Summer Greetings!

We are experiencing the height of daylight in our land of the midnight sun, and I hope you all are embracing summer to its fullest. Many of our board members have just returned from the annual AAPA conference and HOD meeting in Nashville, and we are excited to share all we have learned over the next year.

One of the main topics of focus for me was our state advocacy. I spent many sessions of the conference fine tuning my knowledge of how we can best utilize our voices to modernize PA practice in Alaska. Please take a moment to read in this update how to join the effort whether you have 2 minutes or 2 days to start! And please keep watch for a town hall in June or July to discuss state advocacy in person with your fellow PAs. I am truly looking forward to our efforts this summer and all they will bring in the next legislative session.

Thank you all for continuing to make Alaskan PAs proud.
Happy summer adventures!
Jenny Fayette, AKAPA President

Reminders

Membership
Thank you for maintaining your membership and allowing AKAPA to continue to work for you. Please consider joining our board and/or a committee near and dear to your heart. If you find your life is just too busy these days, please consider donating financially so we can continue our efforts with legislation, CME, and keeping Alaskan PAs relevant. [Alaska Academy of PAs]

Save The Date - AKAPA Annual Conference
Make sure to register early and save the date! We have some exciting speakers joining us this year. It is also always a great opportunity to network with other Alaskan PAs. We look forward to seeing you there!

“All Alaska Medical Conference October 5th-7th, 2023”
State Advocacy

AKAPA Leadership has been busy over the last few months with the introduction of Senate Bill 115 (SB115) and the House of Delegates meetings in Nashville. Thank you to Denise, Chris, and Cherise for representing Alaskan PAs. If you haven’t been following on Facebook, please consider joining our official AKAPA page: Alaska Academy of PAs and the Alaska PA social 907 PA-Cs.

Components of PA Modernization

SB115
Senate Bill 115 addresses two very important aspects of PA Modernization:
✓ Enabling PAs to practice to the full extent of their education, training, and experience.
✓ Establishing PAs as practitioners for direct reimbursement.

Future Issues to watch for movement:
○ PA Licensure Compact
○ PA Title Change

“It can be difficult to speak truth to power. Circumstances, however, have made doing so increasingly necessary.”
~Aberjhani

How To Get Involved

Tell Your “Story”
Arizona, Montana, Iowa, Arkansas, and Colorado all contribute the success in their modernized PA practice to taking time to reach out to legislators and tell their PA’s individual “stories”. We make a difference by sharing Alaskan stories of how the state’s outdated statutes and regulations affect PA practice today, especially in more rural areas. Detailing how PA modernization will increase access to care for your patients helps legislators understand the positive impacts of passing SB115.

Engage - Know Your Representatives

If you have:
1 minute: Engage on social media, “like” your AKAPA and representative’s pages, comment, sign up for updates.
2 minutes: Fill out form letter, add your individual “story” (watch for AKAPA’s email in June).
5 minutes: Call or write a personalized letter to your legislator.
2+ hours: Attend town halls/fundraisers, testify before committee, invite legislators to your office for a site visit.
1-2 days: Organize/attend lobby day, reach out to friends & colleagues.

2022 Jessica Stevens Memorial Scholarship

Congratulations Dv’nn Cooks, PA-S!