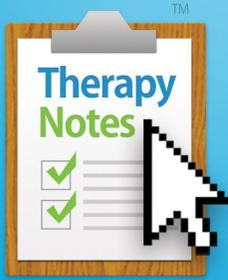
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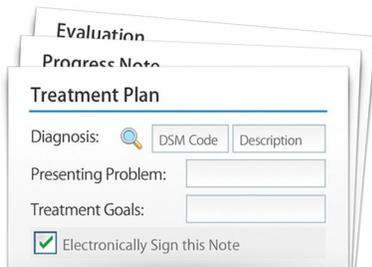
**11:30AM** Appt with Kyle  
*Called in to say he may be a little late*

**12:00PM** Appt with Susan  
*Remember books she borrowed*

Create a Progress Note for your appointment on 9/29.

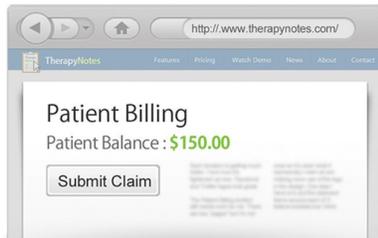
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*Kathleen Bremer, PCC-S*

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## The View from Carson City by Bryan Gresh, NPA Lobbyist



Friends,

Did your eyes glaze over when you glanced at the colorful PAC donation flyer on Pages 4 & 5 of this newsletter and did you quickly turn the page? Thought so. It's tough to give when we're still coming out of the Great Recession (it's pretty tough to ask, too!) But it's vital to the successful operation of this organization.

It's a fair question: **"Why give to the NPA Political Action Committee?"**

Let me briefly try to explain.

Like it or not, psychology needs a voice in the Nevada legislative process.

**The Board of Psychological Examiners doesn't represent you**—it's tasked with protecting Nevada's citizens in regulating psychologists. That's where we come in. NPA has your back. When those who are underqualified start pretending to be psychologists, NPA acts. When legislation neglects to include psychology as a qualified provider, NPA acts. And NPA acts when Nevada's biennial budget is focused on Health and Human Services. We act on your behalf year round.

But action takes time, money, relationships, money and persistence. Oh, and it takes money. **NPA has become *the* voice of psychology at the Nevada Legislature** over the years because we have been unafraid to support those candidates who are supportive of psychology. And how have we accomplished that? **By asking our members to financially support our Political Action Committee, our PAC.**

**Here's how it works:** a \$100 contribution from a psychologist in Reno to a lawmaker running for the state Senate is a good great thing. It's democracy in action and should be applauded, and that lawmaker will appreciate it. **But what about 10 psychologists each giving \$100 to the NPA PAC and NPA then presenting that lawmaker with a contribution of \$1000 instead?** The gesture, the impression is so much bigger! Lest you think your hard earned contribution will go unnoticed we can even provide the candidate receiving the check with the current list of NPA members who donate to our PAC (or you can remain anonymous). Just names, not numbers.

So now we have a grateful candidate who not only has supported psychology but has received financial support from us. They share our passion and we've let them know we recognize and appreciate that passion. **What have we gained? An open door.** Yes, many lawmakers, if not all, have an open door policy. But during the 120 days of the legislative wash cycle, when it's sometimes so busy a 20 second meeting is equivalent to a leisurely dinner outside of session, you have to first **find** that lawmaker. At a time when they're not in committee, in caucus or on the Floor. Well, good luck with that. But you see, that's when the relationships and the campaign support help. That's when you will find an open door. And with that 20 second meeting so critical to the success of an issue of importance to NPA, all ties back to "were we able, through our PAC, to support the folks we wanted to help?" **Here's your chance to answer 'yes' to that question by writing a check to your NPA PAC.** Now, please.

Many thanks from your NPA Legislative Committee!



[www.greshgroup.com](http://www.greshgroup.com)

# Viewpoint

Stephen Behnke, J.D., Ph.D.

## *Ethics for psychologists*

### *Legal, clinical and ethical implications of legalized marijuana*

Recently the APA Ethics Office was approached with question: What implications does the legalization of marijuana in two jurisdictions have on psychology ethics? The question has no immediate or obvious answer.

Issues will undoubtedly emerge over time as psychologists work within these jurisdictions and between jurisdictions that have different legal approaches to the use of marijuana. Nonetheless, the question offers an opportunity to begin thinking about the implications of evolving jurisdictional laws that govern the use of substances.

A useful framework is to consider the question from three closely related perspectives: legal, clinical and ethical. This analysis isolates a specific kind of question and then examines how the different kinds of questions interact. Thus, the analysis offers a two-step process.

From the perspective of the Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct (2002, amended 2010), a central standard is 2.01(a), Boundaries of Competence: "(a) Psychologists provide services, teach and conduct research with populations and in areas only within the boundaries of their competence, based on their education, training, supervised experience, consultation, study or professional experience."

