Greetings from Sarasota!
The NAB 2013 Mid-Year Meeting was marked by the continued progress of the Professional Practice Analysis (PPA), including the drafting of a white paper that will promote the PPA among all of NAB’s various stakeholders. NAB Chair Randy Snyder (MN) welcomed 91 registrants, including delegates from 31 state Long Term Care Administrator boards and agencies, at the Ritz-Carlton in Sarasota, Florida. Meeting participants also heard presentations by two Florida health care experts on new challenges to quality long term care—unlicensed practice, as well as natural and other large-scale disasters—as well as strategies and programs available to counteract them.

NAB Speakers Outline Responses to Extraordinary LTC Challenges
Timothy Tate, an analyst with the Florida Department of Health’s Investigative Services Unit, gave a gripping presentation on the adverse consequences of unlicensed health services practice activity in the state. He showed how unlicensed doctors, dentists and others posing as qualified medical professionals were responsible for grievous injuries and deaths within their communities. Tate also described the resources available to Floridians to report and combat illegal practices, and how these resources can apply to long term care.

Kathryn Hyer, Ph.D., of the University of South Florida presented the findings of a research study on long term care leaders’ challenges during natural and man-made disasters. She studied the effects of major hurricanes on Gulf Coast state nursing facilities, and concluded that administrators have to make careful decisions as to whether to evacuate their residents in case of an emergency, and ensure that there are adequate resources to provide for them for longer periods of time. Dr. Hyer urged administrators to adopt more proactive approaches to disaster planning, such as resident tracking systems and establishing communications with state and local emergency management.
Draft White Paper Distributed to Meeting Participants

Attendees at the Sarasota meeting were presented a draft of a new NAB white paper describing the significance of the PPA to each of NAB’s stakeholders: practitioners, regulators, educators, employers and others with a vested interest in quality long term care. The paper argues that the PPA will create a basis for competency-based credentials that will keep pace with the dynamic long term care environment. It argues that the PPA is the most recent example of how NAB anticipates and responds to stakeholder needs and, more specifically, contributes to consumer confidence regarding the consistency and quality of long term care services. NAB members were invited to give their feedback on the draft; NAB plans to release the white paper in early 2014.

committee highlights

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE ANALYSIS (PPA)

Task Force Chair Katrina Magdon (AL) reported on the progress of the Practice Analysis. The PPA survey is being sent to more than 10,000 people nationwide, and survey responses will be collected through December. The PPA Steering Committee will next meet in January to finalize their work; the final report will be presented to the NAB Executive Committee in March 2014 and to the Board of Governors for a vote at the June 2014 Annual Meeting. In accordance with the PPA, members of the NHA and RCAL Exam Committees reviewed 1,900 items from both exam banks and found that 87 percent of all these questions were common to both lines of practice, easing the road toward a “super-credential” in long term care administration.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Co-Chair Michael Hickey (WA) reported that the committee had discussed the effects of the PPA on continuing education programs. A task force was assembled to determine how to measure CE course quality.

EDUCATION

An academic accreditation site visitor training manual, developed under the leadership of Mary Helen McSweeney (MD), was presented at the committee meeting and was accepted by the Board of Governors. McSweeney will conduct site visitor training at the 2014 June meeting. Committee Chair Jennifer Johns-Artisensi (WI) announced that several academic institutions are planning to pursue NAB accreditation in 2014.

Education Committee Chair Jennifer Johns-Artisensi and NAB Chair Randy Snyder present certificates of academic accreditation to Jennifer Wagner of Bowling Green State University (above) and Robert Burke of George Washington University. Both schools’ accreditations were approved at the Annual Meeting in Seattle last June.
committee highlights (cont.)

MEMBER RELATIONS OUTREACH
Chair Margaret McConnell (NV) and Vice Chair Tim Chesney (OH) reported that NAB had traveled across the country to help roll out the PPA, and they found that the PPA has strong support among many of NAB’s stakeholders. Their committee had discussed how to get buy-in for the PPA from the NHA, RCAL and HCBS communities, as well as gaining buy-in from national and state associations. They also talked about how to enhance the new attendee experience at NAB meetings.

STATE GOVERNANCE
Chair Lisa Hahn (VA) reported that the committee had discussed a joint project with ACHCA, as well as a new policy on handling exam security concerns. They also talked about getting states that do not currently take part in NCERS to participate in the program, including assisting with any regulatory barriers.

Nominations
NAB is accepting nominations for NAB officer positions: Chair-Elect, Secretary and Treasurer. The committee will present a slate of officers at the March meeting; the slate will be published 60 days in advance of the June meeting. Nominations from the floor must have been presented to the committee 120 days in advance of the June meeting.

Nominations must be submitted in writing via mail, e-mail or fax to Tom Syverson, Chair of the Nominating Committee. It is recommended that nominations be submitted by no later than December 31, 2013:

Tom Syverson, NAB Nominations Chair
Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society
4800 W. 57th Street
PO Box 5038
Sioux Falls, SD 57117
Email: Tsyvers1@gmail.com
Telephone: 605-362-5517 / Fax: 605-362-3897

Click here for nominations information and criteria.

Next NAB Meeting
We invite you to join us at our 2014 Annual Meeting, June 4-6 in Louisville, Kentucky. Details will be emailed and posted on www.nabweb.org this winter.

Please mark your calendar and plan to attend!