

New Jersey Psychiatric Association Report to Area 3 – February 1, 2020

Member Services:

- NJPA implemented a “win-back” campaign from September to December 2019 with its 65 dropped members; 9 members (representing 14% of those dropped) have renewed
- In January 2020 NJPA began a former member recruitment campaign targeting 375 non-members identified by cross checking an APA list with the NJPA database and a licensure list from the State Board of Medical Examiners
- NJPA was awarded a 2020 Innovative Grant. With this grant support NJPA is offering all active members the opportunity to apply to the Advocacy Academy. Academy members will work with NJPA leaders, APA Government Relations staff, and the NJPA lobby firm to develop advocacy toolkits that will support NJPA efforts to introduce and move to passage legislation on collaborative care and prior authorization
- NJPA had 5 members apply for advancement to the Distinguished Fellow status in 2019 and all 5 were approved by the APA. Additionally, all three members that applies for advancement to the Fellow status were approved by the APA

Diversity: Nothing new at this time

Advocacy:

- The NJPA, working with other stakeholders and members of the house of medicine were successful in preventing passage of legislation legalizing the use of recreational marijuana. The matter will now be posed as a ballot question to NJ voters this November
- The NJPA will work in this new legislative session (2020-2021) to introduce collaborative care and prior authorization legislation. In both instances the Association will begin with APA model legislation
- The NJPA administered a member survey and then, working with APA and the NJPA lobby firm, conducted a focus group to identify member perspectives on the burdens posed by prior authorization requirements. This information will help build the foundation of Association efforts to introduce prior authorization legislation
- NJPA hosted an Advocacy Day on December 5, 2019. APA DGR staff was in attendance. Approximately 20 NJPA leaders met with key legislative and gubernatorial staff in Trenton

Education:

- March 21, 2020 *Psychiatry in 2020: Why Advocacy Matters* Speakers: Debra Koss, MD (advocacy); Stephanie Bonne, MD (gun violence) and Suzan Song, MD (migrant health)
- November 14, 2020 Addictions Conference; topic and speakers TBD
- Each of the five geographic chapters continue to host evening dinner and educational meetings (meetings include talks offered by PRMS and the Nan Gallagher Law Group on Practice/Risk Management Issues)
- NJPA President Debra Koss, MD is also presenting *The Importance of Mental Health Advocacy in the Current Political Climate* NJPA’s chapter meetings

Standards, Quality of Care, Healthcare and Health Economics:

- The NJPA Council on Professional Standards will review the Association’s position statement on the legalization of marijuana to determine if it needs to be updated to include the effects on the pregnant woman and developing fetus

Strength of Organization/Group:

- All eight residency training programs in NJ achieved status in the APA 100% club
 - 2 achieved platinum status (5 consecutive years at 100%)
 - 4 achieved gold status (100% membership in the current year)
 - 1 achieved silver status (90-99% membership)
 - 1 achieved bronze status (80-89% membership)
- As of January 1, 2020 NJPA achieved a membership number of over 900 for the first time since 2011

Respectfully submitted,

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