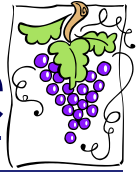


The GRApevine



The Georgia Rehabilitation Association Newsletter

Spring Edition, Mar. 2015



Greetings fellow GRA Members and welcome to the 2015 Spring issue of the GRA Newsletter!

I trust that 2015 is off on a good start for each of you, and everyone is eagerly anticipating what this year will bring. Regardless of where you work, your job title, or your level of involvement in the Rehabilitation field, I think it is safe to say that we all have been part of considerable changes, with more to come. This is true within the state agencies in Georgia, within the private sector and certainly true nationally. To help weather these changes, I often turn to my NRA and GRA family to keep me grounded and focused on why I chose this profession. NRA and GRA lends to my professional and personal growth, keeps me informed, keeps me connected, and has certainly afforded me with leadership opportunities.

But as with everything else, NRA and GRA, must also look inward to ensure relevance and value to the profession and to its members. I recently had a conversation with a friend and colleague in Northeast Georgia, during which he said he wanted to know what GRA was going to do for him as a professional and for the Rehabilitation field. Although this is not a new conversation, this one did stick with me, as I think it is the same question many have. And it is one that the 2015 GRA Board of Directors and Committees wish to address.

So, my goal as your President this year, is to help lead our association in developing strategic goals for this year and for the next few to come that will demonstrate our commitment to our members, our relevance to the profession and value to our partners. We know that training, special projects and education/advocacy is of great importance, and I hope in this newsletter, and throughout the year, you will see evidence of GRA's commitment to those areas.

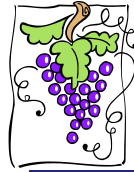
With 70% of individuals with disabilities NOT participating in competitive, integrated employment, Rehabilitation Professionals are needed. No other profession has the knowledge, skills or abilities that we have. This is true whether you are a counselor, a job developer, an administrator or assistant. The Georgia Rehabilitation Association is YOUR professional association and supports the important work that you do.

I encourage each of you to attend a local chapter, division or board meeting. Many meetings allow for teleconferencing if travel is not an option, and let us know if you are interested in joining a committee or becoming more involved. Everyone is welcomed and valued.

In closing, please know that I am honored to be able to serve as your President this year, and look forward to the GReAt things to come. Please feel free to contact me with any thoughts or suggestions at 2015georgiarehabassociation@gmail.com.

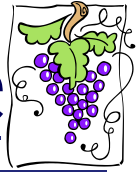
Sincerely!

Paige Tidwell, Ed.S, CRC, CVE, LPC, PVE
2015 GRA President



The

GRApevine



The Georgia Rehabilitation Association Newsletter

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Division Reports

GARL: Georgia Association of Rehabilitation Leadership

We plan to support GRA by sponsoring a concurrent training session on the topic of Leadership at the GRA Annual Training Event and by engaging with the state chapter to provide more opportunities for this type of training along with pathways for development and mentoring for our future leaders in the field of rehabilitation. Please consider making a nomination for the J. Ellis Moran Leadership Award. The nomination criteria will be forthcoming in future newsletters. Joy Kniskern and Gigi Taylor will be planning our annual Auction at the GRA Annual Training Event this fall and we hope you will consider participating in this event.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jason Williams, GARL President

GAMRC : Georgia Association of Multicultural Rehabilitation Concerns

GAMRC 2015 Officers and Board are:

Michell Temple, President & Treasurer
Board Members: Marcia Blanding, Doreen Ventus, Katavia Sloan & Lutrell Thomas

The Division continues to engage in revitalization efforts. The primary focuses this year are 1) membership recruitment and participation and 2) multicultural engagement to improve rehabilitation counselors' ability to partner with people with disabilities. The Division will host a graduate student networking and ethics event on March 31st at Georgia State University from 1 – 4 pm. There is also discussion about creating a bulletin on current multicultural concerns nationally and state-wide. GAMRC hopes to continue its collaboration with other GRA divisions and subchapters. If your division or subchapter would like to discuss collaborating with GAMRC contact Michell Temple at gamrc4u@gmail.com. Finally, Michell Temple was elected to serve as a Board-Member-At Large on the National Association Multicultural Rehabilitation Concerns board. Lead on Georgia!

GRCEA: Georgia Rehabilitation Counselors and Educators Association

NO TRAVEL EXPENSES for our annual ethics training. For this year, our organization has decided to do a **POST-CONFERENCE TRAINING EVENT**. We will hold training Friday afternoon after the conference. You will not need to pay for an additional nights stay or travel to another location. We will hold the training in Augusta at the Augusta Marriott at the Convention Center.

More information will be coming to you as soon as it is finalized.

ARTS: Association of Rehabilitation Technicians

Madam President Pam Eaton will schedule a conference call with the members of the division at the end of month.

Chapter Reports

EAST—Jean Newson

The members of the East Chapter Board met via conference call on Thursday, January 8, 2015 to establish the calendar for 2015. Four chapter meetings will be held and the dates are as follows: March 26 in Washington, GA; June 25 in Augusta, GA; August 13, via teleconference; and November 12 in Athens, GA. CRC credits will be offered at the March 26th meeting with a topic of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, presented by Dr. Heather Futral and the November 12th meeting with a topic on Infectious Diseases, presented by speaker from the local health department. More information forth coming.

