

An Update from the OPA Executive Director

Happy Summer OPA Members,

My, oh my, how time flies when you are having fun.....these last three months while challenging have been somewhat fun because I've seen OPA grow, become more of a voice at the Capitol and certainly gain stature with APA and APAPO as we took a full delegation to D.C. in March.

While Dr. Sanders, Day and Morris have covered the events of OPA coming up, I thought I might highlight information for YOU, our MEMBER on how you can help OPA.

As you may recall, I unveiled the 2016 Member and Nonmember Needs Assessment information at last year's Annual Convention and challenged the membership to ENGAGE with me and my staff, Ruth Littlefield and the OPA Membership Committee, in increasing the membership base of OPA. As you know, the organization struggled in previous years for a variety of reasons that don't need to be brought up again and those struggles impacted the perception, interpretation and operations of YOUR OPA.

Let me assure you, that I trust those of you in the profession for caring for the mentally ill in this state and I hope you can trust the Membership Committee, Ruth and myself that we are enhancing the existing value that YOU our member seek when investing your time and talent in OPA, YOUR professional trade association. On the Needs Assessment both members and nonmembers indicated they would refer potential members to OPA. So.....

OPA derives its main revenue source from membership investments (dues revenue) and events (non-dues revenue) primarily with some support through an APA CAPP operational grant. If YOU our member, help us spread the word about our June 30th (just before license renewal) Ethics Conference and November Bridging the GAP conference, that word of mouth and registrations help OPA financially. Additionally, YOU, our member are the best spokesperson for OPA by spreading the word on what OPA does to help your practice and the climate and quality of life for psychologists in Oklahoma. If YOU encourage colleagues to join then OPA can keep YOUR membership investment the same. But, if YOU don't help us, then we have no choice but to look at ways to generate OPA revenue and raising membership investments is one way to do that. We have materials that we will be sharing on the list serv that you can use in signing someone up for OPA membership. Or, give us contact information and let us do the rest. This will help your dues stay the same while WE grow OPA together!

Lastly, I want you to know how much I enjoy working with each and every one of you. Thank you for all you do for those that need your services. As someone who has been exposed to mental illness in their life through family and friends and aging parents, I do not envy you! Thanks to those of you who stepped up to the plate, and many who were new at throwing your name in the hat for a leadership role in OPA. TOGETHER we can ACHIEVE more. Have a great summer. Please call on me should you have questions or wish to discuss OPA. I stand ready to help.

Danna Fowble

OPA Executive Director