The issue raised by standard 2.01(a) is whether it is within the boundaries of the treating psychologist's competence to work with an individual who is using this particular substance. From the perspective of the Ethics Code, there is no distinction among substances – for example between marijuana and alcohol.

The psychologist must have the appropriate knowledge and skill to treat an individual with the particular pattern of use or gain the requisite knowledge and skills in the ways that standard 2.01(a) identifies. For this reason, there is an inextricable nexus between the ethical and the clinical, insofar as the Ethics Code says that the psychologist must have the appropriate clinical competence. New laws on the use of a par-



Stephen Behnke, J.D., Ph.D.

ticular substance do not seem directly relevant to this aspect of the analysis.

Ethical standard 2.01(f) may bring in the law in a manner that standard 2.01(a) does not: "(f) When assuming forensic roles, psychologists are or become reasonably familiar with the judicial or administrative rules governing their roles."

Standard 2.01(f) places the ethical mandate for competence into forensic contexts. In a forensic context, the legal status of a substance that a client is using may be highly relevant to a forensic assessment.

Consider a psychologist who is conducting a child custody evaluation. Two parents live in separate jurisdictions, one of which has legalized the use of marijuana, the other has not. Both parents use marijuana in similar ways regarding the amount and frequency. The evaluator may find it appropriate to take into consideration that in one jurisdiction, the parent is using a substance that is illegal.

In this scenario, clinical considerations regarding substance use may be less relevant – if relevant at all – in comparison with the legal considerations of a parent who is engaging in an illegal activity. The clinical perspective may enter the analysis when the psychologist poses the question: Why would an individual engage in a behavior that may be

directly contrary to that individual's stated goal, i.e., maximizing access to his or her children? In this instance, the legal, ethical and clinical questions converge.

One can easily imagine other types of assessments where the legal status of an activity could be relevant. Ethical Standard 9.01(a), Bases for Assessments, states: "Psychologists base the opinions contained in their recommendations, reports and diagnostic or evaluative statements, including forensic testimony, on information and techniques sufficient to substantiate their findings. (See also Standard 2.04, Bases for Scientific and Professional Judgments.)"

Standard 9.01(a) is not limited to forensic contexts. For certain jobs, knowingly engaging in activities that are illegal can be perceived as a reflection of one's judgment. This consideration may be especially important for assessing individuals for leadership positions. Again, the legal, ethical and clinical converge, insofar as ethical standard 9.01(a) states that it is appropriate to take the legal status of an activity into consideration when such information substantiates a psychologist's recommendation, report or diagnostic or evaluative statement. Likewise, evaluations in a criminal context may depend to a substantial degree on whether an individual is abiding by the law or engaging in illegal behaviors.

How the evolving legal status of marijuana will affect psychologists' work is an interesting and important question that has no immediate or obvious answer. The nuances and contours of the question will necessarily emerge over time, and the APA Ethics Office will follow the issue with interest.

One especially intriguing area will be that of social stigma. Although social attitudes toward marijuana are changing, it is still viewed with suspicion – much more so than is alcohol – by a substantial segment of our society. It will be important to examine how such attitudes

"seep" over into evaluations of marijuana use even in jurisdictions where it has been legalized.

Ethical Standard 2.04, Bases for Scientific and Professional Judgments, states: "Psychologists' work is based upon established scientific and professional knowledge of the discipline. (See also Standards 2.01a, Boundaries of Competence, and 10.01b, Informed Consent to Therapy.)"

Part of the challenge for psychologists in jurisdictions that have recently legalized marijuana will be to examine the extent to which their work – grounded in research, data and clinical experience – is interpreted and applied by decision makers whose attitudes may be influenced by factors that do not have a basis in the "established scientific and professional knowledge of the discipline" of psychology.

When psychologists have a reaction of "Wait, that's not what I was saying about the research," they may consider ethical standard 1.01, Misuse of Psychologists' Work: "If psychologists learn of misuse or misrepresentation of their work, they take reasonable steps to correct or minimize the misuse or misrepresentation."

Psychologists may look to the research regarding marijuana to see where and how social attitudes deviate from the data. Although it is much too early to know exactly how evolving marijuana laws will affect the application of the Ethics Code, it is reasonable to assume that ethics educators across jurisdictions will have ample opportunity to think about this interesting ethical question as time goes on. CE

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Stephen Behnke, J.D., Ph.D., is an attorney and clinical psychologist who directs the APA Ethics Office. He holds an appointment in clinical ethics in the department of psychiatry at Harvard Medical School. His email address is [sbehnke@apa.org](mailto:sbehnke@apa.org).