Upcoming Fundraising event:

The East Chapter in the Augusta office will offer an opportunity to win a “Spring Break Basket”. The basket will contain items for a fun and exciting day at the beach! The winner will be announced at the Richmond County High School Job Fair which will be held on April 1, 2015 at the Richmond County Technical Career Magnet School. You do not have to be present to win. Contact Carmella Jennings, Augusta VR, for tickets.

Special Project:

The East Chapter members supported students attending the High School Job Club Workshop: “Finding you Station in Life” A Journey to Discovering your Employability. The workshop was a great way for students to think about real life experiences and what may happen after graduation. The event was held on February 11 at the Richmond County Technical Career Magnet School. With the support of the East Chapter, refreshments for the workshop were provided to vendors and volunteers. Several East Chapter members attended this important event for transitioning students.

Continued on the next page

Chapter Reports

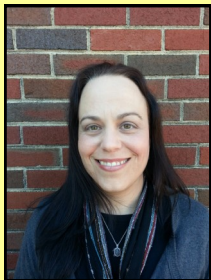
EAST Continued

East Chapter Members applied for 3 grants in the CSRA back in October. On March 3rd, we were informed that the East Chapter was awarded a grant from the Augusta Exchange Club in the amount of 2,000. This grant will support the High School Job Club's mission of preparing transitioning students for competitive employment in the community after graduation. Funding will help cover the expenses for students participating in the High School Job Club in Richmond, Burke and Jefferson counties to attend events such as the High School Job Fair, Career Day and job shadowing experiences during the remainder of the school year.

South—Kim Wagner

The South Chapter has recruited a new member to GRA. Welcome Sarah Willis! She is a CRC from the Tifton office.

GReAt New Member: Sarah Willis



I started with GVRA in December 2014. I live in Adel with my husband, teenage son, dog, cat and turtle. Born & raised in Moultrie. Received CRC designation in November of 2012 after graduating from Thomas University with a Masters in Rehab Counseling. Before beginning to work for GVRA, I worked as Assistant Executive Director at a homeless shelter in Valdosta.

NORTHEAST—Dana Skelton-Sanders

The NorthEast Chapter will have its meeting in Dawsonville in April to prepare for the 2015 GRA Annual Conference.

Chapter Reports

METRO—Henrietta Archie

M

etro GRA 2015 Elected Officers:

President: Henrietta Archie

Past President: Lutrell Thomas

President-Elect: Jessica Gordon

Vice President: Joanne Lannan

Secretary/Treasurer: Kermisha Stringer

Board Members at Large: Cynthia Boyd, Cody Watts & Ruby Kaspers

Plans for 2015:

- Support the State chapter in anyway needed
- Trainings for credit and membership recruitment
- Community projects to become more involved with the disability community

Warm Springs —Cheryl Leidy

T

he Warm Springs Chapter geared up for its final event of the year in 2014. We took Santa to visit the special education classes at Mountain View Elementary School on December 19. Santa gave a stocking filled with snacks and other goodies to each child.

The RWS Chapter announced its leadership for the 2015 year:

President – Cheryl Leidy

Vice-President – Brian Dailey

Secretary – Megon Steele

Treasurer – Regina Eldridge

Respectfully submitted,
Cheryl Leidy, RWS Chapter President

WEST—Jason Williams

W

est GRA plans to partner with GVRA – VR in providing training on Ethics this summer and we are also continuing to work to increase our membership, specifically to diversify our local chapter by bringing in more private rehabilitation and education partners. We plan to purchase an advertisement in support of the GRA Annual Training Event and hope to have several members to attend this event in Augusta this fall.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jason Williams, West GRA President

Save the Date



GRA Training Event September 2 – 4, 2015

*Augusta Marriott
at the Convention Center
2 10th Street, Augusta, GA 30901*



Shopping

- Augusta Mall
- Cabela's
- Gander Mountain
- Stein Mart
- Target
- Costco/Sam's
- Old Navy
- Bed, Bath and Beyond
- Home Goods
- DSW Shoes

Please contact Lauri Tuten, Vice President
Elect at 404.780.6985 or
lauri.tuten@gvra.ga.gov if you want to
serve on the GRA Conference Committee
or have ideas for training.

