Overview

There were many things done in 2012 - 2013 to help improve the value of the Renal Dietitians Practice Group membership. Some of these things were visible, such as the zip-up fleeces the Executive Committee wore at FNCE 2012 to market RPG, or the inclusion of a patient education handout in every Renal Nutrition Forum. Some things were not as obvious, such as significantly investing in our website, increasing the number of positions on our Executive Committee (EC), or creating processes so everything produced by RPG is peer-reviewed and credible. Additionally, RPG renewed our commitment to registered dietitians or registered dietitian nutritionists in nephrology care by updating our mission, our five year strategic plan, and our guiding principles. RPG is committed to providing the resources our members need to succeed in the current nephrology environment.

RPG Strategic Plan

Mission: Empowering members to be the nation’s leaders in nephrology nutrition

Vision: RPG members are a valued source of expertise in nephrology nutrition.

Goals:
1. To be a premiere source of nephrology nutrition
   a. Provide relevant clinical resources, valued initiatives and programs to engage a diverse membership
   b. Enhance and promote the development of innovative resources for membership
   c. Support members in professional development endeavors and career ladder progression
2. Adapt and respond to current and future societal trends impacting the nephrology community
   a. Embrace new technologies for communication and education
   b. Provide resources to encompass changing societal demographics and improve our membership’s cultural and behavior change competencies
3. Promote advocacy of nephrology nutrition issues
   a. Advocate for nephrology nutrition in legislative, regulatory, and reimbursement issues
   b. Support research and resources impacting nephrology nutrition
   c. Develop relationships with organizations to maximize collaborations on nephrology related concerns
   d. Inform and engage our membership on public policy issues impacting nephrology

Membership:
- RPG membership remains stable with 2363 members
- Members received a calculator with the RPG logo, as a member incentive, if they renewed within 45 days of June 1, 2012.

Leadership:
- A leadership module benefit was offered to all RPG Executive Committee (EC) members. All RPG EC members were strongly recommended to take the NEW Academy leadership modules on www.eatright.org and were reimbursed if they received at least a score of 80%.

Professional Development & Resources

Publications
- Membership includes subscription to the Renal Nutrition Forum (RNF), a quarterly peer-reviewed publication.
- RPG, as part of the Academy, is an accredited provider of CPEUs by the Commission on Dietetic Registration. In 2012-2013, members received 10.5 free professional development and continuing professional education units (CPEU) through the RNF.

Electronic Communications
- Members receive regular e-blasts to help keep them up-to-date on current events impacting nephrology nutrition.

Web-site: www.renalnutrition.org
- Along with RPG’s efforts to remain current and up-to-date, RPG provides an in-depth

www.RenalNutrition.org
website, www.renalnutrition.org. The website offers a detailed calendar of events and information regarding nephrology nutrition and related issues.

- RPG’s website is the portal for our members to access the complimentary CPEUs offered, CPEU online tracking, archived issues of RNF, access to the Professional Resource Center, webinars, patient education handouts, scholarship & stipend applications, and much, much more!

**Webinars- New in 2013! (Recorded)**

- In 2012-2013, RPG updated and revamped the webinars used to study for the CSR exam.
- Each new webinar offers 1 hr CPEU and provides a case study to help apply the clinical and practice principles provided in the webinar. The topics presented & recorded in 2013 include:
  - In-center Hemodialysis
  - MNT and Transplantation
  - Nutrition Support in Acute Kidney Injury Patients requiring Continuous Renal Replacement Therapy (CRRT)
  - PD and Home Therapies

**Professional Resource Center (PRC)**

RPG made significant resource investments in the PRC in 2012 – 2013. These new resources include:

- A Clinical Guide to Nutrition Care in Kidney Disease, 2ed
- ADA Pocket Guide to Lipid Disorders, Hypertension, Diabetes, and Weight Management (Updated 2012)
- CD-Rom Chronic Kidney Disease & MNT
- Inspiring and Supporting Behavior Change: A Food and Nutrition Professional’s Counseling Guide
- ADA Quick Guide to Drug-Supplement Interactions
- Cooking for David: A Culinary Dialysis Cookbook, Colman, Sara
- Nutrition Therapy for Chronic Kidney Disease, Thomas, Lynn K.
- Nutrition and Diagnosis-Related Care, Sylvia Escott-Stump MA RD LDN
- Sodium Girl's Limitless Low-Sodium Cookbook, Foung, Jessica Goldman
- The Kidney Friendly Diet Cookbook: Recipes For A PreDialysis Kidney Disease Lifestyle, Mathea Ford
- Renal Nutrition for the Dietitian. Hull, Allison
- Kidney Failure: Eat Right to Feel Right on Hemodialysis, Human Services, U.S. Department of Health and Condition
- My Physician Guide to Kidney Stones, Sital, Linda
- ABC of Kidney Disease (ABC Series), Goldsmith, David
- Patient Education Handouts- New!
  RPG now includes a patient education handout in every issue of RNF. The handouts are written at a 6th grade reading level, are peer reviewed, and available in English and Spanish versions on the website. The new handouts offered in 2012-2013 include:
  - Digestion
  - A Low Purine Diet: Relief from Kidney Stones and Gout
  - Achieving a Healthy Weight Goal

