



MARCH NEWSLETTER

South Dakota Counseling Association

March 2016

Message from the President

Hello SDCA Members.

The legislative session has been an interesting one so far. There are some controversial issues this year, especially those around transgendered individuals. This legislation has put SDCA in a difficult position. We understand that we have members on both side of the issue and we want to respect our member's individual opinions. On the other hand ACA has also asked us to be active against some of these bills (Specifically HB 1107). ACA stands on the premise that our counseling ethics dictate a certain level of respect and non-judgment towards all individuals. These bills don't demonstrate that respect. That said at this time the SDCA board feels that it is our role to share the legislative information with our members so that if you choose to do so, you may advocate. I do want to encourage you to visit the newest version of the ACA Code of Ethics (2014), as this is the code that those who are licensed in the state adhere to. In our professional roles we do want to make sure we uphold our ethical code. It is okay to have different personal values, but as counselors we need to bracket these in professional situations.

If members want to keep up with legislative issues, watch for e-mails and Facebook posts from SDCA. You can also visit the legislative links provided for you below. The [Legislative Research Council's](#) website is a great place to get any information about bills, contact your legislators, or find committee members. http://legis.sd.gov/Legislative_Session/default.aspx?Session=2016

Recently ACA has asked SD to actively get involved in National Medicare legislation. This legislation would provide counselors the ability to bill Medicare. SDCA government relations committee members had a phone conference with ACA and the will guide us in meeting with our State representatives to advocate for Medicare coverage for counselors. All three of our representatives hold seats on committees of importance in Medicare expansion. If you have stories about shortage of coverage or clients who have been impacted by Medicare not covering counselors, please forward them to us to be shared during our visit.

Mark Your Calendars:

[March 20: SDCA Award Nominations Deadline](#)

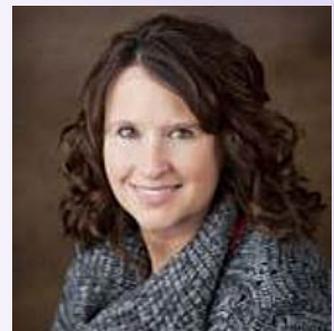
[March 20: SDSCA Award Nominations Deadline](#)

March 19: Ethics Workshop- West River

April 27-30th: SDCA Conference Aberdeen SD

June 9 & 10th: Healthy Relationships Workshop-Sioux Falls

Stacy Solsaa,
SDCA President 2015-2016
sdca.counseling@gmail.com



SDCA Event Update:



Day on the Hill

By: Jill Stephenson

SDCA Government Relations Chair

It's been an active, challenging and somewhat controversial time working on issues that have arisen in the recent Legislative session. To see how things have wrapped up, you can see the final disposition of bills by checking out the Legislative Research Council's webpage at: <http://legis.sd.gov/> .

Through the efforts of many, we once again had a highly successful Day on the Hill. It was interesting to see the rise in recognition of our organization and what we represent among our legislators. We had a good turnout who worked hard to connect with our legislators on a variety of issues. The day concluded with a very enlightening talk on Human Trafficking in South Dakota which was given by our Attorney General Marty Jackley.

Our attention and concern has also focused on the national level to fight for the extension of Medicare provider status to mental health counselors. Efforts are also underway to advocate for the expansion of Medicaid. Leaders within SDCA are connecting with our Congressional Delegation as well as working with SD legislators and agencies to do so.

It's important to note the information, encouragement and assistance that have been given by both ACA and ASCA to SDCA this year. If you aren't a member of these organizations, please consider becoming one. They are working hard to advocate for us and for those whom we serve.

As the 2016 Legislative Session is close to completion so is my time spent as SDCA's Government Relations Committee Chair. Over the past couple of years I've been pleased to see the evolution of the Government Relations Committee from being just the three GR reps to having a full working committee with dedicated active members. Members of this committee have (and still are) contributing a lot of energy and time to state and national issues, to make sure our students and clients needs are being looked after, to promote our profession and to encourage your involvement with the whole process. I want to recognize Stacy Solsaa, Erin Stolsmark, Jeff Heavlin, Kelly Jones, Brian Dannen, Duane Kavanaugh, Gabriel Hertler, Lisa Schmeichel and Sarah Shortbull for their passion and hard work. Kelly Jones has been great company as we explored our roles together during the past 3 years. Special thanks to Rebecca Christiansen for all the detailed leg work done right up to the time of her special delivery (Abigail was born on the same date as Day on the Hill!). There were numerous other people stepped up to the plate by being involved and offering information and encouragement. It's been a pleasure to work with all of you.

Thank you.

2016 SDCA Day on the Hill



SDCA SAVE THE DATE!

