



**ARKANSAS
REHABILITATION
ASSOCIATION**
Connecting Professionals Who Care

A Word From the President

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Dear ARA members,

It is my honor to serve you as your ARA president. I have been active as an ARA board member since my Junior year of college when I was a student representative at ATU. I have had the privilege to serve on the board under numerous presidents and are excited to be able to serve you all now. During the past 6 months, we all have faced the new and unique challenge of navigating life during a pandemic. Through all the trials and tribulations, your board has not lost sight of the reason we are all in this field and the importance of our work. Your board has been working hard to find a way to bring our members together and celebrate the great work that you all do. We also have been exploring different ways to increase member's benefits and services. As a result, we are excited to announce a FREE Virtual Conference with the opportunity to earn up to 6 hours of CRC's.

The Virtual Conference will take place on October 22 and 23rd, during this conference we hope you will join us for the awards ceremony where we will recognize our 2020 Scholarship Recipients and the ARA Awards for Counselor of the Year, Employer of the year, Assistance of the Year and Rehabilitant of the year. Your board has already started planning for next year's conference with the hopes we can all participate in person during the summer of 2021. If you have any desire to help on a committee your board would love your help. If you have any suggestions or recommendations in regard to the upcoming year's conference, I would love to hear from you. I hope you all remain healthy and safe and that we will be able to be reunited in person at the 2021 conference, until then I look forward to seeing you all virtually on October 22nd.

Respectfully,

Christina Clausen
President
Arkansas Rehabilitation Association



ARA Virtual Conference

OCTOBER 22ND-23RD
9:30 AM-2:30PM

The conference will be free to all ARA members, and \$75.00 for all non-members. The deadline to register is October 19th, 2020. No late registrations will be admitted. For more information, please visit our [website](#).

Membership Info

NOW IS THE BEST TIME TO JOIN OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

Did you know that your ARA has one of the most active state chapters in the country? The ARA board is striving to add more value to members, and we urge you to consider joining, renewing or helping other professionals to join our efforts. It's as easy as 1-2-3! First, go to the National Rehabilitation Association website and click on MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION. Second, select which membership you are eligible for (Students are only \$25!). Third, choose any of the 11 optional divisions you'd like to join in addition to your ARA membership. That's it! To help keep records up to date, we encourage members to pay the annual fee with a credit/debit card or Paypal if possible because your membership becomes active immediately.

Already a Member? Now is the time to log into your account and check the status of your membership to make sure you are still in active status. The National Rehabilitation Association is improving their website and membership portal, and you need to make certain that your information is updated and correct. Please contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

Conference Topics (6 CEU Possible)

- Martha's Vineyard: The Total Inclusion of Deaf Individuals in Society
- Even Happier: Using Your Signature Strengths to Achieve Even Greater Happiness
- The Development of an LGBTQ+ Knowledge Repository for Rehabilitation Counselors/Educators
- Emerging Disabilities Ethical Considerations for Practice
- Availability of Supports and Speaking Out
- Enhancing Your Leadership Potential: Defining the Values that Drive You
- How ARS can be Culturally Responsive to the Deaf Community
- Business Engagement for VR Counselors
- Passing the Baton - Moving on from Counseling and Case Management
- Finding the Funny in Unfunny Times
- Measurable Skills Gains and Credential Attainment: An In-Depth Look

[Click here to view the full agenda](#)

Student Section

Student Committee

ARA is excited to announce, that we are seeking students, undergrad and professional alike, to participate in our student committee.

For those of you that do not know ARA is an organization for rehabilitation professionals by rehabilitation professionals. Each year we host a conference to educate on best practices and leading techniques in our field. Membership also encourages networking between colleagues which allows for resource sharing.

Being on this committee is a free and voluntary opportunity for students to build their professional portfolios, and help ARA make decisions that will impact the field of rehabilitation in Arkansas.

There are a few ways students and school faculty alike can become members of this committee and contribute to ARA. Are you in an undergraduate or graduate program for rehabilitation counseling or a related field? Are you ready to meet the leading minds in our state to exchange knowledge and ideas? Would you like to participate in various trainings and conferences to learn and utilize the skills necessary to succeed in the field? Are you willing to present your research or ideas to other professionals in the field?

Ways I Can Get Involved

- Become a student committee member
- Attend conferences
- Moderate and volunteer at conferences
- Present a poster
- Network with future employers
- Apply for Scholarships

If any of these opportunities sounds like something you would love to do then be on the lookout for more information on how to become a Student Committee member. The application will be posted on the ARA website under the resource tab.



Scholarship Info

Need help paying for school? ARA has you covered. Please visit our [website](#) for more information! Please note Scholarships offered by ARA are awarded based on merit, financial need, and thoroughness of completed applications. No applicant will be judged as pertains to disability or medical condition, age, race, creed, ethnic/national origin, ancestry, color, gender, sexual orientation or gender identity, religion, marital or parental status, political affiliation, protected veteran status or any other characteristic protected by law. Applicants who have been awarded a particular scholarship in the past will not be eligible to receive the same scholarship again. The applicant may apply for other ARA scholarships if eligible.

Announcements:



- **Registration for our October Virtual Mini Conference is open and will close October 19th. Please register and tell a friend!!!**
- **ARA is excited to announce our scholarship applications will be open starting October 1, 2020.**
- **Stacy McKisisck and Myranda Ray are kick starting a new Student Committee and would like interested students and professionals to please send a message via the Contact Us page on the ARA website.**
- **If you are interested in becoming an ARA member please visit the ARA Contact Us page and contact Carrie Woodall at cdw1993@hotmail.com**
- **If you or your organization would like to see community spotlights and/or advertise your services in our newsletter please contact Myranda Ray at j.myranda@yahoo.com**

Board of Directors 2020-2021

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For contact information, please visit <http://www.arrehabassociation.org/>

If you're interested in being involved with ARA committees, please contact Myranda Ray