



ASSOCIATION  
OF OCCUPATIONAL  
HEALTH PROFESSIONALS  
IN HEALTHCARE

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## **AOHP Elects Key Leaders to Executive Board Positions**

WARRENDALE, PA – The Association of Occupational Health Professionals in Healthcare (AOHP) is pleased to share the results of its recent election of key leaders to the AOHP Executive Board of Directors. The winners were announced at AOHP’s first ever virtual annual meeting (held online due to the pandemic) on October 29, 2020.

Board members re-elected to a second term include Executive Vice President Stacy L. Smirl, MSM, BSN, RN, COEE, COHN-S and Region 3 Director Sarah (Sally) M. Parris, RN, MSN, COHN. Newly-elected officers are: Executive Treasurer Denise Knoblauch, MSN, RN, COHN-S/CM, FAAOHN; Region 1 Director Nancy J. Verhaar, RN, COHN-S; and Region 5 Director Mary Giovannetti, DNP, APRN, BC-FNP. All terms run two years and end in September 2022.

Stacy Smirl has served as both a chapter and national leader for AOHP for more than a decade and assumed the position of Executive Vice President in September 2019. “As occupational health experts, we have the motivation and ability to achieve more to protect the health, safety, and well-being of healthcare workers,” Smirl explains. “As preventive health and safety approaches evolve to address COVID-19, one priority goal for the Executive Board is to advance our support of foundational prevention efforts like adult immunizations and entry into state/national documentation platforms, as well as latent tuberculosis infection treatment recommendations and initiatives.”

Executive Treasurer Denise Knoblauch has 29 years of experience in occupational health and has been a longstanding leader of AOHP. Knoblauch’s goals include: finding innovative opportunities for member networking; promoting research and evidence-based practice for AOHP members; maintaining financial viability of the organization while focusing on increasing membership and identifying alternative income sources; and facilitating solutions for both members and the association related to issues affecting healthcare.

AOHP’s five Region Directors are tasked to provide support and promote sustainability locally at the chapter level, which helps to advance the visibility of AOHP regionally and nationally. These directors will assist each chapter leader, provide networking opportunities, research best practices, share critical practice information, and promote continuing education efforts on behalf of their respective regions.

Region 1 Director Nancy Verhaar has served as a leader at both the chapter and regional levels, and as AOHP’s National Conference Chair. She aspires to serve as a liaison between the Executive Board and the chapters in her region to ensure member needs are being addressed at the national level. Re-elected Region 3 Director Sally Parris has been active in AOHP leadership and the field of occupational health for 16 years. Her goals include encouraging member engagement in AOHP and promoting educational opportunities. Mary Giovannetti, who formerly served as President of the South Carolina Chapter, prioritizes education, networking to share best practices, and increasing membership as her key goals.

Other AOHP Board members, whose terms run through September 2021, are: Executive President Lydia F. Crutchfield, MA, BSN, RN, CLC; Executive Secretary Audrey Sadler, MSN, CEAS, FNP-BC, COHN-S; Region 2

Director Cory Worden, PhD ABD, MS, CSHM, CSP, CHSP, ARM, REM, CESCO; Region 4 Director Alfred J. Carbuto, MS, RN, FNP-BC, COHN-S; Executive Editor Kimberly Stanchfield, RN, COHN-S; and Community Liaison Bobbi Jo Hurst, MBA, BSN, RN, COHN-S, SGE.

AOHP is a national association representing thousands of healthcare workers whose vision is to be internationally recognized as the leading resource provider for occupational health professionals in healthcare. Led by an experienced and dedicated group of occupational health professionals, AOHP promotes health, safety, and well-being for healthcare personnel 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, contact AOHP Headquarters at 800-362-4347, or e-mail [info@aohp.org](mailto:info@aohp.org).

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