



February—April
2009

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2008-2010

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The MACA Newsletter



MISSOURI ADDICTION COUNSELORS' ASSOCIATION

President's Corner By Laverne Blackorby, President

Well here we are in full swing for 2010, and from the outcome of the Spring Conference, it looks like it is going to be a busy year. We had one of the largest attended conferences we have had in several years with 140 attending this spring. We gained 14 new or returning MACA members, and the speakers were outstanding. In reviewing their evaluations, most all of you who attended felt the same way. I would like to thank all of you who attended and I hope you enjoyed the Sunday morning breakfast. We hope to be able to continue to add benefits to you as a participant at the conferences.

One thing that allows us to provide the high quality trainings that we do comes from each and every one who attends the conferences, but also, those who choose to become a member of MACA. Your membership is important, and it determines the direction MACA will be able to take in the coming years. MACA has less than ten percent of the certified counselors as professional members. By the end of my term, I would like to see this number doubled. New members and their new ideas will be our future.

For those of you who were unable to attend the Spring conference, I hope to see you in the fall. Our fall conference is scheduled for October 8 - 10 at the Inn of The Grand Glaze.

Thanks again to all those who provided the highly educational groups and to Mr. Mark Stringer, Director of ADA, who provided us with his views of the state of the field and offered his views for a brighter future. Thanks also to the Board of Directors who spend endless amounts of their personal time trying to prepare for and provide the highest quality conferences for you, the counselor.

Thanks to you all,
Lavern Blackorby CASAC, ICADC
MACA President

MSAPCB Latest News: By Scott Breedlove, MSAPCB Administrator

The MSAPCB staff is staying busy with a variety of activities including:

1. Processing April renewal packets.
2. Preparing for the June testing cycle. (In March, we offered Computer Based Testing as an option for the first time and had very positive feedback.)
3. Exhibiting at various conferences. (We enjoyed having a booth at Drug Court in March, MACA in April, and look forward to a booth at Spring Training Institute in May.)

We are looking forward to a little slower summer than the

previous two years. In the summer of 2008, we did the CCJP grandfathering and last summer, we did the CCDP/CCDP-D grandfathering period. This summer, we have no major project, so we might be able to get out and enjoy the beautiful weather some.

This fall, we will be introducing a new Medication Assisted Treatment Specialty endorsement. The specifics are being worked on and professionals will have a chance to give input before the final requirements are determined. This will be a

specialty endorsement that is given to people already credentialed or licensed that shows specific knowledge in medication assisted treatment. Watch for more information this coming fall.

As always, if you need any assistance or if you have any questions for me, I can be contacted at scott.breedlove@dmh.mo.gov or at 573-526-4099.

Thanks,
Scott Breedlove
MSAPCB Administrator

Health Care Reform: By Mark Stringer, Missouri Department of Mental Health

As Missouri prepares for health care reform, keep in mind that many people who seek substance abuse treatment earn incomes under 133% of the Federal poverty level. This means they will be included in what is called the expanded Medicaid population.

In the first two years of health care reform, all covered services for the expanded Medicaid population will be 100% Federally reimbursed, and after that, the Federal match rate will drop over time to 90%--still much higher than the current Federal match rate of around 65%.

It is vitally important that mental health care and substance abuse treatment be available for this expanded population as part of the benefit package.

Think of the potential impact on one group alone—the roughly 20,000 offenders released from state correctional facilities each year and returning to their communities. Who could argue that accessible and affordable mental health care and substance abuse treatment will not significantly reduce offender recidivism and improve public safety?

Unfortunately, it is not yet clear whether or how such mental health and addiction services will be covered under the new Medicaid benefit. I would appreciate your help in educating decision makers about the importance of including them.

Mark Stringer
Director, Division of Alcohol & Drug Abuse
Acting Director, Division of Comprehensive Psychiatric Services
Department of Mental Health

News from the Office: By Ronnie Beaver, Executive Secretary

Once again I start this article by saying that things have been really busy here at the MACA office. The Spring 2010 conference paperwork has been completed. Work has begun on the 2010 Fall Conference, and again, it looks like it will be GREAT.

We continue to see progress in our membership numbers with 15 new members and 11 returning members in the first Quarter. Lavern Blackorby, MACA President, has appointed new committee chairs: Linda Christian is the education/conference committee chair and the membership chair, Dian Banks is the Ethics Chair, Lou Louzader is the Constitution and By-laws committee chair, and Becky Long is the Fundraising chair. If you have an interest in participating on any of the committees, just let a Board member know.