Local Restaurants

(rated by *Urbanspoon*)

- [Miyabi Kyoto Japanese Steak House](#) 85%
- [The Bee's Knees](#) 90%
- [Rae's Coastal Cafe](#) 89%
- [Takosushi](#) 82%
- [Mellow Mushroom](#) 89%
- [Hibachi Grill And Supreme Buffet](#) 85%
- [Bonefish Grill](#) 86%
- [Frog Hollow Tavern](#) 91%
- [Nacho Mamas Burritos](#) 87%
- [Yosko's](#) 86%
- [Giuseppe's Pizza & Italian Specialties](#) 84%
- [Rhinehart's Oyster Bar](#) 81%
- [Sheehan's Irish Pub](#) 90%
- [Village Deli Sub & Pub](#) 90%
- [Five Guys Burgers and Fries](#) 84%

2015 GRA Conference Registration Form



Masters of Rehabilitation: Artisans of Change



**Sept. 2-4, 2015
Augusta, GA**

TRAINING CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

DEADLINE DATES

EARLY BIRD
REGISTRATION
July 17

ACCOMMODATIONS
DEADLINE
August 3
(NO EXCEPTIONS)

REGULAR
REGISTRATION
August 14

HOTEL DEADLINE
FOR ROOM RATE
August 10

Name: _____ Name for Badge: _____
Organization: _____ City: _____
Address: _____ Email Address: _____
Phone: () - _____ Cell # for Texts Only: () - _____
NRA Member # _____

Name badge is required for all activities

REGISTRATION OPTIONS:

- | | | | |
|--|-------|---|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Early Bird Registration | \$185 | <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Member Registration | \$250 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> On-Site Registration | \$200 | <input type="checkbox"/> NRA Student Registration | \$55 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Retiree Registration | \$105 | <input type="checkbox"/> Retirees Luncheon (only) | \$35 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> One-Day Registration | \$100 | | |

• Cost includes all conference activities, Social/President's Reception & Awards Breakfast
Retirees Luncheon date: Sept. 3

I will be attending the Awards Breakfast ☐ Yes ☐ No
I need a vegetarian option for the Awards Breakfast ☐ Yes ☐ No

☐ Guest Registration \$50 Includes all conference activities except Awards Breakfast

Name: _____ Name for Badge: _____

- Guest cannot be anyone working in the rehab field.
- Must accompany paid membership registrant (full or student).

☐ Awards Breakfast Ticket (for Guest) \$43 per guest
• Awards Breakfast tickets will not be available for purchase on site.

TOTAL: \$ _____ Total # of paid registrants & guests: _____

Accommodations

- ☐ Large Print ☐ Braille ☐ ASL Interpreter ☐ Materials on CD
☐ Accessible Parking ☐ Accessible Van Parking
☐ Other (e.g. Dietary): _____

CRC/CEU Credits needed? ☐ Yes ☐ No

ALL GVRA EMPLOYEES:

Please complete registration
form and send to Janice
Cassidy @
janice.cassidy@gvra.ga.gov

Your name will be added
to the "Direct Bill" list.

**Do not contact the
hotel to make
reservations.**

ALL NON-GVRA EMPLOYEES:

SEND REGISTRATION FORM
AND CHECK TO:

GRA REGISTRATION
C/O Jean Newson
150 Evelyn C. Neely Drive
Athens, GA 30601

PHONE: (706) 354-3900
FAX: (706) 354-3943
EMAIL: jean.newson@gvra.ga.gov

Make check payable to GRA
*If group billing, fax a copy of registration form
& direct invoice to the above number*

Please contact the Augusta Marriott at the
Convention Center at (706) 722-8900 or
(800) 868-5354 for room reservations.

RIBBONS: Please select all ribbons that correspond to you

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT | <input type="checkbox"/> NRA BOARD MEMBER |
| <input type="checkbox"/> AWARD WINNER | <input type="checkbox"/> NRA PAST PRESIDENT |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CHAPTER PRESIDENT | <input type="checkbox"/> NRA PRESIDENT |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CONFERENCE COMMITTEE | <input type="checkbox"/> PRESENTER |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DIVISION PRESIDENT | <input type="checkbox"/> RETIREE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EXHIBITOR | <input type="checkbox"/> SECRETARY |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FACILITATOR | <input type="checkbox"/> SPEAKER |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GRA BOARD MEMBER | <input type="checkbox"/> SERNRA BOARD MEMBER |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GRA PAST PRESIDENT | <input type="checkbox"/> SERNRA PAST PRESIDENT |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GRA PRESIDENT | <input type="checkbox"/> SERNRA PRESIDENT |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GRA PRESIDENT ELECT | <input type="checkbox"/> SERNRA PRESIDENT ELECT |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GRA SECRETARY | <input type="checkbox"/> TREASURER ELECT |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GRA TREASURER | <input type="checkbox"/> VETERAN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GRA VICE PRESIDENT | <input type="checkbox"/> VICE PRESIDENT ELECT |
| <input type="checkbox"/> INTERPRETER | <input type="checkbox"/> VIP |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NEW MEMBER | <input type="checkbox"/> VOLUNTEER |

2015 GRA Conference

Ads & Exhibits Form



Georgia Rehabilitation Association 2015 Training Conference
EXHIBITOR, ADVERTISER AND SPONSOR FORM
Augusta Marriott at the Convention Center, Augusta, Georgia
September 2-4, 2015
AN AFFILIATE OF THE NATIONAL REHABILITATION ASSOCIATION

COMPANY NAME _____ PHONE NUMBER _____

CONTACT PERSON/TITLE _____ PLEASE PROVIDE NAME

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____ OF BOOTH PERSONNEL:

WEBSITE ADDRESS: _____ 1) _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____ 2) _____

Sponsorship Levels

___ **Diamond Sponsorship:** \$2500+ will receive exhibit space, special recognition, a full-page ad in the conference program book, free admission to the President's Reception, two Awards function tickets and one complimentary conference registration.

