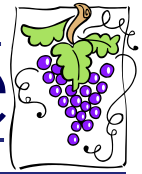
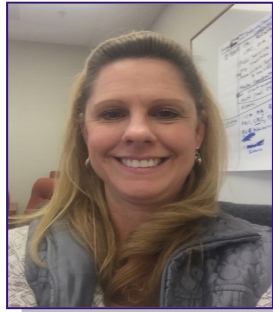


The GRApevine



The Georgia Rehabilitation Association Newsletter

Spring Edition, Feb. 2017



To all GRA Members;

As your 2017 President, I would like to acknowledge your loyalty and dedication to the association. I am calling on each and every one of you this year to commit to growing our membership and assisting GRA to become a leader in providing training for rehabilitation professionals.

My goals for the association this year are simple: increase membership and provide training to professionals in the field of LPC, CRC, AWT and for our support staff in the public and private fields. WIOA has made some significant changes that are transforming the field of public rehabilitation and affects our private and public providers of services to transition age students and youth with disabilities. Cece Hockett is Chair of the Ad Hoc Training Committee and she is developing a catalog of training that is relevant to the profession and if marketed well, can grow GRA. BUT we need your help to make this happen. Divisions and Chapters, please contact us at **GeorgiaRehabAssoc@yahoo.com** for training ideas or to assist in coordinating and hosting training.

Last, I have one remaining goal: to obtain current contact information on all GRA Members. This last one may seem trivial but we are missing opportunities to keep our members informed which is a detriment to us as an association. Emails are continuously returning and when we have important items that need to be voted on, we need to rely on an updated email list. If you notice that an email is incorrect for your fellow members, please send us the correct one at the email address above. I look forward to a GReAt year!

Sincerely!

Lauri Tuten, CRC
2017 GRA President

Inside this Issue:

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2017 Strategic Plan: Goals & Objectives for Georgia Rehabilitation Association

Goal-GRA will disseminate effective & relevant information to GRA members & community

- Objective 1: Communicate national & state trends impacting persons with disabilities & the profession.
- Objective 2: Increase community awareness
- Objective 3: Website will be accessible, relevant, up to date & visually appealing
- Objective 4: Update all member contact information for accuracy to ensure delivery of essential GRA information

Goal-GRA will develop new membership & retain current membership

- Objective 1: Increase membership by 25 new members
- Objective 2: Implement membership contest to encourage recruitments of new members by Chapters and Divisions
- Objective 3: Retain 90% of current membership
- Objective 4: Share NRA membership information with Local Chapters and Divisions for outreach

Goal-GRA will provide quality training to Rehabilitation Professionals in Georgia

- Objective 1: Identify potential collaborations for training opportunities
- Objective 2: Provide trainings on WIOA implementation
- Objective 3: Provide professional development to promote a diverse Workforce
- Objective 4: Utilize divisions to provide training in specific subject areas
- Objective 5: Create a catalog of trainings for professional development of membership and promotion of organizational growth

Division Reports

GARL: Georgia Association of Rehabilitation Leadership

GARL plans to once again present the Leadership Award and Continuing Education Grant at the GRA Conference in Callaway Gardens. Please be on the lookout for the nomination criteria in the conference newsletter later this year.

GAMRC: Georgia Association of Multicultural Rehabilitation Concerns

Greetings from GAMRC!

As Georgia's premier professional association for education and advocacy in the area of multicultural rehabilitation concerns GAMRC extends the invitation to rehab professionals, service providers and clients to become members. We are only as strong as our members and together we can do great things to advance rehabilitation research and data-driven services to multicultural populations. GAMRC is available to provide guidance, answer questions and provide training in the area of multicultural rehabilitation concerns. Visit our website at NAMRC.org. Contact us via email at gamrc4u@gmail.com to join our mailing list. The NAMRC Annual Conference is in Dallas, Texas on July 27-29. This year's theme is "Contemporary Pioneers Practicing Excellence and Cultural Inclusion". Details are available on our website. This spring, GAMRC is planning to host a training on Religion and Ethics in Rehabilitation Counseling.

GRCEA: Georgia Rehabilitation Counselors and Educators Association

GRCEA donated \$150 to support this event and below is a video clip of the event, this is a wonderful cause and our donation assisted with the success of the event. We plan to do more next year in support of Night to Shine - Tim Tebow Foundation Event that happen around the nation in various states. In Georgia, the event was held in Franklin County.

Video link: https://youtu.be/_yf6gFPGXJ4

Chapter Reports

EAST—Carmella Jennings

East Chapter members are pleased to announce that the Local East Chapter has been awarded a \$2,000 grant from the Augusta Exchange Club Charity Fund, INC. The grant was written by Carmella Jennings, East Chapter Special Projects Committee Member. This grant will support the High School Job Club 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, McDuffie and Jefferson counties.

The Local East Chapter has also partnered with Disability Employment Initiatives (DEI)/Georgia Department of Economic Development Workforce Division for the High School Job and Resource Fair this year. The East Chapter will receive an additional \$2,000 to help make the 4th Annual High School Job Fair a success this year. The High School Job Club will have over 30 employers and community partners. There will be employers on site to discuss job opportunities and interview students for vacant employment positions.

WEST—Jason Williams

West GRA plans to provide free training to our chapter members next month as part of helping to show that “membership matters” in GRA/NRA. We also hope to partner with GVRA in sponsoring some training later this summer.

NORTHEAST—Dana Skelton-Sanders

NorthEast Chapter sponsored refreshments for the E3 Launch in Paulding county back in October. The purpose of that event was to introduce parents and students to the E3 Model and services that may be available under them.