Congratulations to Randall Bacon for winning the one-year, paid membership, and to Thomas Beattie for winning the waiver of the registration fee for the Fall 2010 Conference by joining MACA at the conference.

I am hopeful we can get the Spring 2011 conference flyer out by the first of August, but until then, the dates for the fall conference are October 8-10, 2010. It will be held at the Inn at Grand Glaize, Osage Beach, MO.

If you are interested in being a vendor at the conference, check our web site, or contact me at the office by phone or e-mail.

MSAPCB continues to work with our individual members to provide the benefit of a \$5 discount to all of their trainings. Keep in mind that you are not a MACA member as a result of having a credential. MACA membership is separate from MSAPCB credentialing. If you are interested in becoming a MACA member, just call the office at 816-232-3411, or e-mail; maca@socket.net, and I will send you application information. You can also find this information on our web page.

Any time you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at the MACA office. MACA will have a booth at the Spring Institute in May. If you are there, I hope you will stop by and say hi.

I once again want to express how proud I am of MACA and the work we do.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service to MACA and its members, and I will see you in the Fall.

Sincerely,
Ronnie Beaver
Executive Secretary



MACA BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

October 22, 2010

Call to Order: President Lavern Blackorby, called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. Membership meeting was at the Inn at Grand Glaize, Osage Beach, MO.

Minutes of 10/09 Business Meeting: The Minutes from the October, 2010 business meeting were reviewed. Minutes were approved.

First Quarter 2010 Financial Report: Elaine Campbell moved, Becky Long seconded the finance report be accepted. Motion Passed.

Committee Reports:

Training & Education: Elaine reported we were on track for the 2010 Spring conference. The 2010 Fall conference will be October 8-10.

A request was made for the membership to let the MACA Board/and education committee know if they had any suggestions for speakers and/or topics.

Membership: Linda Christian reported making CD'S to promote MACA. Jim Gillum will be doing this free of charge. The new brochures were discussed. Members present were unanimously in favor of this. Also, informed membership about the breakfast tickets available for Sunday morning buffet. This is available to those who attend all 3 days of the conference. Since the first of 2010 we have gained several new and returned members..

Ethics Committee: Dian Banks is the new Chair for this committee.

Constitution and By-Laws: Lou Louzader, Chair. Lou reports he has had some phone calls about people being in violation, and he suggested they put it in writing either to him or the Board.

Newsletter: Laverne reported the newsletter will be out right after the conference.

MSAPCB Report: Scott reported MSACCB is staying busy. A new reinstatement policy has been passed which allows one year to reinstate your credential with a fee added to credential renewal. The new medication assisted treatment credential will hopefully be going in September. MSAPCB will be "doing away with the 12 core functions, and have 8 domains.

MACA Progress Report: Lavern reports financially MACA is in good shape. We have savings in a CD for the first time in years. Still need for improvement, but stable. Membership numbers are improving. Lavern thanked Vince Winn for creating the new MACA brochure. He also thanked the membership for their support.

Old Business: MACA Brochures should be ready by the Spring Institute.

New Business: No Report

Next Business Meeting: October 8th, 2010, at 9:00am, Grand Glaize Inn, Osage Beach, MO

Dian Banks moved, Becky Long seconded motion to adjourn. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned 10a.m.

Training & Education Corner: By Linda Christian, Conference Chairman

The Spring Conference is now behind us, and what a conference it was! The topics were diverse, the speakers were great, and the attendees were wonderful! It was so good to see everyone, new and "old-timers". I met new friends and renewed old friendships at this conference. Eight of the counselors from Ozark Correctional Center were able to meet up at this conference and have a mini reunion. It was so good to see them and hear their continuing stories of their careers. I think that is one of the best parts of these conferences, to get to know new counselors and then see them grow professionally in this field. I am becoming more focused on getting people to come to our conferences and bring their expertise with them. As Jim Gillum said in his training on Saturday, "We are all experts in our fields of expertise." We need to get the word out to counselors to come share their expertise with us at the next conference. Also, if you know someone who would be a presenter, please contact us! So until then, stay well, keep learning, and we'll see you in October!