___ **Gold Sponsorship:** \$1500 + will receive exhibit space, special recognition, a half-page ad in the conference program book, free admission to the President's Reception, two Awards function tickets and a one day complimentary conference registration.

___ **Silver Sponsorship:** \$1000+ will receive exhibit space, special recognition, a quarter-page ad in the conference program book, free admission to the President's Reception, two Awards function tickets and a one day complimentary conference registration.

___ **Friendship Sponsorship:** less than \$1000 will receive free admission to the President's Reception and special recognition in the conference program book.

EXHIBIT & ADVERTISEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Includes: One 8' x 8' exhibit booth space, One 6' skirted table and two chairs, One identification sign, 8' high drape; 3' high side drapes, Organization's name in Exhibitor Guide, Free admission to the President's Reception, One 120-volt electrical outlet (upon request) and Two Awards Function Tickets (upon request)

	<u>Regular price</u>	<u>Early Bird Discount Price</u>
___ Exhibit Space (8'x8') only	\$475	\$425
___ Exhibit Space (8'x8') and Full Page Ad Combo	\$600	\$550
___ Exhibit Space (8'x8') and Break Sponsorship Combo	\$600	\$550
___ Exhibit booth, Break Sponsorship and Full Page Ad Combo	\$775	\$725

To qualify for the Early Bird Discount, a signed Exhibitor Contract must be submitted with registration and payment by July 17, 2015.

Exclusive Continuing Education Credits (CEs) for Booth Personnel: You are encouraged to maintain a presence at your booth; however, we recognize your staff may benefit from attending sessions and getting CEs. The processing fee for each booth personnel requesting continuing education credits is \$50 per person

Please indicate Professional Organization _____ \$50 per person x _____ \$ _____

"The Georgia Rehabilitation Association (GRA) is a membership organization whose mission is to improve the quality of life for individuals with disabilities through education and advocacy."



Georgia Rehabilitation Association 2015 Training Conference

EXHIBITOR, ADVERTISER AND SPONSOR FORM

Augusta Marriott at the Convention Center, Augusta, Georgia

September 2-4, 2015

AN AFFILIATE OF THE NATIONAL REHABILITATION ASSOCIATION

ADVERTISEMENT OPTIONS (Please check the ad space desired/note dimensions provided)

_____	\$200	Full Page Color (7 1/2" x 10")
_____	\$100	Half Page Color (7 1/2" x 4")
_____	\$75	Quarter Page Color (3 1/2" x 4 1/2")
_____	\$50	Eighth Page Color (Business Card Size)
_____	\$350	Inside Front Cover Full Page Color
_____	\$325	Inside Back Cover Full Page Color
_____	\$350	Outside Back Cover Full Page Color

} These prime ads sell quickly. Please call for availability!

*****Exhibitor Registration deadline is July 17, 2015*****

Payment Information

Pay by Check- Please submit your signed Exhibitor Contract and make check payable to The Georgia Rehabilitation Association, Attn: Joya LeNoir

Mailing Address - Georgia Rehabilitation Association, Attn: Joya LeNoir,
2756 Atlanta Highway, Gainesville, GA., 30504

General questions? Contact Joya LeNoir at joya.lenoir@gvra.ga.gov or call (404) 510-3345, Fax: 770-535-5994

EXHIBIT RULES AND REGULATIONS

CONTRACT FOR SPACE – The signed official application for exhibit space constitutes a contract for the right to use space only when an acceptance is confirmed by the Exhibits Manager. All contracts are expressly subject to the terms of the Conference lease relating to the Exhibition Premises.

PAYMENT AND CANCELLATIONS – If signed contract submission is received on or before June 1, 2014 the charge is \$425, if received after June 1, 2014 the charge is \$475 per 8' x 8' exhibit booth and is due upon contract submission. Exhibitors who cancel after July 15, 2015 will be obligated for 50% of the total booth rental fee (\$200) as liquidated damages. Exhibitors who cancel after August 1, 2015 will be obligated for full payment as liquidated damages. Failure to occupy booth space does not release the Exhibitor from obligation to pay the full cost of rental. If booth space is not occupied by 6:00 PM on Wednesday, September 3, 2015, the Exhibits Manager reserves the right to use the space as he/she sees fit to eliminate empty space in the Exhibit Hall.

SPACE ASSIGNMENT – The Exhibits Manager will assign space on a first-come, first-served basis, according to the date received. In the absence of a legible postmark, the Conference will assign space according to the date the application and payment are received. GRA reserves the right to shift space assignment after the contract is completed if it is found necessary to do so. No changes in assigned spaces will be made without prior notice. Exhibitors may not sublease, reassign, or apportion all or any part of the space assigned without prior written permission from the Exhibits Manager. The Exhibits Manager reserves the right to reject, eject, or prohibit any exhibit in whole or in part or any Exhibitor with cause if exhibit is unsuitable or not consistent with the character of the Exhibition.