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**2014 State Leadership Conference, Washington DC 3/8/14—3/11/14**

As a first-timer at SLC, my initial impression was of a large, well organized business meeting. State Provincial, and Territorial representatives were all in attendance, and, as I came to find out, many had been participating in SLC for several years. The swirl of activity was a bit overwhelming for me, and I figure by next year I will be better prepared to take full advantage of what SLC has to offer, and that is this: what a great opportunity to increase your involvement in the field of psychology by being a public advocate for the field, and participating in representing to psychology to the larger society through all the programs that SLC provides. As a new Public Education Coordinator, I have the chance to use professionally produced materials to get out the word about what psychology has to offer and how psychologist's treatment through psychotherapy can help everyday people to deal with all kinds of current issues in our society. APA actually is handing us the materials to promote psychology to the general community, something we as psychologists are very poor at doing. We are professionals, but we are also making a living by doing psychotherapy, and most psychologists are reticent to self-promote.

If any of our members have special interests or previous experience with media or have media contacts, let me take this opportunity to invite you to get in touch with me and let me know what topics you are comfortable presenting to the community, as well as helping me to make contact with individuals who may be helpful in getting our message placed in media of all kinds.

Tiger Devore, PhD,  
Public Education Campaign (PEC) Coordinator



NPA Delegation (left to right): Gary Lenkeit, Tiger Devore, Melanie Crawford, Johanah Kang, Whitney Owens, Lisa Linning, Wendi O'Connor

The State Leadership Conference is an excellent opportunity to learn about state leadership and how to become an effective leader in your state. One of my favorite sessions at the 2014 conference was titled "From the Drawing Board to the Dashboard: Strategic Plan to Action". The speaker was William Pawlucy, CAE, MPA, Founder and President of Association Options.

In his presentation, Mr. Pawlucy educated the audience on the purpose of a strategic plan and best practices in implementing the plan to fidelity. Now, if you are like me (and most of America), you like to see big things happening and big changes happening quickly. As we all know with the work that we do as Psychologists, small changes are what lead to larger, and more lasting changes. A strategic plan may not sound very exciting or sexy, but implementing one is integral in our growth and sustainability as an organization. In this presentation, we were given templates to use to develop a strategic plan, to promote the strategic plan and additional resources and tools to ensure effective implementation of the strategic plan. As a member of our organization, it is important that you know what the Association is doing for you as a member. We have the tools to begin to be more transparent about what we are doing so that you understand the full power and potential of a State Psychological Association. I look forward to continuing to be a part of this strategic plan and helping our organization become efficient and effective for the psychologists of this state.  
Whitney Owens, Psy.D., NPA President



NPA Delegation in front of Capitol prior to hill visits with Senators Reid and Heller, Congressmen Heck, Amodei and Horsford and Congresswoman Titus

**Thank You**

to the **Committee for the Advancement of Professional Practice (CAPP)** for awarding an Organizational Development Grant of \$13,000 to NPA. This subsidy helps cover central office operations, lobbyist expenses & marketing efforts.

CAPP continues to recognize the need of assistance by very small State Associations in maintaining central office operations, which is greatly appreciated by NPA. This grant, made possible from funds collected through the practice assessment of licensed psychologists, is awarded in the spirit of resource sharing to support projects aimed at promoting the practice of psychology.



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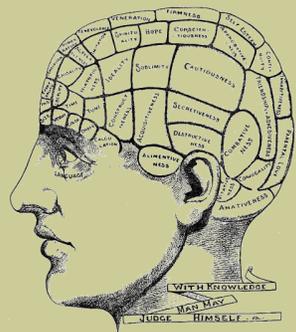
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## NPA 2014/2015 Continuing Education Calendar

### Partnership in Action: Building Competency to Fight Human Trafficking

**Shera Bradley, PhD**  
**Lieutenant Karen Hughes**  
September 19, 2014  
Las Vegas  
6 CE Credits

### Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) with Parents, Couples and Families: Part II

**Alan Fruzzetti, PhD**  
November 7, 2014  
Las Vegas  
6 CE Credits

### Hot Topics in Ethis and Risk Management in Psychological Practice

**Eric Harris, JD, EdD**  
November 22, 2014  
Las Vegas  
6 Ethics CE Credits

### Coming in 2015:

#### 10-Day Comprehensive Training in Dialectical Behavior Therapy

**Alan Fruzzetti, PhD**  
Part I: Feb 5—7, 2015(Thurs/Fri/Sat)  
Part II: April 16—18, 2015(Thurs/Fri/Sat)  
Part III: June 12-13, 2015(Fri/Sat)  
Part IV: Sept 18-19, 2015(Fri/Sat)  
Las Vegas  
Up to 60 CE Credits

#### 2015 NPA Annual Conference CPT and Healthcare Reform: How They are Changing the Way You Practice

**Antonio Puente, PhD**  
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