**FNCE 2012 Philadelphia, PA October 6 – 9, 2012 Spotlight Education Session**

- Is Phosphorus the New Transfat? Implications of Food Additives presented by Dr. Jeoffrey Block, MD and Janeen León, MS, RD, LD

**Networking**

- RPG partnered with Dietetics in Health Care Communities (DHCC) for a combined Members’ Reception Cruise aboard the Spirit of Philadelphia

www.RenalNutrition.org
Student Stipends:
• Six students were awarded $100 stipends on behalf of RPG

Awards
RPG offers educational scholarships, research grants for the advancement of education, travel stipends for attending professional conferences, and an Outstanding Service Award for a practitioner making a significant difference and positive impact in nephrology nutrition.

Outstanding Service Award 2013 Awardee – Lesley McPhatter, MS, RD, CSR
• Awarded for her extensive publications, presentations, and other contributions to RPG and nephrology nutrition.
• Offered all-expenses-paid trip to the 2013 Food & Nutrition Conference & Expo (FNCE) in Houston, TX

Conference/Meeting Stipends: $2,000 was awarded in total to five members for continuing education opportunities or conference expenses.

Scholarship and/or Research Grant
• Amy N Booi RD LDN CNSC was awarded $1,500
• Desiree de Waal was awarded $500

Public Policy
• Provided comments on legislation related to nutrition nephrology issues

Joint Projects
National Kidney Foundation/Council of Renal Nutrition (CRN)
• The 2nd revision of the A Clinical Guide to Nutrition Care in Kidney Diseases was completed and released in 2013.
  o Co-editors, authors, and reviewers were RPG members
• Proposal was accepted to revise and update the 2009 SOP/SOPP for Registered Dietitians in Nephrology Care with anticipated publication in September 2014

Quality Diabetes Care and Education (DCE) Practice Group
• A joint project is underway between CDE and RPG to help create a CKD / DM Healthy Food Choices Guide. This is part of an effort to collaborate on projects for the growing population of patients faced with both Diabetes Mellitus and Chronic Kidney Disease.

American Kidney Fund (AKF)
• RPG member appointed to help assist in the creation of a program to educate and promote use of Medicare’s CKD reimbursement benefits with anticipated publication in 2013.

American Association of Kidney Patients (AAKP)
• RPG provided reviewers for an AAKP Kidney Friendly Cookbook that was published in 2012. Collaboration continues between the two organizations.

Meetings with RPG Representation
• RPG Executive Committee Transition Meeting
• The Academy’s House of Delegates

RPG Donations/Support
• The Academy’s Research Toolkit
• The Academy’s MNT Electronic Newsletters
• The Academy’s Foundation

Industry Sponsors
We thank the following sponsors for their support of RPG’s RNF and/or RPG’s website www.renalnutrition.org:
• Abbott Nutrition
• Fresenius
• VitaFlo
• Nutricia

Financial Outcomes
Revenue: $136,108
Expenses: $137,579

www.RenalNutrition.org
2012 - 2013 Executive Committee

**Chair**
Sarah Kruger, MS, RD, CSR

**Immediate Past Chair**
Rachael R. Majorowicz, RD, LD

**Chair-Elect**
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**Secretary**
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Amy Braglia Tarpey, MS, RD, CSR, CNSC

**RNF Co-Editors**
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Jackie Abels, MA, RD, LD

**RNF Advertising Editor**
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Elizabeth Neumann, RD, LD

**Nominating Committee Members**
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Valarie Hannahs, MS, RD, LD

**Membership Outreach Chair**
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**Awards & Scholarships**
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**Professional Resource Center Coordinator**
Nadiya Lakhani, RD, LD

**Public Policy Chair**
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**Reimbursement Chair**
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**Projects Chair**
Meg McCartney, RD, LDN

**Website Reviewer**
Erin Nelson, MPH, RD, LD

**Handouts Chair**
Rita Milam, MA, RD, CSR, CDE, LD

**Kidney Friendly Food Shelf**
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**iPad Subcommittee Chair**
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**Academy Manager, DPG Relations**
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