EXHIBIT HOURS – The Exhibition will be open from 1:00 PM to 6:00 PM, Wednesday September 3th; from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Thursday, September 4th; and from 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM, Friday, September 5th. These hours are subject to change.

INSTALLATION – Booth spaces and exhibit tables will be available for installation from 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM on Wednesday, September 3th. The installation of exhibits and removal of all boxes and crating must be completed by 6:00 PM. Absolutely no exceptions will be made.

DISMANTLING – Exhibitors agree to have all material removed by 11:00 AM Friday, September 5th. Any material left on the floor after this time will be discarded with cartage rates applied if applicable.

BOOTH FURNISHINGS AND DECORATIONS – Each booth includes a) a standard 8' high by 8' wide back wall drape; b) side rail drapes 3' high and 10' long; c) a standard 12" x 24" booth sign; d) aisle cleaning service; e) one 6' draped table f) two chairs; g) two Exhibitor badges; and h) one single 120-volt electrical outlet, if requested on reverse.

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Georgia Rehabilitation Association 2015 Training Conference

EXHIBITOR, ADVERTISER AND SPONSOR FORM

Augusta Marriott at the Convention Center, Augusta, Georgia

September 2-4, 2015

AN AFFILIATE OF THE NATIONAL REHABILITATION ASSOCIATION

ADVERTISING

MATTER – The Exhibits Manager reserves the right to refuse the distribution of souvenirs, advertising, printing material, or any other items considered objectionable. Distribution of allowed materials from any location other than the Exhibitor's space is prohibited.

SECURITY – Peripheral security guard service is provided by Exhibit Management. However, it is the responsibility of each Exhibitor to protect material from loss or damage. Any Exhibitor wishing additional security must contract individually with the security vendor selected by the Conference; all charges will be billed to the Exhibitor directly by the vendor.

ADMISSION – Admission to the 2015 GRA Conference will be by official exhibitor badge only, which entitles the owner to unlimited attendance. Each booth is entitled to two free badges. Exhibitor personnel shall be limited to four people per booth at any one time. Exhibitors and their representatives must wear their official badges at all times while on the display floor. Badges are not transferable and must not be loaned to any other person; violators will be barred from the Exhibit premises. The Exhibits Manager shall have sole control of admission policy at all times. An Exhibitor is permitted to enter the Exhibit Premises one hour before the scheduled opening time.

EXHIBITOR CONDUCT – The Exhibitor shall refrain from any action that distracts participants from attendance at the Conference during open hours. If an Exhibitor is rejected for violation of these rules or for any stated reason, no return of rental shall be made.

SOLICITATION OF BUSINESS – Only Exhibitors may solicit business in or near the Exhibit Premises. Sales and order taking are permitted on Exhibit Premises. The Exhibitor shall be responsible for any state or local taxes that may be applicable. Sales receipts must accompany all merchandise sold and delivered on the Exhibition Premises.

FILM, SOUND DEVICES, AND LIGHTING – Moving pictures, loud speakers, or sound devices will only be permitted if tuned to a conversational level and are not objectionable to neighboring Exhibitors. The Exhibits Manager reserves the right to restrict the use of glaring lights or objectionable lighting effects.

FIRE HAZARDS – Fire-hose cabinets must be left accessible and in full view at all times. Bottled gas or other type of open flame is not permitted. Flammable and related materials that conflict with the underwriting, Center, or Fire Department rules are prohibited. The use of paper in any form for decoration is prohibited. All decorations, drapers, table covers, etc., must be flame proof. All flammable materials and fluids are to be kept in safety containers. All packing containers, excelsior, and wrapping paper are to be removed from the floor and must be stored under tables or behind displays.

INSURANCE – Exhibitors wishing to insure their goods must do so at their own expense.

CARE OF BUILDING – Acceptance of exhibit space obligates the Exhibitor and its employees to not deface, injure, or mar the Exhibit Premises. Nothing shall be posted on, tacked, nailed, screwed, or otherwise attached to columns, walls, floors, or other parts of the building or furniture. No gasoline, kerosene, acetylene, candles, or other flammable or explosive substance will be permitted in the Center. Any damage done shall be made good by the Exhibitor to GRA or the owners of the Center as their interests may appear. In addition, this contract shall include all rules and regulations set forth by the Savannah Marriott Riverfront.

LIABILITY – Neither GRA, the Exhibits Manager, the Savannah Marriott Riverfront, the Decorator, nor others associated with the management of the Conference will assume responsibility for the safety of the property of the Exhibitor, its officials, agents, or employees, from theft or damage by fire, accident, or other causes, but will use reasonable care to protect against such loss. It is agreed that the Exhibitor shall indemnify and hold harmless GRA, the Decorator, the Center, and others associated with the Conference and Exhibits Management from all liability that might result from any cause whatsoever. GRA, the Decorator, and others associated with the management of the Conference and the Center shall not be liable for non-fulfillment or commitment for delivery of space by reason of the Center premise being damaged, destroyed, or rendered unusable by fire, accident, acts of nature or public enemy, strike, authority of law, or any other cause. In the event that the Conference cannot be held or space delivered to that purpose, GRA's sole liability shall be to reimburse the Exhibitor pro-rata on monies actually paid in by such Exhibitor less any and all costs or charges paid or incurred for advertising, administration, and similar purposes.