East Job Fair

4th Annual High School Job & Resource Fair 2017



There is NO COST to Exhibit!
This event is open to High School Job Club Students.

- Employers will be on-site to discuss job opportunities and conduct interviews for **Full-time and Part-time jobs!**
- Students are expected to bring copy of their resume and dress prepared to interview.
- College & Training programs
- Community & Social Services
- Volunteer Service Programs
- Tables available for setup as needed
- Lunch will be provided

Where: First Baptist Church of Augusta
3500 Walton Way Extension
Augusta, GA 30909

When: Wednesday March 8th, 2017
9:00 am – 1:00 pm

For more information, contact Carmella Jennings at: (706) 650-5600

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES



Although the Georgia General Assembly will remain in session through the end of March, below are some of the proposed bills currently being debated that may affect rehab professionals if voted on favorably by both the House and Senate.

Senate Bill 16 proposes to not only lower the percentage of cannabidiol in THC oil from 5% to 3%, but also add Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of conditions for which individuals can use THC oil.

House Bill 280 proposes to permit weapons carry license holders to now carry and possess handguns on post-secondary education campuses such as technical schools, colleges and universities. Exemptions include child care facilities, student housing and at sporting events.

House Bill 220 proposes the Georgia Veterans Work Opportunity Tax Credit as a state income tax credit incentive that will be available to private sector employers who hire veterans.

House Bill 233 proposes that parking permits issued to individuals with disabilities include a recent photograph of the individual to whom the permit is issued.

House Bill 288 proposes the issuance of information cards to individuals with disabilities who own service animals which detail the rights of the individual, including their right to be accompanied by a service animal in public places subject to the conditions established by law. These information cards may also be issued to individuals who train service animals for individuals with disabilities.

House Bill 338 is the latest education bill to hit the floor and aims to address how to improve failing schools in Georgia. This bill proposes adding a system of supports including a Chief Turnaround Office and turnaround coaches to provide assistance to those schools that have been identified as low performing.

Senate Bill 5 aims to increase the amount of funds allocated by the Georgia Lottery to the Lottery for Education Account.

House Bill 343 proposes to amend the Official Code of Georgia Annotated to replace the terms "Mental Retardation" and "Mentally Retarded" with "Intellectual Disability."

*All of the above information was obtained from the Georgia General Assembly website:
<http://www.legis.ga.gov>



the National
Rehabilitation Association
PROMOTING ETHICAL AND
STATE OF THE ART PRACTICE IN REHABILITATION

Georgia Rehabilitation Association

AN AFFILIATE OF THE NATIONAL REHABILITATION ASSOCIATION

Presents

SAVE THE DATE!!!

Annual Training Conference September 6-8, 2017

Callaway Gardens
17800 US Hwy 27
Pine Mountain, GA 31822
800.852.3810





the **National
Rehabilitation Association**
PROMOTING ETHICAL AND
STATE OF THE ART PRACTICE IN REHABILITATION

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

2017 GRA Annual Training Conference

Calloway Gardens Mountain Creek Inn, Pine Mountain, Georgia
September 6-8, 2017

Invitation to Present

The Georgia Rehabilitation Association (GRA) invites your participation in the 2017 Annual Training Conference, which will be held September 6-8, 2017, at the Calloway Gardens Mountain Creek Inn, Pine Mountain, Georgia.

The theme of the 2017 Annual Training Conference is "People, Purpose, Passion." All interested individuals, facilities, agencies and organizations, including NRA members and non-members, are invited to submit proposals for concurrent and general session presentations.

The GRA Program Committee will review and select submissions that consider the proposals' contributions to a well-balanced program of interest to the members of GRA, who represent public and private rehabilitation agencies, facilities, hospitals, schools and other organizations serving the needs of individuals with disabilities.

Examples of proposal topics include (but are not limited to)

Accessibility & Accommodations	Diversity	Research in Rehabilitation	School-to-Work Transition
Vocational Assessments	WIOA	Medical Developments	Rehabilitation Leadership
DSM 5/Mental Health	Ethics*	Rehabilitation Counseling	Assistive Work Technology
Job Development/Job Placement	Sensory Impairments	Training and Education	Supported Employment

*Ethics presentations based on the CRC Code of Ethics should indicate same and must include discussion of the Code.



the National
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THE RECEIPT DEADLINE FOR ALL PROPOSAL SUBMISSIONS IS APRIL 30, 2017

Proposals should be designed for either a one (1.0) or one and a ½ (1.5) hour general session or concurrent sessions for one (1.0) or one and a ½ (1.5) hour duration. All concurrent sessions will be set up theater style with a podium. Please be sure to accurately complete the Audio/Visual Request Form included in the application.

Travel arrangements and accommodations will be discussed with those chosen to present.

Review Criteria for Proposals:

Overall quality;
Relevance to the field of rehabilitation;
Well-defined focus that can be presented in a 1 or 1.5 hour format;
Practical application of idea presented;
Originality and timeliness of idea;
Ethics presentations based on the CRC Code of Ethics should so indicate

Notification:

Notification of proposal inclusion will be provided to the primary presenter by June 1, 2017.

