

# Renal Dietitians Practice Group Annual Report 2016-2017

## **Renal Dietitians**

a dietetic practice group of the  
**eat right.** Academy of Nutrition  
and Dietetics



## 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.

### Strategic Plan 2016-2019

#### Goals:

1. The public trusts and chooses RPG members as the food and nephrology.
  - a. RPG has a strong public presence on a global, national and local level as the premier source of nephrology nutrition.
  - b. RPG drives initiatives and influences stakeholders in the nephrology community.
2. RPG members optimize the health of individuals and populations served.
  - a. RPG promotes advocacy of nephrology nutrition issues on a global, national and local level.
  - b. RPG supports research and resources impacting nephrology nutrition.
  - c. RPG develops relationships with organizations to maximize collaborations on nephrology-related concerns.
  - d. RPG supports evidence-based nutrition guidelines for nutrition practice and education.
3. Members and prospective members view RPG as vital to professional success.
  - a. RPG provides relevant clinical resources, valued initiatives and programs.
  - b. RPG supports members' professional growth and development.
  - c. RPG embraces new technologies for communication and education.
  - d. RPG actively promotes the opportunities in the nephrology nutrition field.
4. RPG's Executive Committee manages the practice group resources to carry out its mission, vision and program of work.
  - a. Evaluate current practice to enhance member satisfaction while maintaining or reducing costs.
  - b. Encourage and mentor a balanced and professional leadership and volunteer pool within RPG and the Academy.

- c. Ensure that RPG has the financial resources to implement plans and programs to align with its mission, vision and program of work.
- d. Review and update Guiding Principles and structure.

### Membership

RPG had 2232 members at the end of the fiscal year according to our Member Services Committee. Our membership breakdown was:

- Active Members - 2050
- International Members - 31
- Life Members - 4
- Retired Members - 85
- Staff Members - 6
- Student Members - 56

The Executive Committee voted this year to include a discounted student membership of \$15 dues to take effect for the 2017-2018 fiscal year. RPG donated a VISA gift card to the FNCE® Silent Auction. Existing RPG Members that visited the FNCE® DPG/MIG showcase were entered into a drawing to win a FitBit Alta Activity Tracker. In addition, anyone that visited the booth during FNCE® and joined RPG at the event, were also entered into a separate drawing to win a FitBit Alta Activity Tracker. RPG also had a drawing for (3) members to attend the Academy Foundation's Gala held during FNCE®. Member Services continues to promote communication through e-blasts, surveys, welcoming new members and assisting with questions and concerns that arise among membership.

### DPG Representation in Academy House of Delegates

Our DPG Delegate participated in the required HOD meetings and received training on the Appreciative Inquiry process. Activities and information gathering also occurred with respect to the mega-issue topic of Wellness and Prevention.

### Public Policy and MNT/Reimbursement:

For the 2016-2017 year the RPG Policy and Advocacy Leader has been working with the Academy's Senior Director, Government &

Regulatory Affairs to investigate RDNs diet order writing privileges with CMS in the dialysis setting.

RPG was represented at the 2016 Public Policy Workshop. Forum articles have been developed on Policy Measures to help increase member awareness.

RPG showed further support of public policy issues by supporting ANDPAC with a financial donation.

RPG appreciates the collaborative efforts of Lois Hill and Donna Gjesvold in keeping our members abreast of policy and reimbursement issues and the survey they jointly created for our membership.

### **Awards & Scholarships**

RPG offers educational scholarships, research grants and travel stipends for the advancement of education and an Outstanding Service Award for a practitioner making a significant difference and positive impact in nephrology nutrition. These opportunities include attendance at professional conferences. In 2016-2017 RPG awarded a stipend to one member.

**Student Stipends:** There were 6 student stipends awarded for FNCE attendance.

**Awards:** For 2016 the RPG Outstanding Service Award recipient was Haewook Han, PhD, RD, CSR, LD. Dr. Han was recognized for her continued work in advancing the field of nephrology nutrition. Dr. Han is a 1981 graduate of Hanyang University in Seoul Korea, completed her Master's in Nutrition Biochemistry at Tufts University in Boston, and earned her Master's of Medical Science at Emory University in Atlanta with clinical nutrition training. She completed her Doctorate degree at Tufts University Friedman School of Nutrition with specialization in renal nutrition- specifically B-vitamins and CVD risks among post-renal transplant patients. Her work background involves practicing as a renal dietitian in various dialysis units for many years. Dr. Han's experiences include a NIH Hemodialysis Study and working as a nutrition research manager and assistant professor of medicine at Tufts

University School of Medicine and at Tufts Medical Center (TMC) until 2008. Currently, she works as a renal nutrition specialist at the Department of Nephrology at Harvard Vanguard Medical Associates for CKD and kidney stone patients as well as at the TMC Division of Nephrology. Throughout her career, Dr. Han has developed various nutritional education materials geared for CKD patients. In addition, she has published nutrition research and education papers on CKD and kidney stones. Other projects in which Dr. Han has been involved include: being a member of the NKF Journal of Renal Nutrition editorial board, acting as a consultant in dialysis clinics to develop standardized practice for the renal dietitians and being a member of QA committee, occasionally working with pharmaceutical companies for development of nutritional QA projects as a consultant, and participation in a community based CKD screening project with Dr. Li-Li Hsiao at Harvard Medical School and Brigham Women's Hospital in Boston.

