

newsFLASH

Diabetes Dietetic Practice Group



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Patricia Davidson, DCN, RDN, CDCES, LDN, FAND

FNCE® 2022 conference was a wonderful experience with a balance of networking and educational opportunities. The conference was kicked off with a collaborative **Sunrise Stretch & Social Event with CV Well & Diabetes Dietetic Practice Groups**. Members began the day networking, enjoying a light breakfast, and stretching activity led by Dana White, MS, RD, ATC (Nutrition Consultant & Certified Athletic Trainer). We had two plenary sessions this year: the Diabetes DPG/ADCES collaborative session (***The RDN's Role in Recognizing and Reducing Diabetes Inertia***) and DDPG's spotlight session (***Can You Hear Me? Diabetes Education, and Hearing Loss***). Thank you to our DDPG members, Laura Russell, MA, RDN, CDCES and Alefiya Faizullabhoj, MBA, MS, RD, CDCES, CDN (ADCES Liaison), and Andrea Dunn, RD, LD, CDCES (Academy Liaison) for their presentation on overcoming Diabetes Inertia. It was well received by those attending and

(continued on page 3)

FEATURED STORIES

- 1 Message from the Chair
- 5 Message from the newsFLASH Editors
- 6 Cultural Considerations: Inclusive Diabetes Care for LGBTQ+ Clients
- 12 DDPG Education Stipend Report
- 15 Support Your Foundation's New Make It A Million Scholarship Campaign
- 25 2022-2023 DDPG Officer Directory



DDPG Leadership group photo from FNCE 2022



DDPG Chairs Janice MacLeod, MA, RDN, CDCES, FADCES, Laura Russell, MA, RDN, LD, CDCES, and Patricia Davidson, DCN, RDN, CDCES, LDN, FAND, and DDPG's Academy Manager Linda Flanagan Vahl

demonstrated that RDNs have the skills and scope of practice to lead the way for overcoming treatment barriers.

Have you ever wondered if there is a connection between hearing loss and diabetes? For many of us who work with adults with diabetes, hearing loss can be a concern. Our DDPG Spotlight Session on this topic was presented by two of our DDPG members, Joanne Rinker, MS, RDN, BC-ADM, CDCES, LDN, FADCES and Susan Weiner, MS, RDN, CDCES, FADCES. Thank you both for providing the attendees with valuable insight on the causes for hearing loss, ways to assess it, and the unique role of the RDN in addressing this under-recognized complication in diabetes.

There were two other networking opportunities that were provided to our members, DDPG Membership and Awards Ceremony and the Social at the DPG/MIG showcase. The Diabetes DPG Membership Social and Awards Ceremony honored our award winners and provided a valuable opportunity to network and connect. A special call-out to Awards Chair Daisy Seremba, MS, RD, LD, CDCES and Assistant Chair, Prajakta Khare-Ranade, MSc, RDN, LD, CDCES, FAND for their hard work in planning the event. Also, thank you to our sponsors of the event, *Abbott* and *CannedBeans.org*.



Susan Weiner, MS, RDN, CDCES, FADCES, with the DDPG's Distinguished Service award, with current DDPG Chair Patricia Davidson, DCN, RDN, CDCES, LDN, FAND

Our time at FNCE® ended with the Social at the DPG/MIG showcase. Thank you to all our leaders and members who attended and volunteered. Thank you to Cathy Huang, MPH, RD, our membership chair, who coordinated the showcase. This event was a perfect opportunity to learn about all the membership benefits, DDPG resources, the opportunity to connect with friends and colleagues, as well as ways for members to get more involved.

Speaking of involvement, I hope you are enjoying the change of season. Are you getting energized and looking for new opportunities? Fall is a time for change, and I would encourage members to make a choice to join our team. Recently the DDPG Executive Committee (EC) met at FNCE®, focusing on our strategic plan for the DDPG, particularly two key items; first, ways to expand the involvement of our members in the organization's decisions and second, to provide more opportunities to increase membership. Many current EC and committee members have rotated through various positions and the networking has been wonderful. However, it is time for new leaders and new ideas. Please think about sharing some of your time and/or talents with your colleagues across the country. The rewards outweigh the small amount of time required. Maybe you have something new to share with others on the forums. The opportunity to volunteer for an office, join a committee, or help at an event always exists. We need you to speak up and help out. The bonus is the opportunity to work side-by-side with a group of professionals with the same goal of providing quality diabetes care to all experiencing diabetes.



Anna Parker, DCN, MS, RD, CDCES, CCRC, Daisy Seremba, MS, RD, LD, CDCES, and Matthew Jaime, RD, CNSC (left to right) at the DDPG Membership Showcase



Laura Russell, MA, RDN, LN, CDCES, and Alefiya Faizullabhoj, MBA, MS, RD, CDCES, CDN, FAND - presenters of DDPG's Spotlight Session "The RDN's Role in Recognizing and Reducing Diabetes Inertia"

Remember, volunteers are the foundation for the growth of our organization.

Benefits of volunteering:

- Partnerships** - Develop partnerships with other groups throughout the state and nation
- Opportunities** - Opens doors and additional leadership experiences
- Purpose** - Commitment by all involved in providing you with a meaningful experience
- Skill development** - Learn new skills and advance your career
- Community** - An avenue to network and make new friends

If we have sparked an interest in volunteering, please share with us a bit about your professional goals and activities, as there are several opportunities within the DDPG. Soon we will be sending out a membership expertise survey. Please take the time to respond so we can know what members are doing and how you would like to get involved.