Instructions for Proposal Submission:

Complete entire application – Pages 4 through 8.
Please use the Call for Proposals form or an exact duplicate.
Please assure all information is clearly legible.
Do not exceed the space provided (**please do not add extra sheets except those containing presenter vita information**).
Handouts, if being used, must accompany program proposal applications. Handouts, including alternative formats for handouts, are the speakers' responsibilities to provide on-site.
Include a one-page resume or vita for each presenter.



the National
Rehabilitation Association
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STATE OF THE ART PRACTICE IN REHABILITATION

PLEASE SUBMIT ALL PROPOSALS BY APRIL 30, 2017

2017 GRA Annual Training Conference
Callaway Gardens Mountain Creek Inn, Pine Mountain, Georgia
September 6-8, 2017

Contact Information

Questions about the program should be submitted to:
Program Selection Committee Co-Chair:
LaDetria King at ladetriaking@yahoo.com
(706) 832-6679

All proposals must be submitted to:
Georgia Rehabilitation Association
Program Selection Committee
P.O. Box 824
Thomson, GA 30824
Attention: Jennifer Howell
Or e-mail to: Jennifer.howell@gvs.ga.gov



CALL FOR PROPOSALS
2017 GRA Annual Training Conference
Calloway Gardens Mountain Creek Inn, Pine Mountain, Georgia
September 6-8, 2017

Biographical Data Form

(One Form Required for Each Presenter)

NOTE: The lead presenter will be the contact person for the presentation. Please print clearly or type information.

Name: _____
Name and Professional Credentials (as you want them to appear on the Program if you are selected)

Preferred Address: _____
Number and Street

City: _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

Telephone: _____
Office Home Mobile

E-mail address: _____

Current Job Title: _____
Title and Description

Employer's Name/Department: _____
Employer Department

Education (include basic preparation through highest degree held):

Institution (Name, City, State)	Degree & Major	Year Degree Awarded
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Use this space to briefly describe your professional experience or areas of expertise (including publications), which contribute to your particular involvement with this presentation.



CALL FOR PROPOSALS
2017 GRA Annual Training Conference
Calloway Gardens Mountain Creek Inn, Pine Mountain, Georgia
September 6-8, 2017

Proposal Application Form

Title of Presentation (7-10 word maximum): _____

Session Length: _____

Handouts:

Handouts must accompany program proposal applications to fully evaluate proposals (if handouts will be distributed during session).

Room Arrangement:

Theater Style is standard. Please indicate if you would like us to consider special arrangements.

Accommodations/Other Needs:

Audio/Visual Equipment:

Screens and LCD projectors (if requested) will be provided. Please complete the Audio/Visual request form on page 8. Raj Pagadala is the contact person for all a/v requests for presentations. Presenters are encouraged to have their presentations in electronic format via laptop or flash drive. If additional A/V equipment is needed, information regarding rental of additional equipment will be provided on request. See Audio/Visual Equipment Form for further information.

Final Program Summary (maximum 50-word description appropriate for final program):

All proposals must be submitted to:
Georgia Rehabilitation Association
P.O. Box 824
Thomson, Georgia 30824
Attention: Jennifer Howell
Or e-mail to: Jennifer.howell@gvs.ga.gov



CALL FOR PROPOSALS
2017 GRA Annual Training Conference
Calloway Gardens Mountain Creek Inn, Pine Mountain, Georgia
September 6-8, 2017
Proposal Form

Please complete all application items and attach a one-page resume/vita for all presenters. The following information is required to obtain program certification credit. Please be sure to complete pages 3, 4, 5, and 6. Presentations on Ethics must indicate inclusion and discussion of the CRC Code of Ethics to meet CRC credit requirements. Proposals must be received by April 30, 2015.

1. Objectives/Method. List program objective(s) in clear terms.

*Example: A. Identify the problems associated with substance abuse
B. Develop strategies to facilitate employment.*

2. Content. Provide an outline of the content to be presented for each objective.

*Example: A. The most common problems 1, 2, 3
B. Discuss strategies 1, 2, 3*

3. Time Frame. State the time frame for each objective.

*Example: Objective 1: 30 minutes
Objective 2: 30 minutes*

4. Presenter(s). List presenter for each objective. List presenter/student ratio requirements.

*Example: Objective 1: First presenter
Objective 2: Both presenters*

5. Teaching. Describe teaching method(s) (lecture, small group, interactive, role-play, simulation, etc.)

Example: Lecture, PowerPoint



CALL FOR PROPOSALS
2017 GRA Annual Training Conference
Calloway Gardens Mountain Creek Inn, Pine Mountain, Georgia
September 6-8, 2017

Audio/Visual Equipment Form

GRA will provide a complimentary screen and LCD projector (if requested) for each presentation. All additional combinations of audio/visual equipment will be provided at the presenter's expense.

Complimentary Audio/Visual Equipment (Please check if you plan to use this equipment)

All concurrent sessions will be set up theater style with a podium.

_____ **Laptop computer**

_____ **LCD projector**

_____ **None**

Additional Audio/Visual Equipment

If you require different or additional audio/visual equipment from that listed above please contact Raj Pagadala at 478-279-1885 or email Raj.Pagadala@gvs.ga.gov.

Please complete this form by April 30, 2017 and return with the complete application to:

Georgia Rehabilitation Association
P.O. Box 824
Thomson, Georgia 30824
Attention Jennifer Howell

Or e-mail to Jennifer.howell@gvs.ga.gov

If you have specific questions regarding your A/V request, please contact:

Raj Pagadala: Cell (478) 279-1885 or

email Raj.Pagadala@gvs.ga.gov

2017 GRA Conference

Ads & Exhibits Form



Georgia Rehabilitation Association 2017 Training Conference
EXHIBITOR, ADVERTISER AND SPONSOR FORM
Callaway Gardens, Pine Mountain, GA
September 5-8, 2017
AN AFFILIATE OF THE NATIONAL REHABILITATION ASSOCIATION

COMPANY NAME _____ PHONE NUMBER _____

CONTACT PERSON/TITLE _____ PLEASE PROVIDE NAMES
OF BOOTH PERSONNEL:

EMAIL ADDRESS:----- 1) _____

WEBSITE ADDRESS: _____ 2) _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

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, and one identification sign, 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*). Free Wi-Fi will be available in exhibit area.

