NAME 6th Annual Conference

The Conference Schedule has been updated to include:

Our Showcase of General Session Speakers
Bruce Hunter, American Association of School Administrators, “The Victory Speech”; Sara Rosenbaum, J.D., The George Washington University, “Sustaining our Heritage of Service”; James Sheehan, NYS Office of the Medicaid Inspector General, “Setting Integrity as the Cornerstone”, and Judith Solomon, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, “Looking Ahead and Moving Forward: Medicaid, Schools and Health Care Reform”. Click here to see a brief bio for each of the speakers, along with the day and time of the presentations.

Early Bird Registration rates end August 31st: Early Bird Rate for Conference is $425-LEA/State/Federal and $525-Other; Early Bird Rate for the Academy is $75 Registration Rate effective September 1st: Conference-$475-LEA/State/Federal and $625-Other. Academy rate-$100.

Don’t forget to register for the Duck Tour: It is scheduled for Thursday, September 25th. This is a great way to tour the City of Philadelphia through the streets and on the river. And it only cost $30 each! Register by 8/25/08 due to limited space. Check the “Social Activity” on the registration form. Friends and family are also welcome!

OSEP Meeting
On July 15, John Hill, NAME Governmental Affairs Chair and four local Directors of Special Education from Indiana, Illinois and Massachusetts met with Jennifer Sheehy, Director Office of Policy and Planning, Office of Special Education & Rehabilitative Services, Debra Morrow, Office of Special Education (OSEP) and several other OSEP representatives. The discussion focused on the recently passed moratoria on the CMS regulations, Parental Consent and Medicaid related audits. NAME expressed its continued appreciation of the opportunities over the last several years to meet with OSEP, to discuss what was working well and as well as those issues that need further consideration. In all of this we are joined in the effort to create a system that responds efficiently and effectively to students’ needs.

LEAnet announces its second national fly-in, to be held in Washington, D.C., on August 11, 2008
In general, this day-long work session (with additional work time for LEAs set for the 12th) will present a post-mortem on the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) regulations moratoria, a pre-mortem on what April 1, 2009 will look like…and more. For details, click here to go to the LEAnet website.

At the first national fly-in, the Coalition to Preserve the Medicaid Safety Net was established giving support to Congressman John D. Dingell and Tim Murphy’s bill “Protecting the Safety Net Act of 2008”. The bill called for a one year moratorium on CMS Medicaid Cuts. Click here to see a copy of the letter signed by over 800 organizations.

NAME to hold Elections of Board of Directors and Officers on Friday September 26th at the Annual Conference
If you are a member of NAME and interested in becoming an officer or member of the NAME Board of Directors, or know a member that you would like to recommend, click here for information that may be helpful. It includes the qualifications for Board members and a list of openings on the Board for Regional members, LEA members or to complete vacant unexpired terms. To appear on the election ballot, just complete a nomination form and submit by August 15, 2008 to address or email on the form.

We’re on the Web! www.medicaidforeducation.org
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