These rules and regulations are subject to revision by the Conference and all points not covered herein are subject to the decision of the Conference. These rules have been formulated for the best interests of the Exhibitors, the Conference, the Decorator, and the Resort. Exhibitors are respectfully requested to observe all rules.

The Exhibits manager shall be the final authority on any question regarding the interpretation of these rules and regulations.

As indicated by my signature below, I am agreeing to the Sponsor and Exhibitor Contract listed above.

Exhibitor Signature _____ Date _____

Printed Name _____ Telephone _____

"The Georgia Rehabilitation Association (GRA) is a membership organization whose mission is to improve the quality of life for individuals with disabilities through education and advocacy."

From GRA Vice President Lauri Tuten:

As members of GRA, all of us have a vested interest in making the Annual Training Event a success. I'm asking that Chapters and Divisions sell \$1000 in ads for the program and to try to get exhibits. This year, GRA Member Dana Skelton-Sanders suggested a contest to encourage ad sales and the Conference Committee unanimously agreed. The Chapter or Division that sells the most ads will receive a \$100 gift card!!!

The deadline for ads is July 17, 2015.

Ads need to be submitted to Joya Lenoir at joya.lenoir@gvra.ga.gov and the payment would be made out to "GRA" and mailed to her at:

**2756 Atlanta Highway
Gainesville, GA 30504**

News from GRA Committee Chairs

News from your Continuing Education Chair

The conference committee is working diligently to bring to you another fabulous training event in 2015. As usual, we will be requesting CRCC approval for continuing education credits. If you have an additional or a different credential and would like to obtain pre-approval for continuing education credits for your conference attendance, please contact Cece Hockett at cecelia.hockett@gvra.ga.gov at your convenience.

Membership Committee News

We would like to encourage any current GRA/NRA member or any prospective GRA/NRA member to try to renew online with the NRA website. We are being told this helps expedite the process and reduces confusion for the NRA office as well as for GRA Membership committee. We are able to confirm memberships in one to two days rather than 4-6 weeks (when done via regular postal service). If you have any questions, please contact Mary Ellen Mendiratta at maryellen@infocusrehab.com or Joya Lenoir at Joya.lenoir@gvra.ga.gov.

Registration Bags News

We would like for each chapter to start asking vendors for donations to place in the conference bags. We are expecting about 250 attendees. For more information, please contact Tamika Wright at 706-638-5536 or email Tamika.wright@gvra.ga.gov. Expectation that each Chapter/Division will need to provide 1 – 2 items in the amount of 200 pieces indigenous to their areas.

Items need to be shipped to:

1220 West Wheeler Pkwy, Suite D, Augusta, GA 30909-1895.

GRA Fundraiser

Fundraiser Coming Soon!!!

**16-ounce & 24-ounce
GRA Tervis Tumblers!**

More information to come very soon....

**Thank you,
Cheryl Braswell
Cheryl Ussery
Fundraising Committee Chairs**

Georgia Rehabilitation Association Education & Advocacy Report

The Georgia Rehabilitation Association is working hard to ensure that 2015 is a year of success for our organization. We recognize the importance of innovation and creativity and are focusing on utilizing the knowledge and experience of past leadership coupled with the energy and innovative ideas of current and future leaders. To assist in achieving this, our Education and Advocacy Committee is working diligently to ensure success through our advocacy efforts.

This year, we anticipate our members to be very active on the “in-person” legislative front. In March, we will hold a “Day at the Capitol” event in Atlanta. Members from around the State will attend to have individual appointments with their local representative to discuss key issues within the field of Rehabilitation. Kevin Harris, Director of External Affairs for GVRA and a GRA member, is working with our Committee to make this happen and we greatly appreciated the combined efforts of all involved.

Later in March, we will be sending at least eight members to Alexandria, VA to attend the National Rehabilitation Association’s Governmental Affairs Summit. This event will culminate with our annual “Day on the Hill” where we will meet directly with our Representatives and Senators.

We look forward to coordinating other events throughout the year and welcome input from our members. Please let either Jeff Allen (Co-Chair Education & Advocacy Committee) or I know if you would like to assist or need additional information.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer A. Howell
2015 Co-Chair Education & Advocacy Committee
Georgia Rehabilitation Association