	<u>Regular price</u>	<u>Early Bird</u>
	<u>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



Georgia Rehabilitation Association 2017 Training Conference
EXHIBITOR, ADVERTISER AND SPONSOR FORM
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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 (SOLD)
_____	\$325	Inside Back Cover Full Page Color
_____	\$350	Outside Back Cover Full Page Color (SOLD)

****Advertising submission deadline is July 01, 2017****

****Exhibitor Registration deadline is July 15, 2017****

Payment Information

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

Mailing Address – 243 South Main Street, Cleveland, GA 30528

General questions? Contact Joya LeNoir at (404) 510-3345 or email Joya.LeNoir@ablegeorgia.ga.gov

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 Chairperson. All contracts are expressly subject to the terms of the Conference lease relating to the Exhibition Premises. Event set up will begin at 12:00 noon on Tuesday, September 5, 2017 and break down will be Friday, September 8, 2017 at 12:00 noon.

PAYMENT AND CANCELLATIONS – If signed contract submission is received on or before July 1, 2017, the charge is \$425, if received after July 15, 2017, the charge is \$475 per 8' x 8' exhibit booth and is due upon contract submission. Exhibitors who cancel after July 1, 2017 will be obligated for 50% of the total booth rental fee (\$200) as liquidated damages. Exhibitors who cancel after August 1, 2017 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 the day the conference begins, the Exhibits Chairperson reserves the right to use the space as he/she sees fit to eliminate empty space in the Exhibit Hall.

LIABILITY – GRA nor the hotel are responsible for any damages or theft of the exhibitor products and/or equipment. If you have any questions not addressed on this contract, please contact the exhibit chairperson at the above information.

The Exhibits Chairperson 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 _____

Contract received: _____ Money received: _____



Door Prizes Needed!

Attention all GRA Division and Chapter Presidents, and State Officers:

As in years' past, we depend on everyone to gather door prizes to bring to the Annual GRA Conference. Division and Chapter Presidents are asked to please obtain ***at least 10 door prizes*** each and bring them to the conference in Callaway Gardens.

Door prizes can be anything from gift cards, small baskets of assorted items, tickets to events, individual items such as jewelry, books, candles, scarves, etc. Also, please wrap or gift bag each gift.

These donations are used for the door prizes given at the end of training courses during each day of the conference.

Thanks so much for your continued support!
For questions, please contact Angie Rhudy at
arhudy@unum.com

News from GRA Conference Committee

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 Jason Williams at jason.williams@gvs.ga.gov.

Registration Bags Committee News

We would like for each chapter to start asking vendors for donations to place in the conference bags. We are expecting about 300 attendees. For more information, please contact Dana Skelton Sanders at dana.skelton-sanders@gvs.ga.gov. The expectation are that each Chapter or Division will need to provide items indigenous to their areas.

Items need to be brought at the quarterly meetings located at the Macon VR office in March, May and July. Thank you.

2017 GRA CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM



Georgia Rehabilitation Association



Sept. 6-8, 2016
Pine Mountain, GA

ANNUAL TRAINING CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

DEADLINE DATES

EARLY BIRD
REGISTRATION
May 19

ACCOMMODATIONS
DEADLINE
May 19
(NO EXCEPTIONS)

HOTEL DEADLINE
FOR ROOM RATE
August 1

Name: _____ Name for Badge: _____
Organization: _____ City: _____
Address: _____ E-mail Address: _____
Phone: () - _____ NRA Member #: _____

Name badge is required for all functions

REGISTRATION OPTIONS:

- | | | | |
|--|-------|---|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Early Bird Registration | \$185 | <input type="checkbox"/> One-Day Registration | \$150 |
| <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 |

• Cost includes all conference activities, Social/President's Reception & Awards Event & Meal.
Retirees Luncheon date: Sept. 7

I will be attending the Awards Breakfast ☐ Yes ☐ No
I need a vegetarian option for the Awards Event & Meal ☐ Yes ☐ No
If Yes, please specify how many vegetarian options ____

- ☐ 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 tickets will not be available for purchase on site.
- Guests may purchase an Awards Breakfast ticket.

☐ Awards Breakfast Ticket (for Guest) \$43 per guest

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 (There will be a charge for CEUs)

Please complete registration form and send to georgiarehabcalendar@gmail.com

ALL GVRA EMPLOYEES:

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(s) to:

GRA REGISTRATION

C/O Keita Alston, 100 Colony Park Dr., Suite 204, Cumming, GA 30040

PHONE: (770) 781-6781 FAX: (770) 781-6785

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

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"/> SPEAKER |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FACILITATOR | <input type="checkbox"/> SERNRA BOARD MEMBER |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GRA BOARD MEMBER | <input type="checkbox"/> SERNRA PAST PRESIDENT |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GRA PAST PRESIDENT | <input type="checkbox"/> SERNRA PRESIDENT |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GRA PRESIDENT | <input type="checkbox"/> SERNRA PRESIDENT ELECT |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GRA PRESIDENT ELECT | <input type="checkbox"/> TREASURER ELECT |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GRA SECRETARY | <input type="checkbox"/> VETERAN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GRA TREASURER | <input type="checkbox"/> VICE PRESIDENT ELECT |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GRA VICE PRESIDENT | <input type="checkbox"/> VIP |
| <input type="checkbox"/> INTERPRETER | <input type="checkbox"/> VOLUNTEER |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NEW MEMBER | |

GRA Fundraiser



Please purchase tumblers and portfolios for your offices, chapters, divisions or as an incentive for increasing membership. The 16 oz GRA tumblers are \$20 and lids are \$3. The 25 oz GRA tumblers are \$24 with lids.