**Academy Honorary Membership Award:** The Awards Chair in conjunction with the RPG Chair drafted a letter of support for Dr. Andrew Narva to be considered as an Academy Honorary Member. Dr. Narva was selected for 2017.

**Conference/Meeting Stipends in 2016-2017:** There was one stipend recipient, receiving \$300 to attend FNCE® in Boston, MA. The awardee is required to submit an article reviewing a session attended at the conference for publication in the Renal Nutrition Forum before monies are released.

**Scholarship Awardee in 2016-2017:** There were no scholarship applicants.

### **Leadership**

RPG Executive Committee (EC) members participated in an in-depth Strategic Planning conference session with facilitator, Barb Pyper, who assisted the group to develop our newly envisioned Strategic Plan for 2016-2019.

## Professional Development and Resources

### Publications:

Members receive a subscription to the “Renal Nutrition Forum” (RNF), published quarterly. RNF is peer-reviewed and offers the opportunity to earn complimentary CPEUs in each issue. The RNF also includes an up-to-date Patient Education Handout, which members may reproduce for use with their patients.

RPG appreciates the efforts of Stacey Phillips, RNF Managing Editor and the editorial team: Julie Colvin, Desiree DeWaal, Clarina Kennedy and Hannah Sobol, for publishing timely topics for members’ education.

### Electronic Communications:

Members receive regular e-blasts to help keep them apprised of current events impacting nephrology nutrition. Important issues, including legislative issues, CPEU opportunities, student research participation, RPG announcements were sent monthly to help members remain current on issues that impact their practice area. RPG moderates a LinkedIn group to facilitate discussion on key issues and to promote professional networking between members.

### Website:

RPGs comprehensive website, [www.renalnutrition.org](http://www.renalnutrition.org) offers a detailed calendar of CPEU conferences/events, information regarding nephrology nutrition and a members only portal. This portal allows members access to complimentary CPEUs offered, current and archived issues of RNF, access to the Professional Resource Center (PRC), webinars, patient education handouts, scholarship and stipend applications, access to EC contact information and so much more. RPG is grateful to our Electronic Media Manager, Melissa Prest for her diligent maintenance of the RPG website.

### Social Media:

RPG introduced both a Facebook - *Renal Dietitians - RPG* and a Twitter - *@RenalRDNs*, under the direction of our new Social Media Chair, Kyle Lamprecht.

Members are encouraged to “Like” our Facebook page and “Follow” us on Twitter for instant access to the most current information and resources in the field of renal nutrition.

### Webinars:

The following webinars provide 1 CPEU each and are available on the RPG website. Webinars are offered on our website, with RPG members given a substantial discount. The EC is actively recruiting to fill the role of the Webinar Chair.

- MNT Business Transitioning from ESRD RDN to CKD RDN
- Practical Tips – Providing Medical Nutrition Therapy in Chronic Kidney Disease Stages 3 and 4
- Nutrition and Pediatric Renal Disease – Infant/Toddlers
- Nutrition and Pediatric Renal Disease – Adolescents
- MNT & Transplantation
- MNT for In-center Hemodialysis
- Nutrition Support in the Acute Kidney Injury Patient Requiring Continuous Renal Replacement Therapy
- PD & Home Therapies
- Directing Patient Conversations Toward Meaningful Behavior Changes
- Directing Patient Conversations Toward Meaningful Behavior Changes, Part 2

The following webinar is available as a Members Only Exclusive:

- Nutrition and Standardized Language in Nephrology Nutrition

### Professional Resource Center (PRC):

The Professional Resource Center (PRC) is a popular member resource. The PRC library includes a collection of over 100 titles of books/DVDs, with many resources available in 2 copies, allowing more than one member to request the same resource at the same time. Up to 3 books can be requested at one time for a 28 day period, including study resources for the Board Certification as a Specialist in Renal Nutrition (CSR) exam. The return postage fee to ship the books back to the PRC is the only charge to members.

### **Patient Education:**

The Patient Education Projects Team is tasked with creating and updating patient education materials with a goal of including a new patient education handout in the most issues of the Renal Nutrition Forum. The dedicated team, under the direction of Jennifer Parker, also works to keep the handouts available on the website up-to-date. The peer-reviewed handouts are developed below a 6th grade reading level and both English and Spanish versions are available on the members only section of the RPG website.