Linda Christian
Conference Chairman

2010 New MACA Members: Welcome

MACA would like to welcome the following new members in 2010

M.A.A.C., Inc.	Agency Member
Lean E. Alcorn	Student Member
Dr. Mel French	Professional Member
Sidra Kunnemann-McGuire	Professional Member
Denise A. Lorenz	Professional Member
Lynette Sexton	Professional Member
Mary A Rodieck	Associate Member
Terri Patterson	Professional Member
Randall Bacon	Professional Member
Thomas Beattie	Professional Member
Dr Valerie Blackmon	Associate Member
Jane Pfefferkorn	Professional Member
Theresa Jones	Professional Member
Al Crandall	Professional Member
Rev. Ilene Seveland	Professional Member

2010 MACA Returned members: Welcome Back

Ria Earp	Professional Member
Darla Purcell	Retired Member
Roger Johnson	Retired Member
Carolyn Newman	Professional Member
Gloria Nepote	Professional Member
Sharon Burns	Professional Member
Mark Springer	Professional Member
Dr. Clifton Ruggs	Professional Member
Patricia Pankewer	Professional Member
Juanita Chamberlain	Professional Member
Thomas Seveland	Retired Member

PURPOSE

The Missouri Addiction Counselors Association is a not-for-profit Professional Organization for Counselors living in or working in the State of Missouri.

MISSION

MACA will actively engage in those activities which promote the integrity and professionalism of addiction counselors. MACA will provide continuing educational opportunities to addiction counselors, counselors-in-training, and other counseling disciplines. MACA will inform legislative and government officials of Missourians' treatment needs. MACA will explore and pursue ideas and principals which advance the Professional recognition of Addiction Counselors in Missouri.

Did You Know.....

MACA is the only Professional Membership Association in Missouri for Addiction Counselors and other Professionals in the Addictions field.

MACA was organized in 1971 as the Missouri Association of Alcohol Counselors to provide fellowship and support for persons professionally employed in alcoholism counseling. The role and mission of MACA expanded through the years to include persons providing professional counseling for alcohol, drug, and other addictive behaviors, thus necessitating a name change to the Missouri Association of Substance Abuse Counselors. In 1992, MASAC Membership and NAADAC (National Association of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselors) St. Louis Chapter agreed to combine and form one professional association in Missouri. MASAC then became Missouri Addiction Counselors Association.

In 2008 MACA discontinued its affiliation with NAADAC in order to focus resources on the needs of State membership.

MEMBERSHIP CLASSIFICATIONS

Professional (Individual) Membership*:

Open to anyone engaged in the work of counseling or related fields who is interested in the addiction-focused profession. *(It is not a requirement that Professional Members be credentialed in Addictions.)*

May actively participate in the association, hold office, serve on committees, and have full voting rights.

Will be expected to uphold the aims & actions of MACA and abide by the MACA Codes of Ethics.

Associate (Registered) Membership*:

Open to persons with an interest in Substance Abuse and/or Addictions & the aims of the Association, **but not qualified for Professional or Student Membership and not yet certified by MSAPCB as a Certified Substance Abuse Counselor.** Associate Members will inform the MACA Board of Directors when they qualify for Professional Membership status.

Student Membership*:

Open to any full-time (9 hours) student at an accredited college or university or students involved in full-time or part-time internships. Student Membership is limited to Student Members for four 1-year membership terms. Student membership is open to both new & renewing Members. Student Members will be required to present documentation of "student-status" to MACA

*** All individual memberships**

Agency Membership:

Open to those agencies, organizations, institutions, and associations wishing to support the purpose, objectives and actions of MACA. **Agency members receive the reduced conference rate for their employees.** Agency members can designate one representative who may vote and serve on committees, but is not eligible to hold office.

Retired Membership:

Open to anyone who has retired from working in counseling or related fields who is interested in supporting the addiction focused profession. (It is not required for the Retired Members to have been credentialed in Addictions)

MACA BENEFITS

- Inexpensive continuing educational opportunities
 - Annual Spring & Fall Conferences
 - Centrally located in Osage Beach
- Informative MACA Newsletters
- Networking opportunities with other Missouri Addictions Professionals and Agencies
- The chance to promote and enhance the role of the Professional Addictions Counselor
- MACA official certificate
- Individual members receive a discount on all MSAPCB training fees

Join today and you'll be on your way to gaining the professional edge, earning greater recognition, and keeping up-to-date with the newest field information.