The GRA portfolios are \$15.

These are wonderful items, please buy for yourself or as gifts. Order today and we will deliver.



GRA Tervis Tumbler/Portfolio Order Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone number _____

Email address: _____

Method of Payment: _____

Style	Number Ordered	Cost	Total Cost
16 ounce GRA Tervis Tumbler(\$20)			
16 ounce lid (\$3)			
24 ounce GRA Tervis Tumbler with lid included (\$25)			
GRA Portfolio (\$15)			

For more information on purchasing, please contact Ashia Walker at awalker@ging.org

If you would like these mailed, postage will be an extra cost.

GRA Conference Awards

GEORGIA ASSOCIATION OF REHABILITATION LEADERSHIP (GARL) AWARD

J. ELLIES MORAN OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP AWARD

GARL is seeking your nominations for our “***J. Ellies Moran Outstanding Leadership Award***”. We have had many dynamic individuals win in the past, i.e., Tom Gaines, Yvonne Johnson, Peggy Rosser, David Bennett, Sandy Payne, Don Williams, Elizabeth Kinne, Ava Searce, Ann Heeth, Melanie Poole, Dr. John Williams, Trish Cooper, Cynthia Woodruff, Charlotte Tolbert, Susan Sherman, Carl McRae, Catherine Andrews, Annette McCauley, Ken Hise, Karen Royston and Twyla Crump! The nominee does not have to be a GARL member. We are looking for individuals who have demonstrated outstanding leadership qualities during the past year. Think about someone who has proven to be a leader in planning and/or implementation, in ethical decision-making and/or in conflict resolution.

Leadership is exemplified by a clear sense of purpose, persistence, ability to attract and energize others, being results-oriented, and displaying resourcefulness & resilience. Think about what it takes to be a successful leader in the team environment of today: building up others, leading by example, a team player as well as the leader, possessing empathy, is accessible & accountable, has humility, & cultivates the potential in each team member.

We look forward to reading about the nominees!

Please send all nominations along with three letters of support for each nominee to:

Jason Williams
Attention: GARL Leadership Award Nominations
1220 Hogansville Road
Suite #400
LaGrange, GA 30241
Jason.Williams@gvs.ga.gov

Deadline for Nominations: August 1, 2017

2017 GARL Continuing Education Grant Criteria

The Georgia Association of Rehabilitation Leadership (GARL) will present a Continuing Education Grant of up to \$250 to an individual who is employed in the field of vocational rehabilitation in Georgia. This assistance must be utilized for continuing education as part of their professional development such as in completion of coursework or training. The continuing education must be directly associated with their work in vocational rehabilitation (Counseling, Assessment and Evaluation , Assistive Work Technology, Case Management, Job Placement, and Job Readiness/Employment Skills Training) or in a field that supports rehabilitation professionals (Clerical, Finance, Human Resources, Management, Public Relations, and Training).

Each applicant must agree that they will utilize the funds within 12 months from receiving the grant. The grant will be awarded at the 2017 GRA Annual Training Conference in Pine Mountain.

Applicants or their managers may submit a nomination of one page or less describing the proposed course of study or training, how it relates to their role in vocational rehabilitation, their future plans and how they will utilize the funds in pursuing these plans as they advance in their career.

Deadline for Nominations: August 1, 2017

Please send all nominations to:

Jason Williams

Attention: GARL Continuing Education Grant

1220 Hogansville Road, Suite #400

LaGrange, GA 30241

Jason.Williams@gvs.ga.gov

NANCY CROWDER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

The purpose of the Georgia Rehabilitation Association's scholarship program is to provide recognition by offering scholarship assistance to an individual with a disability who demonstrates outstanding academic achievement, community involvement, and school participation.

Nominations for the NANCY CROWDER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD are submitted by Chapter members to the Scholarship Committee who select a prospective winner and submit their recommendation to the Board for approval.

The scholarship is awarded annually in the amount of \$1000 to be presented at the Annual Conference Awards Ceremony. **This year, due to a generous donation from the family of Nancy Crowder, GRA will be able to award two (2) \$1250 grants.** The winner's travel costs to attend the Awards Ceremony are funded in coordination with the Awards and Recognitions Committee as outlined in the Manual of Operations (Section IV, Awards and Recognitions, g, NOTE).

The name of the NANCY CROWDER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD winner will be submitted to the Southeast Region NRA Scholarship Committee Chairperson as the Georgia Chapter's nominee for the SERNRA Scholarship.

NOTE: Purpose, criteria, application process, and entry forms for the SERNRA Scholarship can be found on pages 10 - 13 of Appendix B.

