President’s Corner

Dear NAME Members:

NAME Board of Directors Appoints Member to Fill Board Director Vacancy

At its June Board meeting, the NAME Board of Directors appointed Sue Robertson from the Oklahoma Health Care Authority to fill the Region 2 Medicaid Director position that became vacant when Michigan’s Scott deVarona resigned in March.

Sue’s involvement with NAME is extensive serving as NAME Secretary in 2005/06, as a member of the Nominating Committee and as a NAME conference participant. Her experience in each of these roles will serve NAME well by allowing her to hit the ground running during discussions of critical issues and best practices from around the country. <click here to read full article>

Yours in good health, Jane Reagan (MI) & Steven Wright (NY)
President President-Elect

2012 Conference Update

NAME’s 10th Annual Conference

Registration is Open!

Have you registered for the 2012 NAME Conference yet?

To receive the early bird rate, visit our Annual Conference web page and click on the registration link.

Remember to check the annual conference page for updates that include:

* Conference Committee Corner – latest news from the Conference Committee
* The latest Preliminary program
* Things to do in Providence/New England
* Transportation and Restaurant information

Committee News

Update on Parental Consent – John Hill (IA)

NAME recognizes the significance of parental consent and its impact on the ability of schools to access Medicaid funding. Our organization has made a commitment to help educate legislators about our membership’s concerns regarding parental consent, as well as working hard to keep NAME members apprised of any changes to current parental consent legislation. We have posted a recent USDOE report that significantly addresses the parental consent issue to the News section of the NAME website. As a member, you can also find this article and other related information in the ‘Parent Consent’ section of the NAME website. For a link to this section of the NAME web page, remember to log in and <click here> (the specifics related to parental consent are found on pages 5-6 of the report).
Remember to log in to the Members Only section for full articles
Regional articles can be found on the top menu > Keep Informed > Regional News

News from Region One -
Speech/Language Therapy via Telepractice is Now Reimbursable in Virginia - Ashley Harrell (VA)

Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) staff announced at the first Mid-Atlantic Telehealth Resource Center Summit in March 2012 that school based speech/language (S/L) therapy services administered via telepractice are now reimbursable through Medicaid for school district Medicaid providers. “Telepractice” as used here is the delivery by a DMAS approved speech language pathologist (SLP) of S/L therapy services through the use of videoconferencing to a child at a remote location. Telepractice was added in Virginia effective September 1, 2011, to help school districts lacking DMAS approved SLPs increase children’s access to services. DMAS reimburses school based services directly to the districts and considers telepractice as another means for delivering Speech and Language therapy services.

In 2003, DMAS began covering statewide telemedicine for select services delivered by physicians, nurse practitioners, nurse midwives, clinical nurse specialists, clinical psychologists, clinical social workers, and licensed professional counselors. Several years ago, members of the Speech-Language-Hearing Association of Virginia and the American Speech and Hearing Association (ASHA) collaborated with the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) and DMAS to discuss adding reimbursement for S/L therapy services when telepractice is used. In 2009, James Madison University conducted a VDOE grant funded pilot project with two Virginia local education agencies to evaluate S/L therapy services delivered by telepractice to students in public schools.

< Requires Member LOG IN - click here to read the full article >

NAME Election October 2012
NAME Needs YOU! NAME Nominating Committee, Steven Wright (NY)

As the annual NAME elections draw closer, we’d like to remind the voting members of NAME of the opportunities to serve on the NAME Board of Directors. The Board is comprised of 12 Regional Directors and 5 Officers. The election for seats on the NAME Board of Directors will take place in October 2012. This year, there are 7 seats up for election/Board appointment as noted below:

* Board Director: Region 1 LEA (term ends 2015)
* Board Director: Region 2 Education (term ends 2015) and Region 2 LEA (term ends 2015)
* Board Director: Region 3 Medicaid (term ends 2015)
* Board Director: At-Large Education (term ends 2015)
* Officer: Secretary (appointed by the Board for two-year term)
* Officer: President-Elect

Each Board Director is a three year position, elected by the NAME voting members. The President-Elect position is a one year position, elected by the NAME voting members. If you qualify for one of the positions, we encourage you to think about running on the ballot.

More information on the 2012/13 nominations process can be found on the Nominating Committee’s web page on the NAME website at http://www.medicaidforeducation.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=151&Itemid=199.