GRA Day at the Capitol

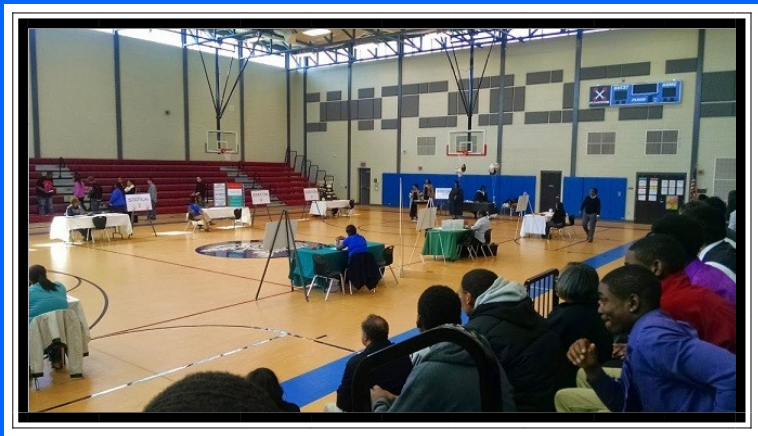
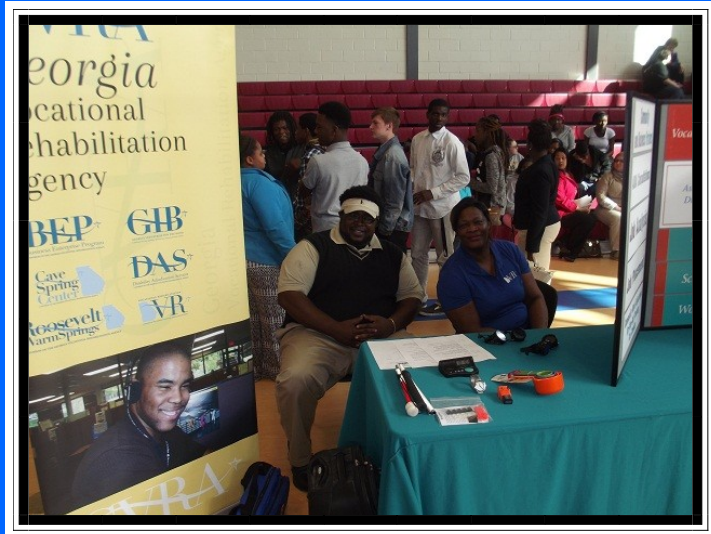
March 3, Atlanta





GReAt East Chapter Pictures

Richmond County High School Job Club Transition Workshop
"Finding your Station in Life: A Journey to Discovering your Employability"







More pictures can be found by clicking the link below:

[Job Club Career Fair 2015](#)

GReAt Upcoming Chapter/Division Events



NAMRC

National
Association of
Multicultural Rehabilitation Concerns

Georgia Association of Multicultural Rehabilitation Concerns

Affiliate of the National Association of Multicultural Rehabilitation Concerns a division of the
National Rehabilitation Association

Invites you to attend

Graduate Student

Ethics Workshop & Networking Event

Tuesday, March 31, 2015

Georgia State University

Student Center, Lanier Suite, 2nd floor
44 Courtland St., Atlanta, GA 30303

1:00 - 4:00 pm

Cost: Parking

- Come earn 1 hr CRCC Ethics Credit on the "Transcultural Integrative Model of Ethical Decision Making"
- Meet current Rehabilitation Counselor Professionals in a variety of employment settings
- Introduce yourself to HR recruiters

[RSVP Here](#) or email gamrc4u@gmail.com

To request disability-related accommodations, please email gamrc4u@gsu.edu

with your request or call Michell Temple at 404-277-1125.

For more information about the National Association of Multicultural
Rehabilitation Concerns visit our website at www.namrc.org

GEORGIA REHABILITATION ASSOCIATION

2015 BOARD MEMBERS, CHAPTER & DIVISION PRESIDENTS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

* Executive Committee

President

* **Paige Tidwell**

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President Elect

* **Myndi Hoffman**

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Past President

* **Mike Pryor**

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Vice President

* **Lauri Tuten**

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Vice President Elect

* **Mary Ellen Mendiratta**

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Secretary

* **Keita Alston**

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Treasurer

* **Patsy Morris**

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Treasurer Elect

* **Pam Eaton**

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Board Members

Class of 2015

Cecelia Hockett

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Scott Jackson

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Carmella Jennings

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Class of 2017

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Division Presidents

GAMRC

Michell Temple

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GARL

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ARTS

Pam Eaton

(See Treasurer Elect info)

GRCEA

Dana Skelton-Sanders

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GEORGIA REHABILITATION ASSOCIATION

2015 BOARD MEMBERS, CHAPTER & DIVISION PRESIDENTS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Local Chapter Presidents

East

Jean Newson

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Highlands

TBD

Metro

Henrietta Archie

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Northeast

Dana Skelton-Sanders

(See Division Presidents info)

RWSIR

Cheryl Leidy

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South

Kim Wagner-Bass

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West

Jason Williams

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Committee Chairs

Administrative Policy

Jennifer Howell

(See Board Members info)

Archives

Ann Reid

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Awards

Julie O'Connor

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Building & Modifications

Ken Hise

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Certification (CEUs)

Cecelia Hockett

(See Board Members info)

Conference

Lauri Tuten

(See VP info)

Credentials

Elijah Carter

(See Board Members info)

Education & Advocacy

Jennifer Howell

Jeff Allen

(See Board Members info)

Finance

Patsy Morris

(See Treasurer Info)

Finance Review

LaDetria King

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Hospitality

Dana Skelton-Sanders

PR/Marketing

Mike Pryor

(See Past President info)

Tom Wilson

Tom.wilson47@gmail.com

Membership

Joya LeNoir

(See Board Members info)