NOMINATION PROCEDURES AND CRITERIA:

1. Nominations for the NANCY CROWDER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD will be called for by the Scholarship Committee and will be submitted by Chapter members to the Chairperson.
2. Each nominee must be a person with a disability.
3. Each nominee must be a resident of the state of Georgia.
4. Each nominee must be accepted into a post secondary educational program.
5. Nominations should be submitted on the Entry Form for the Nancy Crowder Memorial Scholarship. Applications must be postmarked, emailed or scanned no later than COB **August 1, 2017** to:

Shelley Kraft
c/o GVRA/VR Program
3586 Riverside Drive
Suite B
Macon, GA 31210
shelley.kraft@gvs.ga.gov
Work # 404-780-6961



ENTRY FORM
For the NANCY CROWDER MEMORIAL Scholarship

Please print or type all responses to the following questions.

Nominee's Name:		SSN:	
-----------------	--	------	--

Home Address:	
---------------	--

Phone:		Birthdate:	
--------	--	------------	--

High School Name & Address:	
-----------------------------	--

--	--	--

City

State

Zip

Definition of DISABILITY. A physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of an individual

Describe the nominee's disability (*Include specific limitations; how & when impairment was acquired, etc.*):

--

Discuss how the nominee has overcome societal barriers related to his/her disability:

Discuss difficulties nominee has encountered in working to surmount his/her disability:

Education (please list all institutions attended and dates attended):

Explain how nominee has overcome barriers in the educational environment, if any:

List nominee's accomplishments in school:

--

List nominee's extracurricular activities:

--

List nominee's community activities:

--

List nominee's other accomplishments not already covered in previous questions:

--

AWARDS DEADLINE
AWARDS MUST BE POSTMARKED, EMAILED OR SCANNED BY COB
AUGUST 1, 2017

Shelley Kraft, c/o GVRA/VR Program
3586 Riverside Drive, Suite B, Macon, GA 31210
shelley.kraft@gvs.ga.gov
Work # 404-780-6961

THE ISAAC MAX HELLER EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR AWARD

This award was established to honor employers who have provided excellent services to citizens with disabilities by providing them with employment. Considerations, criteria, and procedures for nominations:

1. How long has this employer been cooperating with rehabilitation service providers and employing persons with disabilities?
2. How many persons with disabilities has this employer hired?
3. What is the total number of all employees in this establishment?
4. Is the employer using as many persons with disabilities as is feasible for his/her operation?
5. Has this employer provided reasonable accommodations for employees with disabilities?
6. Is this employer's business and all facilities accessible to persons with disabilities?
7. Has this employer been instrumental in advocating for the employment of persons with disabilities?

Does this employer inform rehabilitation service providers about employment possibilities that might be filled by persons with disabilities?

Letters of nomination should be one typed page or less.

THE SERVICE AWARD

This award is specially oriented toward honoring an individual for outstanding contribution(s) to the field of rehabilitation. The recipient does not have to be a member of the Georgia Rehabilitation Association and cannot be an employee of the Division of Rehabilitation Services. Consideration, criteria, and procedures for nominations:

1. What has the individual contributed towards advancement of the field of rehabilitation?
2. What special recognition or awards has the Nominee received?

Itemize articles or writings in professional publications.

One supporting letter should accompany the letter of nomination.

THE PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

This award was established to honor a chapter member who has been outstanding in professional achievement during the past year. The recipient must be a member of the Georgia Rehabilitation Association. Nomination procedures and criteria:

1. List outstanding achievements of the Nominee with particular emphasis on services to clients.
2. Describe the nominee's cooperation with related agencies and use of community resources.
3. List special recognition by peer groups, community organizations, etc.

Itemize articles or other items published in professional publications.

Two supporting letters (one from a supervisor and one from a peer) should accompany letter of nomination.

GRA CHAPTER OF THE YEAR/GRA DIVISION OF THE YEAR AWARD

The purpose of this award is to honor a Local Chapter and Division for their unique and diverse achievements, innovative ideas, and dedicated service on behalf of persons with disabilities and local chapter members.

Nominations for the Local Chapter of the Year Award and Division of the Year Award shall consist of the Local Chapter year-end reports, for the prior calendar year, required to be submitted to the GRA Board of Directors through the Finance Committee Chairperson. Local Chapters may also submit to the Awards and Recognitions Committee additional letters of support, newspaper articles, pictures or other supporting information, to be included and considered along with the year-end report nominations packet.

The Awards and Recognition Committee shall obtain copies of such year-end reports to serve as nomination packets for the award.

2017 GRCEA AWARDS

Please review the following information on the GRA's Personal Achievement Award and Counseling Achievement Award as well as the Georgia Rehabilitation Counselors and Educators Association's (GRCEA) Counselor of the Year Award. Then, take the time to nominate your fellow co-workers and/or colleagues so they may be honored for their exceptional work.

***GRA Personal Achievement Award**

Established to recognize and honor a client of rehabilitation services who has demonstrated exceptional determination and motivation to overcome substantial impediments to employment resulting from a severe disability, and who has successfully completed a rehabilitation program and become gainfully employed during the 2013 calendar year.

***GRA Counseling Achievement Award**

Established to recognize the dedication and hard work of the GRA member who served as the vocational rehabilitation counselor responsible for developing and implementing the work plan of the recipient of the Personal Achievement Award, and whose counseling, guidance, and other services empowered this client to become successfully employed. Recipients of the GRA Personal Achievement and Counseling Achievement Awards will be the Georgia Chapter's nominees for the Southeast Region NRA Personal Achievement and Counseling Achievement Awards.

To Submit Nominations:

- Obtain approval from the client.
- Complete a narrative of not more than 3000 words, to describe the problem identification of services provided, solution of the problem(s) and job placement information.
- Remove identifying information which would allow the GRCEA Awards Committee members to recognize either the client or the counselor.
- Obtain written permission from the client for members of the GRCEA Awards Committee to visit and/or contact him/her and discuss the services provided.
- Attach a fact sheet (to be removed by the GRCEA Awards Chairperson), containing the client's name, address, and phone number along with the counselor's name and phone number.

