



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contact: Judy Lyle
Executive Director
Association of Occupational Health Professionals
in Healthcare (AOHP)
109 VIP Drive, Suite 220
Wexford, PA 15090
j.lyle@kamo-ms.com
800-362-4347

AOHP Elects Key Leaders to Executive Board Positions

September 18, 2013 – The Association of Occupational Health Professionals in Healthcare (AOHP) is pleased to announce the election of key leaders to its Executive Board of Directors. In addition to the re-election of Executive President Dee Tyler, RN COHN-S FAAOHN, other newly elected officers, whose terms begin September 13, 2013, include Executive Secretary Deb Rivera, MSN MBA RN COHN, Region 2 Director Debi Quirarte, RN COHN, and Region 4 Director Bobbi Jo Hurst, BSN RN COHN-S SGE.

Dee Tyler, RN COHN-S FAAOHN, has been re-elected to serve a second two-year term as Executive President of the AOHP Board of Directors. Prior to her first election to this position in 2011, Tyler also served two terms as Executive Treasurer and two terms as Executive Secretary, in addition to Web Coordinator, 2007 National Conference Chair and Michigan Chapter President. Her goals during this term in office are to fully implement the 2013-2015 AOHP Strategic Plan, which includes maintaining the fiscal and operational strength of the organization, and to broaden the scope of member engagement in AOHP, with continued emphasis on advancing member leadership in occupational health on local, regional and national levels. She is also committed to AOHP's support of research and use of technology to interact with members.

"I have a passion for AOHP and the occupational health profession," says Tyler. "Professional membership is an effective way to promote and support occupational health in healthcare, and I am honored to be a leader of AOHP as the organization is becoming recognized as the authority in our industry."

Deb Rivera, MSN MBA RN COHN, brings 14 years of experience in occupational health, as well as a background in management and accounting, to her position as AOHP Executive Secretary. She also has both national and chapter-level leadership experience with AOHP.

"AOHP has proven to be a great asset in my day-to-day practice and management," explains Rivera. "I appreciate this opportunity to give back to the organization and membership, primarily in the areas of: promoting research in support of evidenced-based practice for occupational health nursing; developing benchmarks to compare important occupational health related metrics; increasing membership; and supporting networking and sharing of information to further our specialty and support our membership."

Debi Quirarte, RN COHN, Region 2 Director, previously served as President for the AOHP Heart of America - Kansas City Chapter, as well as both Chapter Vice President and Chapter Secretary. She was also an active member of the AOHP National Conference Committee for several years.

"I have thoroughly enjoyed serving in leadership positions with AOHP at the Chapter level," Quirarte comments. "I look forward to becoming more involved with the organization regionally and nationally as I continue to support AOHP's success at the community level."

Region 4 Director Bobbi Jo Hurst, BSN RN COHN-S SGE, previously served as the AOHP PA Central Chapter President and Vice President. A 2014 MBA candidate, Hurst is a Special Government Employee for the Voluntary Protection Programs (VPP,) designed by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration to promote effective worksite-based safety and health.

"My primary goal as Region 4 Director will be to share knowledge and promote collaboration to strengthen each facility's Employee Health Department, encouraging department staff to improve the practice of Employee Health by becoming change agents and leaders during this time of great evolution in healthcare," explains Hurst.

Other Executive Board Members serving are: Executive Vice President Dana Jennings Tucker, BSN RN CCM; Executive Treasurer Elaine Dawson, RN COHN; Executive Editor Kimberly Stanchfield, RN COHN-S; Region 1 Director Beverly Hagar, BSN RN COHN-S; Region 3 Director Mary Bliss, RN COHN; Region 5 Director Carla Stevens, RN; President Emeritus Sandra Domeracki, RN FNP COHN-S; and Association Community Liaison MaryAnn Gruden, MSN CRNP NP-C COHN-S/CM.

AOHP is a national association representing thousands of healthcare workers whose vision is to be the defining resource and leading advocate for occupational health and safety in healthcare. It is led by an experienced and dedicated group of occupational health professionals representing occupational health nurses across the nation and beyond.

AOHP promotes health, safety and well-being for healthcare workers through: advocating for employee health and safety; occupational health education and networking opportunities; health and safety advancement through best practice and research; and partnering with employers, regulatory agencies and related associations. For more information about AOHP, contact Judy Lyle, AOHP Executive Director, at 800-362-4347, or e-mail info@aohp.org.

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