Newsletter

Keita Alston

(See Secretary info)

GEORGIA REHABILITATION ASSOCIATION

2015 BOARD MEMBERS, CHAPTER & DIVISION PRESIDENTS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Nominations Mike Pryor	Ex-Officio (GRA members who hold office within NRA or SERNRA or any division thereof)
Strategic Planning Myndi Hoffman (See President Elect info)	NRA Board Member At Large Jennifer Howell
Remembrance LaDetria King (See Finance Review info)	GRA Rep to SERNRA Tom Wilson
Resolutions Elijah Carter	Southeast Region ARTS Board Ellen Longino ellen697@yahoo.com
Scholarships Julie O'Connor (See Awards Info)	Cheryl Braswell bonabeth60@gmail.com
Special Projects Inger Neal Inger.neal@gvra.ga.gov	Janie Fuller Janie.fuller@gvra.ga.gov
Fundraising Cheryl Braswell Cheryl.braswell@gvra.ga.gov bonabeth60@gmail.com	Patsy Morris
Cheryl Ussery Cheryl@sharecoastalga@comcastbiz.net	NADBS Board Paige Tidwell—Southeast Rep. (See President info)
Website Keita Alston	VEWAA Board Paige Tidwell
Accessibility Ad-hoc Laura Gall (See Board Members info)	NRA Membership Committee Mary Ellen Mendiratta
Training Ad-hoc Mary Ellen Mendiratta (See Vice President Elect info)	NAMRC Board Member Michell Temple
	GRA Contact Administrative Assistant Ellen Longino (see Southeast Region ARTS Board info)

2015 GRA CALENDAR

JAN 2015	<p>Jan. 15 - Financial Review - 10 AM; Executive Board -12 PM; Conference Committee - 2:30 PM</p> <p>Location: Macon VR Office</p> <p>Jan. 16 - GRA Board Meeting 10 AM -1 PM</p> <p>Jan. 20 - Required Quarterly Financial Information due to Administrative Assistant from all Chapters & Divisions</p> <p>GRA Legislative Day at the Capital: TBD</p>
FEB 2015	No activity this month
MAR 2015	<p>Mar. 5 - Financial Review - 10 AM; Executive Board - 1 PM; Conference Committee - 3 PM;</p> <p>Location: Macon VR Office</p> <p>Mar. 6 - GRA Board Meeting: 9:30 AM - 12 PM</p> <p>Mar. 22 - 24 - 2015 Government Affairs Summit, Alexandria VA</p>
APR 2015	<p>Apr. 1 - Corporate Annual Registration must be postmarked and sent to Secretary of State's Office</p> <p>Apr. 20 - Required Quarterly Financial Information due to Administrative Assistant from all Chapters & Divisions</p>
MAY 2015	<p>May 14 - Financial Review - 10 AM; Executive Board - 1 PM; Conference Committee - 3 PM</p> <p>May 15 - GRA Board Meeting 9:30 AM - 12 PM</p> <p>Location: Athens</p> <p>May 15 - IRS Deadline to CPA</p>
JUN 2015	No activity this month

2015 GRA CALENDAR CONTINUED

JUL 2015	<p>Jul. 9 - Financial Review - 10 AM; Executive Board - 1 PM; Conference Committee - 3 PM</p> <p>Jul. 10 - GRA Board Meeting 10 AM -1 PM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Location: Macon VR Office</p> <p>Jul. 20 - Required Quarterly Financial Information due to Administrative Assistant from all Chapters & Divisions</p>
AUG 2015	<p>Aug. 15 - If extension requested & granted by IRS for 990 in May, this is the deadline to have document completed by CPA, signed by GRA officials, postmarked and in the mail to the IRS.</p>
SEP 2015	<p>Sept. 2- 4 - Annual GRA State Training Conference, Augusta Marriott at the Convention Center, Augusta, Georgia</p> <p>Sept. 15 - Deadline for renewal of Charitable Contribution Registration/ Renewal with the Georgia Secretary of State's Office</p>
OCT 2015	<p>DISABILITY AWARENESS MONTH</p> <p>Oct. 5 - 8 - 2015 NRA/SERNRA Annual Conference, Beau Rivage, Biloxi, MS</p> <p>Oct. 15 - Financial Review - 10 AM; Executive Board - 1 PM; Conference Committee - 3 PM</p> <p>Oct. 16 - GRA Board Meeting - 9:30 - 12 PM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Meetings held via conference call</p> <p>Oct. 20 - Required Quarterly Financial Information due to Administrative Assistant from all Chapters & Divisions</p>
NOV 2015	<p>Nov. 15 - If second request for extension of 990 to IRS was needed, requested and granted, this is the deadline to have it completed by CPA, signed by GRA officials, postmarked and mailed to the IRS unless further extensions are requested by GRA through CPA.</p>
DEC 2015	<p>Dec. 10 - Financial Review - 10 AM; Executive Board - 1 PM; Conference Committee - 3 PM</p> <p>Dec. 11 - GRA Board Meeting 10 AM -1 PM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Location: Roosevelt Warm Springs - Meadows Classroom</p>

We'll see you in Augusta!