*Recipients of these two GRA awards will be selected by the GRCEA Division and will be judged on the basis of the NRA guidelines.

2017 GRCEA AWARDS (Continued)

GRCEA Counselor of the Year

The honoree will be a counselor working with a caseload of individuals with disabilities. All nominees must be a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC) and a member of the National Rehabilitation Counselors and Educators Association (NRCEA). These criteria must be met in order for Georgia's winner to compete at the regional and/or national level.

To Submit Nominations:

Attach a fact sheet (to be removed by the GRCEA Awards Chairperson), containing the counselor's name and phone number along with a nomination letter stating why the nominee is entitled to receive this award. The letter should not mention the nominee's name or geographic location.

Please submit nominations ASAP to:

Dana Skelton-Sanders CRC
Attention: GRCEA Award Nominations
243 South Main Street, Suite B
Cleveland, GA 30528
Phone: 706-348-4882
Fax: 706-865-9602
dana.skelton-sanders@gvs.ga.gov

2017 ARTS AWARDS

ASSOCIATION OF REHABILITATION TECHNICIANS AND SPECIALISTS OF GEORGIA

2017 Service Award Criteria:

- Employed in a rehabilitation setting in a technical support, clerical or secretarial position for at least three (3) years at the time of nomination
- Individuals nominated must be members of ARTS of GEORGIA
- Nominations are to be submitted only by GRA members
- The choice of the award recipient is based on outstanding contributions to the field of rehabilitation. Nominee justification should include, but should not necessarily be limited to the following:
 - Has promoted public interest, confidence and trust in the cause of rehabilitation
 - Has performed duties conscientiously, taken pride in work, shown initiative and assumed added responsibilities when called upon
 - Has demonstrated a good working relationship with supervisors, co-workers and the public
 - Any other reason that you may have to justify your nomination
- Material should be submitted in a concise form. Include biographical sketch of nominee, educational background, reason why the nominee is entitled to the award (limited to 100 words). Letters from people who know nominee may also be included and attached to your nomination form.

If, in the careful judgment of the Awards Committee, too few or non-acceptable nominations are received, no award should be made.

2017 Boss of the Year Award Criteria:

- ARTS OF GEORGIA Boss of the Year nomination must be submitted by GRA members only.
- This “Boss” should be totally involved in the rehabilitation process and show support and genuine interest in ARTS OF GEORGIA. He/She should be a member of the Georgia Rehabilitation Association.

**NOMINATION FORM
ASSOCIATION OF REHABILITATION TECHNICIANS AND SPECIALISTS
OF GEORGIA
SERVICE AWARD**

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

Place of Employment _____

Briefly state why you believe this person would be a good candidate for the ARTS of Georgia Service Award. The candidate must be a member of ARTS.

Submitted by _____

Phone Number _____

ALL NOMINATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY **AUGUST 1, 2017**

PLEASE SUBMIT NOMINATIONS TO:

Cheryl Braswell
820-C Love Avenue
Tifton, GA 31794
Phone: (229) 402-6991
Fax: (229) 386-7325
Cheryl.Braswell@gvs.ga.gov

BOSS OF THE YEAR AWARD

ASSOCIATION OF REHABILITATION TECHNICIANS AND SPECIALISTS OF GEORGIA

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone Number _____

Place of Employment _____

Position _____

Professional & Non Professional-Organizations _____

Community Activities _____

Hobbies _____

Education/Training _____

What support has nominee shown to ARTS and why do you feel he/she should be Boss of the Year?

Submitted by _____

ALL NOMINATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY AUGUST 1, 2017

PLEASE SUBMIT NOMINATIONS TO:

Cheryl Braswell
820-C Love Avenue
Tifton, GA 31794
Phone: (229) 402-6991
Fax: (229) 386-7325

GReAt Pictures

East Chapter: Nancy Shreve's Retirement Party



For more pictures, click [here](#).

GEORGIA REHABILITATION ASSOCIATION

2017 BOARD MEMBERS, CHAPTER & DIVISION PRESIDENTS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

* Executive Committee

President

* Lauri Tuten

Lauri.tuten@gvs.ga.gov

President Elect

* Cheryl Braswell

Cheryl.braswell@gvs.ga.gov

Past President

* Myndi Kuhlmann

mhoffman@ging.org

Vice President

* Dana Skelton-Sanders

Dana.skelton-sanders@gvs.ga.gov

danapssanders@gmail.com

Vice President Elect

* Jeff Allen

jeff.allen@gvs.ga.gov

Secretary

* Joya LeNoir

Joya.lenoir@gvs.ga.gov

Treasurer

* Pam Eaton

Pamela.eaton@gvs.ga.gov

Treasurer-Elect

* LaDetria King

ladetriaking@yahoo.com

Board Members

Class of 2017

Jennifer Howell

jennifer.howell@gvs.ga.gov

Raj Pagadala

Raj.pagadala@gvs.ga.gov

Angie Rhudy

ARhudy@Unum.com

Dawn Vijoen

cdawn.viljoen@gmail.com

Class of 2018

VACANT

Cecelia Hockett

Cecelia.hockett@gvs.ga.gov

Ruby Kaspers

Ruby.kaspers@gvs.ga.gov

Mike Pryor

mpryor@ging.org

Class of 2019

Janie Fuller

jdpfuller@yahoo.com

Frank Krause

fbkrause4@gmail.com

Catherine Phillips

Catherine.phillips@gvs.ga.gov

Cheryl Meadows Ussery

cheryl@sharecoastalga.comcastbiz.net

Division Presidents

GAMRC

Katavia Sloan

gamrc4u@gmail.com

GARL

Jason Williams

Jason.williams@gvs.ga.gov

ARTS

Patsy Morris

Pgmorris1954@outlook.com

GRCEA

Inger Neal

Inger.neal@gvs.ga.gov

GEORGIA REHABILITATION ASSOCIATION

2017 BOARD MEMBERS, CHAPTER & DIVISION PRESIDENTS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Local Chapter Presidents

