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5-21-2016

2016-05-21 PCA Letter to ACA Members

Pennsylvania Counseling Association

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LETTER TO ACA MEMBERS

Dear ACA Member:

Greetings from the Pennsylvania Counseling Association! PCA would like to offer our sincerest thanks to you for all the work that you do and the contributions you make to the state of Pennsylvania as a counselor. We're happy you're one of us!

The purpose of this message – which is being sent to all Pennsylvania-based ACA members – is to spread the word about advocacy efforts for licensed professional counselors in our state and to request your membership.

One of the biggest pieces of news that should be of interest to LPCs in Pennsylvania is our recent contract with a law firm to obtain lobbying services. In short, we needed this bad. Psychologists, social workers, and marriage and family therapists have all had representation for years, and LPCs cannot be the odd man out any longer.

What a lobbyist will do for the profession of counseling in PA is tremendous to say the least. They can:

- keep us informed of legislative changes that impact licensure laws, job opportunities, and rates of pay
- help us to push legislation to ensure counselors have jobs in the years to come
- help us to develop a practice act – “counselor” could become a protected term the same as psychologist

To make this happen, we need more members! Professional lobbying isn't cheap, but we need it if we're going to remain standing in the years to come. PCA has made some impressive strides in this area, but we keep going back to one basic fact: we need more dues paying members to fund this initiative.

This email is being sent to leaders at all of the counselor training programs in Pennsylvania, and a postcard mailer is being sent out to LPCs throughout the state. Our goal is both to raise awareness of PCA's ongoing efforts and to increase our ranks.

What we're asking from you is simple: spread the word that advocacy efforts and professional lobbying are necessary and intended to help. Rejoin if your membership is about to expire. Talk to your colleagues about PCA's goal, particularly those that identify as professional counselors, and urge them to join or rejoin as well. Tell people about PCA. Post the PCA website on every social media platform available, and get the word out that counselors need representation!

All the best to you and yours,

Charles Jacob, Ph.D.
President of the Pennsylvania Counseling Association

Visit: <http://www.pacounseling.org/>

Join: <http://www.pacounseling.org/aws/PACA/pt/sp/membership>

LETTER TO COUNSELING STUDENTS

Dear Counselor-in-Training:

Greetings from the Pennsylvania Counseling Association! PCA would like to offer our sincerest congratulations to you for deciding to further your education. You've chosen to enter a profession that is both incredibly necessary and rewarding, and we're happy you're one of us!

The purpose of this message – which is being distributed to as many counseling students in the state as possible – is to spread the word about advocacy efforts for licensed professional counselors in Pennsylvania and to request your membership.

One of the biggest pieces of news that should be of interest to anyone hoping to become licensed in Pennsylvania is our recent contract with a law firm to obtain lobbying services. In short, counselors needed this bad. Psychologists, social workers, and marriage and family therapists have all had representation for years, and LPCs cannot be the odd man out any longer.

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Student membership is incredibly cheap (only \$49 per year), and can be listed as an affiliation on your curriculum vitae. Our goal is both to raise awareness of PCA's ongoing efforts and to increase our ranks.

What we're asking from you is simple: join PCA, and spread the word that advocacy efforts and professional lobbying are necessary and intended to help. Talk to your fellow students about PCA's goal, particularly those that plan on practicing in Pennsylvania, and urge them to join as well. Tell people about PCA. Post the PCA website on every social media platform available, and get the word out that counselors need representation!

All the best to you and yours,

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