



MARCH 2024

Save the Date: Upcoming Chapter Events

March 2024 Chapter Leader Call on LTC – March 14 @ 2 pm ET

Chapter Presidents' Call – March 21 @ 2 pm ET

Chapter Legislative Representative Call - March 25 @ 11 am ET

Chapter Membership Chair Call - March 26 @ 2 pm ET

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

Member Engagement Committee (MEC) Quarterly Update

The newly renamed Member Engagement Committee has spent the first two months of the year the orienting its newest members to the committee and its work, while also working on several ongoing membership (and chapter-related) projects and initiatives, including the annual review of the Chapter Excellence and Chapter Leader Award submissions.

In the months to come, the committee is also looking forward to its continued work on several key chapter initiatives, including:

- **Chapter Speaker Database:** The MEC will review and relaunch the tool developed to serve as a speaker repository for local chapters. The revised system will require chapter input and be used to capture and share local speaker recommendations as a resource for chapters planning educational meetings or conferences.
- **2024 Chapter Leader Day:** This annual event will take place in San Antonio, TX at Annual Conference on Sunday, June 2. The MEC will collaborate with APIC staff to create an engaging program that facilitates networking, learning, and brainstorming that will help develop new skills and inspire ideas and action to take your chapter to the next level.
- **Chapter Mentoring Program:** The MEC will evaluate the Chapter Mentoring Pilot Program launched in 2023. The pilot provided participating chapters a framework and resources for small groups and peer-to-peer mentoring programs. Upon completing their assessment, the committee will revise the program as needed, and relaunch the updated version to the broader chapter network.

Additionally, the MEC members are excited to connect with and support you directly. Each member serves as a liaison to an assigned chapter region and its leaders. Your chapter's liaison can be an additional resource for you, sharing their own experiences and helping you navigate your chapter leadership pathway. Have questions or need ideas on increasing

volunteerism, improving member engagement, or handling internal chapter conflict? [Download this year's MEC Liaison Listing](#) and reach out to your liaison today!

Leadership Highlights

Power up your chapter activities with data from the 2023 Annual Chapter Survey

The February Chapter Leadership Call reviewed a subset of data points from the 2023 Chapter Survey and Needs Assessment most closely tied to chapter performance in the past year and the year to come. Participating leaders received highlights around the current position of APIC chapters, including challenges, opportunities, focused leadership training plans, and ways to leverage them for success in 2024.

Were you unable to join in? [Listen to the archived recording now](#). Passcode: H!m!0vxX. Also, [download the PPT presentation deck](#) so you can review and pull information and activities to incorporate into your chapter's plans for 2024.

Have questions about any of the data or suggestions for additional information or support you or your fellow leaders need? Email chapters@apic.org.

Check out The 5 Second Rule's Journey to Chapter Excellence: A Tale of Two Stories

Is your chapter leadership in need of a dose of chapter inspiration? Episode #53 of the 5 Second Rule highlights the successes of the APIC Midnight Sun and APIC Greater New York Chapters in building strong, effective, and resilient local chapters. Both have discovered and honed various strategies and techniques to strengthen the chapter-membership connection needed to achieve ongoing chapter success.

[Listen to Journey to Chapter Excellence: A Tale of Two Stories and learn more.](#)

Chapters meeting the needs in Long-term Care (LTC) - come join the discussion!

Long-term Care facilities, their patients, and the infection preventionists (IPs) that serve them have unique challenges and needs around keeping facilities safe through infection prevention. Effective IPC programs are critical to the efforts in these facilities to prevent the spread of infection to their vulnerable residents and throughout these populations.

On the 2023 Chapter Survey and Needs Assessment, we learned that 85% of chapters address the needs in the LTC space in some way or another. This month, we'll delve into the needs of those in LTC and specifically how APIC chapters have and can continue to support IPs in this space. If you haven't already, [register for the March 2024 BONUS Chapter Leader Call](#) today to be part of the conversation!

Membership Highlights

Chapter Tip of the Month

53% of chapters saw an increase in member participation in 2023. To continue this positive engagement trajectory, chapters should continue to offer face-to-face and virtual meeting/connection opportunities, as well as ways to maximize participant engagement in both.

Strategic Partner Program

Whether your chapter needs educational programming, mentorship, or vendor sponsorship, APIC Strategic Partners are here to help. [Download the list of 2024 Strategic Partners](#) and learn more about the resources they can offer your chapter and how you can connect with them.

Featured Chapter of the Month

What a difference organization makes!

Written by:

Tiffany Martens, BSN, BA, RN, CIC

Chapter President-elect

APIC Mile High Chapter 022

Our chapter has struggled to become organized. The running joke was that we were operating like it is 2003! Our communications consisted of long email and/or text chains, attachments would get lost (or blocked by firewalls), and information was exceptionally hard to track, easily slipping through the cracks. We were unable to streamline our calendar invitations and distribution process, including the ability to auto-populate the recipients with email groups. Instead, it was a cumbersome process of saving and resending an email with the provided link to access the meeting. Often the link was old or not functioning, and people struggled to access the meetings. Our Zoom even got hacked! Do these issues sound familiar?

The challenge of having board members across a large geographic area combined with working in different health care systems with various firewalls and operating platforms made it nearly impossible to have an efficiently functioning board. We needed better systems and organization!

The first iteration of our organization operation began with the creation of a personal Gmail account for chapter emails and documents, operated by the Secretary. The board attempted to share the password for this account, but when one would try to login, the platform would request approval by the primary account holder who often was unable to accommodate the request. This was a good first attempt to having a place to house some documents. However, all the above problems remained.

Want to know what we did next? [Click here to read more.](#)

[Submit chapter story](#)

APIC Happenings to Share

Education opportunities for chapters and their members

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!

CBIC Updates for Chapters

Are you getting ready to pursue a CBIC certification? We want you to be as prepared as possible to ensure a smooth experience on your big day. Make sure to take the time to review and familiarize yourself with the [Candidate Handbook](#). A [recorded overview of CBIC's Candidate Handbook](#) is now available. Additional exam prep resources can be found on the [CBIC website](#).

To request representation from CBIC at a future APIC chapter meeting, please fill out the following survey: <https://forms.office.com/r/6F0n7CsnAU>

If you have questions about CBIC's certifications, please contact us at info@cbic.org. It is always a pleasure to connect with APIC chapters and to learn how CBIC can better assist current and prospective certificants.

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