East

Kerry Tracey
ktracey@ging.org

Highlands

Ashia Walker
awalker@ging.org

Metro

Margaret Johnson
mjohnson@ging.org

Northeast

Jeff Allen

RWSIR

Cheryl Leidy
Cheryl.leidy@gvs.ga.gov

South

Nicky Lamb
Andera.lamb@gvs.ga.gov

West

Jason Williams

Committee Chairs

Accessibility Ad-hoc

Michell Temple
mtemple@gsu.edu

Administrative Policy

Jennifer Howell
Jennifer.howell@gvs.ga.gov

Archives

Ruby Kaspers

Awards & Scholarships

Shelley Kraft
Shelley.kraft@gvs.ga.gov

Building & Modifications

Paige Tidwell
paige@uga.edu

Certification (CEUs)

Sondra Hudson
Sondra.hudson@gvs.ga.gov

Conference

Dana Skelton-Sanders

Credentials

Katavia Sloan & Sondra Hudson

Education & Advocacy

Jennifer Howell

Finance

Pam Eaton

Finance Review

Patsy Morris

Fundraising

Ashia Walker

Hospitality

Tamika Wright

Marketing/PR

Kathryn Edger
Kathryn.edger@gvs.ga.gov

Membership

Jason Williams

Newsletter

Keita Alston & Ruby Kaspers
Keita.alston@gvs.ga.gov
Ruby.kaspers@gvs.ga.gov

Nominations

Myndi Kuhlmann

GEORGIA REHABILITATION ASSOCIATION

2017 BOARD MEMBERS, CHAPTER & DIVISION PRESIDENTS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Remembrance

LaDetria King

Ex-Officio

(GRA members who hold office within
NRA or SERNRA or any division thereof)

Resolutions

Tom Wilson

Tom.wilson47@gmail.com

NRA

Jennifer Howell

Special Projects

VACANT

GRA Rep to SERNRA

Dana Skelton-Sanders

Strategic Planning

Cheryl Braswell

Southeast Region ARTS Board

Cheryl Braswell

Janie Fuller

Ellen Longino

ellen697@yahoo.com

Training Ad-hoc

Cece Hockett & Mary Ellen Mendiratta

Cecelia.hockett@gvs.ga.gov

Maryellen.mendiratta@gva.ga.gov

Patsy Morris

Website

Keita Alston & Ruby Kaspers

NADBS Board

Paige Tidwell—Southeast Rep.

VEWAA Board

Paige Tidwell

SERCEA

Dana Skelton-Sanders

NAMRC Board Member

Michell Temple

GRA Contact Administrative Assistant

Ellen Longino

2017 GRA CALENDAR

MAR 2017	<p>Mar. 16: Financial Review 10 AM; Executive Board 11 AM; Conference 2 PM</p> <p>Mar. 17: GRA Board Meeting 10 AM-12 PM</p> <p><i>Location: Macon VR Office</i></p>
APR 2017	<p>Apr. 2-4: 2017 Rehabilitation Association Annual Governmental Affairs Summit @ Hilton, Old Town Alexandria VA</p> <p>Apr. 20: Required QUARTERLY FINANCIAL INFORMATION due to Administrative Assistant from all Chapters and Divisions</p>
MAY 2017	<p>May 11: Financial Review 10 AM; Executive Board 11 AM; Conference 2 PM</p> <p>May 12: GRA Board Meeting 10 AM-12 PM</p> <p><i>Location: Macon VR Office</i></p>
JUL 2017	<p>Jul. 13: Financial Review 10 AM; Executive Board 11 AM; Conference 2 PM</p> <p>Jul. 14: GRA Board Meeting 10 AM-12 PM</p> <p><i>Location: Macon VR Office</i></p> <p>Jul. 20: Required QUARTERLY FINANCIAL INFORMATION due to Administrative Assistant from all Chapters and Divisions</p>
SEPT 2017	<p>Sept. 6-8: GRA Annual State Training Conference Callaway Gardens, Pine Mountain</p>
OCT 2017	<p>Oct. 12: Financial Review 10 AM; Executive Board 11 AM; Conference 2 PM</p> <p>Oct. 13: GRA Board Meeting 10 AM-12 PM</p> <p><i>Location: Macon VR Office</i></p> <p>Oct. 17-20: 2017 SERNA Annual Conference, Wilmington, NC</p> <p>Oct. 20: Required QUARTERLY FINANCIAL INFORMATION due to Administrative Assistant from all Chapters and Divisions</p> <p>Oct. 25-28: 2017 NRA Annual Conference, Corpus Christi, TX</p>
DEC 2017	<p>Dec. 7: Financial Review 10 AM; Executive Board 11 AM; Leadership Training 12 PM—5 PM</p> <p>Dec. 8: GRA Board Meeting 10 AM-12 PM</p> <p><i>Location: Callaway Garden, Mountain Creek Inn</i></p>

We'll see y'all at