Patient education handouts developed or updated in 2016-2017 include:

- CKD and Dialysis Resource Guide for RDNs
- Eating Simply for Renal Disease
- All About Protein
- What if You Don't Eat Meat
- Higher and Lower Potassium
- Increasing Protein Intake
- Tips for Shopping at Food Banks
- Vegetarian and CKD

RPG continues to partner with the Council on Renal Nutrition (CRN) to update the National Renal Diet series, with an estimated completion date of late 2017. RPG is working with the Council on Renal Nutrition (CRN) on future collaborations.

**RPG Food & Nutrition Conference & Expo™**  
(FNCE®) 2016 Boston, MA October 15-18, 2016

**Spotlight Education Session:** Our Spotlight Session was presented jointly with the Hunger and Environmental Nutrition (HEN) DPG. The session entitled "Bridging the Grocery Gap Between Food Insecurity and Kidney Health" was a Level 2 session meeting Learning Codes 5340, 4070 and 8090.

Speakers : Pamela Kent MS RDN CSR LD  
Jenna Umbric MS RD  
Moderator: Sarah Trist MS RDN LDN

### **Networking:**

FNCE® networking events included a joint reception at the Boston Tea Party Ships and

Museum with the Dietetics in Health Care Communities DPG, 28 RPG members attended the event. Additional networking occurred at the RPG booth during the DPG/MIG Showcase.

### **Second Century Liaison/Historian:**

A new position was created to coordinate RPGs participation in the Academy's Second Century Celebration and was filled by Mary Kay Hensley. She has been sharing the Academy's vision and strategies, looking forward to the next 100 years with RPG members through a column in the RNF. As RPG is nearing its own 40th anniversary milestone, Mary Kay has been featuring 40 and 50 year RPG/Academy members in the column.

### **Collaboration with Other Organizations**

- **National Kidney Foundation/Council on Renal Nutrition (CRN)**
- **American Association of Kidney Patients (AAKP)**

### **Meetings with RPG Representation:**

- RPG Executive Committee Transition Meeting
- Academy House of Delegates
- Council on Renal Nutrition
- National Kidney Foundation Spring Clinical Meeting
- International Congress on Renal Nutrition and Metabolism
- Academy Public Policy Workshop

### **RPG Donations/Support**

- Academy of Nutrition & Dietetics Foundation
- FNCE Student Stipends
- ANDPAC
- Second Century Campaign

### **Industry Sponsors**

RPG extends their appreciation to the following advertising sponsors for their support through sponsored ads in the Renal Forum, e-blasts and/or web ads at [www.renalnutrition.org](http://www.renalnutrition.org).

RPG also appreciates the efforts of our new advertising editor, Clarina Kennedy, for working with the advertisers.

- Fresenius Medical Care of North America
- Sanofi Renal

### **Financial Outcomes**

Revenue: \$79,259

Expenses: \$116,706

## **2016 - 2017 Executive Committee**

### **Chair**

JoAnn Randazzo MS RD CDN

### **Chair-elect**

AnnaMarie Rodriguez RDN LD

### **Secretary**

Rose Johnson RD LRD

### **Treasurer**

Sara Erickson RD CSR LDN

### **House of Delegates Member**

Pamela Kent MS RD CSR CDE LD

### **RNF Editorial Board**

#### **RNF Managing Editor**

Stacey Phillips MS RD

Desiree DeWaal MS RD CD FAND

#### **Editors**

Desiree DeWaal MS RD CD FAND

Hannah Sobol RDN CS

Julie Colvin MBA RD CDN

Clarina Kennedy RD

#### **RNF Advertising Editor**

Clarina Kennedy RD

#### **Electronic Media Manager**

Melissa Ann Prest MS RD CSR LDN

#### **Nominating Committee**

Judith Heath MS RD LD FAND

#### **Membership Services Outreach Chair**

Nilima Desai MPH RD

#### **Awards and Reimbursement Chair**

Stacey Phillips MS RD

#### **Second Century Liaison/Historian**

Mary Kay Hensley MS RD CSR

#### **Professional Resource Center Coordinator**

Nadiya Lakhani RD LD

#### **Policy and Advocacy Leader**

Lois Hill MS RD LD CSR

#### **Medical Nutrition Therapy Reimbursement Chair**

Donna Gjesvold RDN LD

#### **Patient Apps & External Website Reviewer**

Melissa Ann Prest MS RD CSR LDN

#### **Social Media Chair**

Kyle Lamprecht MS RD CSR CD-N

#### **Webinar Chair - vacant**

#### **Patient Education Projects Chair**

Jennifer Rose Parker RD LDN

#### **Patient Education Projects Committee Members**

Rita Milam MA RD CSR CDE LD

Valerie Hannahs MS RD LD

Rachael Majorowicz RD LD

#### **Manager, DPG Relations**

Susan DuPraw MPH RD