



APRIL 2024

Save the Date: Upcoming Chapter Events

Chapter Treasurers' Call – April 16 @ 2 pm ET

Chapter Leader Call – April 18 @ 2 pm ET

Chapter Legislative Representative Call - April 29 @ 11 am ET

[View the comprehensive 2024 chapter meeting, event, and communications schedule »](#)

Leadership Highlights

[Renew your chapter with spring cleaning](#)

Get excited...Spring is here! In nature, Spring is a time of renewal and creates fertile ground for new beginnings. The newness and energy of the season often compels us to replicate it in our lives and homes through spring cleaning. Our organizations and chapters can also be invigorated when we spend time dusting off, or in some cases, eliminating the old. This process allows us to either restore what has lost its luster or make room for the new.

As we enter this change of seasons, this is a great time for your chapter's leadership to review and clean up your operations, including programs, processes, or policies. As with spring cleaning our lives and homes, applying this practice to our chapters can yield a healthier, more organized, and efficient organization.

[Click here for a few steps your leadership can take to 'clean up' your chapter this Spring.](#)

[Join the April 2024 Chapter Leadership Call](#)

Join us for the **April 2024 Chapter Leader Call on April 18 @ 2p ET** to hear from APIC's Strategic and Corporate Partnership team about how to establish and maintain productive chapter and corporate relationships aimed at supporting necessary chapter

activities. The partnership staff will also briefly introduce members of APIC's Strategic Partner Plus Program and how they can support your chapters.

Not registered yet. [Register here](#). Upon registering, you'll receive a confirmation email with more details and information on how to join.

Membership Highlights

Chapter Tip of the Month

22% fewer chapters identified a lack of volunteers/limited volunteer pools as their greatest challenge in 2023. To continue expanding your local volunteer pools and eliminate this as a barrier to advancing the work of your chapters, create varied volunteer opportunities based on the chapter's needs **AND** the needs of volunteer members.

What your chapter's website says about you

Believe it or not, your chapter's website matters! Your website serves as your virtual residence and provides visitors direct insight into what and who your chapter is. Because of the significant role your website plays in introducing and maintaining your chapter's relationship with the public, you need to make sure the impression it makes is a good one.

A good and effective website is one that is user-friendly, easy to navigate, and can be accessed from anywhere. Like our physical residences, your virtual home is welcoming and encourages people to spend (more) time there when it is well-kept – inviting, clean, and up to date.

To ensure your website is welcoming, effectively communicates who you are, and provides value to your visitors, follow the steps below:

- Use visually stimulating imagery that reflects who your chapter is, what you do, and who you serve. Many federal and local government websites provide free images that can help ensure you find images that directly represent your chapter and protect against copyright infringement violations.
- Provide relevant content. Users typically won't read text word-by-word, therefore the most important information should be at the top of or within the first two paragraphs of the webpage.
- Make sure all information is relevant to your audience, current, and up to date. This includes events and links to internal or external tools and resources.
- Offer easy to read content that is simple and clear. Make sentences easy to scan by using brevity, using common words, and avoiding abbreviations.
- Provide multiple points of contact including the easy-to-use contact us form, which will allow visitors to send an email through your webpage to a specified email address. Aim to follow up on emails received within 48 hours or less.

Featured Chapter of the Month

APIC Badger Chapter 075 introduces MPHs to the world of Infection Prevention

Submitted by:

Katelyn Harms, MPH, CIC

The APIC Badger Chapter in Wisconsin recognized increasing job postings, retirements and general attrition within their local infection prevention programs. Ultimately, a lack of qualified Infection Prevention (IP) candidates can lead to increased risk to patient safety and healthcare associated infections. The chapter chose to address this issue by exploring a new pool of qualified candidates— Masters of Public Health graduates. By strategically partnering with a local Masters of Public Health program, the chapter introduced students to the field of Infection Prevention and offered scholarships to attend an IP State Conference.

Many of these students had not previously heard of IP, so it was a helpful connection with an untapped resource. Four MPH students were offered scholarships to the Wisconsin IP State conference and feedback from their attendance was very positive. Ultimately, two participants became locally employed Infection Preventionists.

The Badger Chapter aims to continue the success of this program by maintaining connections with the MPH program and through ongoing recruitment of qualified IP candidates.

In October 2023, AJIC published an article on the chapter's work titled "Making a difference: APIC chapters introducing public health graduate students to the infection prevention profession". All four (4) of the authors of this paper are MPH graduates with successful careers in the field of Infection Prevention and a passion for promoting IP career pathways.

The Badger Chapter encourages others to connect with MPH programs to discover qualified IP candidates with skillsets that mirror IP competencies. [Read more about their work to elevate and expand the IP workforce here.](#)

[Submit your chapter story here](#)

APIC Happenings to Share

Apply for APIC and CBIC Board Positions by May 1

Applications for the 2025 APIC and CBIC Boards of Directors and the APIC Nominating & Awards Committee close Wednesday, May 1, 2024. Share and visit the [Leadership Development page](#) for details on available positions, updated candidate handbooks, and how to apply. For more information, contact ctiegle@apic.org.

New webinar available for APIC members

April 24, 2024—1 pm ET, There's No Place Like Home Health Surveillance

Speaker: Laken Chaney MHA, BS, RRT-ACCS, CIC

Does your chapter have members working or interested in Home Health? Encourage them to check out the upcoming webinar on Home Health Surveillance.

This session will explore the regulatory requirements set for HH and HSPC to perform HAI surveillance and the definitions available for the HH/HSPC infection prevention (IP). The speaker will discuss implementation of a HH/HSPC surveillance program for central line associated blood stream infections and share steps taken, tools utilized, and lessons learned. Nuances to consider when creating a robust program, including the use of electronic medical record, partnering with acute care facility IPs, and reporting of data will also be presented.

[Register Today!](#)

Share the gift of APIC Education

The APIC Education Team has curated an exciting lineup of training for 2024! We are pleased to offer the [EPI Intensive](#), perfect

for the novice Infection Preventionist or anyone looking for a refresher. Additionally, we've introduced the [new LTC-IP](#) for individuals ready to elevate their skills to the next level. With something for everyone, we invite you to explore all our offerings. Check us out and seize the opportunity for professional growth!

Sponsored Ads

PDI: Your Partners in Prevention

PDI's team of clinical professionals empowers healthcare professionals to optimize patient care with knowledge in surface disinfection, hand hygiene, interventional care, and epidemiology, and IP practices. With almost 100 years of combined experience, the Clinical team can deliver research, education, training, and professional development. [Learn more.](#)



Get Insights on Quality Assurance on Olympus' Global Infection Prevention Website

Sampling and culturing is key to monitor endoscope reprocessing. Learn about indicator microorganisms, engage in our interactive e-learning, and access relevant publications and infographics. [Upgrade your skills here.](#)

3M's Proactive Approach to PIVCs

One study found peripheral intravenous catheters (PIVCs) accounted for 41% of catheter-related bloodstream infections (CRBSIs). Consider a bundled, best practice approach to help reduce the risk of complications. [Download a resource guide pulled from over 30 articles to give your team more evidenced-based PIVC education and information.](#)





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