Visit www.sdccounseling.org for more details

SDCA Conference

March 20: SDCA Award Deadlines & SDSCA Award Deadlines

April 1: SDCA President Elect Nominations Due

Board Meetings

April 27: SDCA Meeting 6pm & SDSCA Meeting 8pm Aberdeen, SD

Trainings

March 19: Ethics Workshop West River

June 9 & 10 : Healthy Relationships Workshop Sioux Falls

Conference 2016:



Host Chapter: North Central Chapter

By: Cindy Goehring, M.S.Ed, LPC-MH, LSWA, NCC, QMHP
NCC President

The 2016 SDCA Conference is coming together nicely in Aberdeen. This year's theme is **"Counselors-Mental Health Superheroes!"** and we are planning to honor the many Superheroes of our profession. We have a full line up of programs and trainings with a full range of topics. This year's variety has something for every counselor and every specialty.

Aberdeen 2016 is bringing, *back by popular demand*, one of America's most recognized authors of Guidance Storybooks for Children, Professional School Counselor, Julia Cook. Julia will be bringing to us her enthusiasm and knowledge of the child's inner world as our Thursday Night Opening Keynote Speaker. She will also be presenting and doing book signings throughout the rest of our conference.

And you DONT WANT TO MISS special guest and former ACA President, Dr. Brad Erford who will be presenting at pre-conference and also throughout the conference with titles, *"Coming Alive as a Counselor: Managing Stress from the Inside Out"* and *"Behavior Management Strategies that Work"*

As with every year, we are looking forward to the social events at the conference. On Thursday evening, we will have the SDCA Social, featuring Magic Joe, whose show is a little bit naughty and nice. Our SDCA Awards banquet & Graduate Student Auction will take place on Friday evening, and following that we will have Celebrations Entertainment providing music and, of course, **KARAOKE!!** The North Central Chapter has other Super Surprises lined up as well, so please make plans to join us, April 28th-30th in Aberdeen.

We hope to see you all there and remember...

"Just because someone stumbles and loses their path, doesn't mean they're lost forever. Sometimes, we all just need a little help" ~~ Professor X - (X-Men)

Haven't Registered for Conference?

Please visit our website www.sdccounseling.org There you can either download a registration form to mail in, or, simply go to our homepage, click on Conference on the right hand side, and choose Register On-line to register with our 123 Signup Service. Please note, to register on-line, you must be a current member of SDCA. If you are not sure if you are a member or not, please email us at sdca.counseling@gmail.com. We hope you will be joining us in Aberdeen!!!

Ethics Corner:



The Ethics of Professional Development

By: Terry Crandall, Ethics Chair

Questions? Email me at terry.crandall@usd.edu

When one thinks of ethics, it's usually in the context of behavioral situations: "Thou shalt not have sex with a client," for example. While an accurate depiction, it is not all encompassing as anyone who even has a passing understanding of the ACA Code of Ethics knows. There are myriad other aspects to ethical behavior, some of which I would like to discuss in other columns and opportunities.

For this writing, I am going to explore the ethical implication of professional membership.

From my reading of the ACA Code of Ethics (2014) while there is a section on Professional Responsibility (Section C), no specific mention is mentioned within regarding the ethical imperative for professional membership. However, I would submit that membership in organizations pertinent to one's specialties such as ACA, SDCA, AMHCA, SDMHCA, ASCA, and/or SDSCA is an implied critical piece of what one should do to as an ethical counselor.

I would submit to you that part of our responsibility as a professional counselor is to promote professionalism to our peers. An important part of that is to talk up membership in our associations.

Consider this: There are 730 individuals who hold a counseling license in South Dakota (either LPC, LPC-MH, or/and LMFT). Additionally, there are 513 individuals who are acting as school counselors in our state. Granted there are many who are both licensed counselors and school counselors, but the numbers above give one a broad idea of numbers. This is not taking into account the other groups which fall under the SDCA umbrella, so the actual number is larger than what I have given thus far.

Now consider the fact that there are about 300 members of the South Dakota Counseling Association.

I know that because you're reading this, you already belong to SDCA, so this is a bit like preaching to the choir. But keep in mind, it's the choir's job to sing! We are all encouraged to tell our colleagues who are not members of the advantages of joining. However, in addition perhaps we should be (at least subliminally) passing on the message of the ethical imperative for professional membership.

At least it's food for thought. Until next time.

SDCA Conference:



SDCA Awards

By: Erin Stolsmark, MS, NCC, LPC-MH, LAC, QMHP

SDCA President Elect & Awards Committee Chair

As professional counselors, it is our responsibility to recognize each other's contributions to the counseling profession. Each year at SDCA conference have the chance to honor those counselors who are chosen among the nominations for the year. Please take the time to think of a counselor who you would like to nominate for one of our distinguished awards. Each Chapter or Area of Specialty is responsible for submitting nominations. If you have someone in mind I urge you to communicate with your area chapter or Area of Specialty to complete the nomination requirements. The person you nominate does NOT need to be in your area chapter. Any counselor can be nominated if they meet the award requirements. All awards nominations are due March 20th, 2016. The list of SDCA Awards and Criteria can be found on pages 8 & 9 of this newsletter. The Award Nomination Process is outlined below. Please consider nominating a fellow counselor for one of our esteemed awards!

AWARD NOMINATION CRITERIA

1. All nominations must come from either areas of specialty or chapters. Individuals are encouraged to channel their nomination interests through their area of specialty or chapter committees.
2. Nominating materials should include three letters: one letter of nomination and two letters of recommendation. Resumes are not required, but the nominator should submit a comprehensive compilation of the nominee's accomplishments.
3. Nominees for Marvin Kemp, C.J. Peterson, Mary Lark and Counselor of the Year Awards **must** be current members of SDCA, unless the award is given posthumously. To verify a membership, contact SDCA at sdca.counseling@gmail.com

PLEASE: Make sure nominations packets are complete before emailing.

Send completed packets as one email with the letters as attachments to:

Erin Stolsmark, SDCA President Elect

estolsmark@gmail.com



Nominate a Worthy School Counselor for a 2016 SDSCA Award!

SDSCA is now accepting nominations for their annual awards. Please consider nominating a colleague for the Orv Schmieding Award, Outstanding School Counselor of the Year, Rising Star, or Special Award

For more information, please visit the SDSCA site at

<http://sdsca.weebly.com/>

Please send the completed nomination form and two letters of support by March 20, 2016 to Anna Eidem (anna.eidem@k12.sd.us) or by post: c/o Tea Area Intermediate School 505 W Brian Tea, SD 57064.

SDCA is looking for its 2016-2017 President Elect!!

Come be part of a terrific team! SDCA is looking for a dynamic person to join the Executive Committee as the 2016-2017 President Elect. Nominees must be put forward by a Chapter or Area of Specialty. This is a great way to get involved in the decision making of SDCA.

What does the President Elect do?

- Performs the duties of the president in the absence or incapacity of the president
- Communicates with the Executive Director and President on day to day running of SDCA
- Chairs the SDCA Award Committee
- Oversees Nomination and Election of next President Elect SDCA
- Selects Committee Chairs for Presidential Year
- Selects the Board Retreat Location for Presidential Year
- Contributes to the SDCA Newsletter
- Learns the Presidential Role of SDCA
- Attends the Midwest Region Meetings at ACA's Institute for Leadership Training and ACA Annual Conference

What are some of the benefits of being President Elect ?

- Overseeing the Continued Success of SDCA
- Free SDCA and ACA membership
- Travel to the National ACA Conference and ACA's Institute for Leadership Training
- Complimentary Hotel room at the SDCA Conference (as determined by the Annual Conference Policies)

Please visit our website at <http://www.sdscounseling.org/awards.html> for more information. You can also email us at sdca.counseling@gmail.com for an application!

Looking for a New Job???

Don't forget to check out the SDCA Classified Ad page at

<http://www.sdscounseling.org/classifieds.html>

SDCA Conference:

SDCA Awards and Nomination Criteria

MARVIN KEMP AWARD

for Outstanding Service to the Counseling Profession

This is the TOP award determined by the SDCA Board. The following points should be considered:

1. Nominee must have contributed to the counseling profession and SDCA for an extended period of time—minimum of 10 years.
2. Nominee must be active in his/her community as a civic leader/volunteer.
3. Nominee must display continued professional growth.
4. Nominee must be a member of SDCA.

E. GORDON POLING ADMINISTRATOR AWARD

1. Nominee must have demonstrated an understanding of the counseling profession and unqualified support of it.
2. Nominee must be in some kind of supervisory position over counselors, counselor-interns, or students of counseling.
3. Nominee may or may not be a member of SDCA.

MARY W. LARK HUMANITARIAN AWARD

1. Nominee must be an SDCA member.
2. Nominee should have evidenced concern about human beings in special ways through caring behavior, documented and generally recognized by peers.
3. The award should typically, but not invariable, be for a comprehensive person concerned with all humans and their joint welfare as well as caring for another or others in a personal way.
4. The nominee selected will have been observed in unselfish involvement over a period of time in a cause of situation which benefits others, not self.
5. The nominee selected will have been effective in communicating their caring.
6. If the recipient is an ACA member, they will then be nominated for the ACA Wrenn award.

C. J. PETERSON AWARD

1. Nominee must have demonstrated a commitment to enhancing the career possibilities of his/her clients.
2. Nominee must have been in the profession at least 5 years.
3. Nominee must be a member of SDCA.

MAVIS BOOZE MENTORING AWARD

1. Nominee must demonstrate the willingness and ability to provide support and to share insights, expertise, resources, and enthusiasm with other counselors.
2. Nominee must have demonstrated an understanding of the counseling profession and shown respect for it.
3. Nominee must be a member of SDCA.

COUNSELOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

1. Nominee must be a current member of his/her local SDCA chapter.
2. Nominee must be a member of the profession and a resident of his/her geographic location at least five years.
3. Nominee must have demonstrated contributions to his/her community.

SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS AWARD

1. Nominee must have made a significant contribution to the counseling profession.
2. Nominee must have demonstrated a genuine desire to help people.
3. Nominee may or may not be a member of SDCA