



August 2007

Executive Board

Board Chair:

Chris Wardlow

Chair-Elect:

Shel Gross

Secretary:

Jill Gamez

Treasurer:

Sue Rodriguez

Members at Large:

Bette Wahl

Lucy Gibson

Karen Torgerson

Kathy Wolfe

Ken Ramminger

Jane Larson

WPN Holds Annual Meeting

The Wisconsin Prevention Network held its annual membership meeting on July 25, 2007, during the early hours of the Wisconsin Prevention Conference. This was an opportunity for WPN Chair Chris Wardlow to share with members the state of WPN. "Wisconsin Prevention Network is a statewide membership association of individuals and organizations working together to assure human and financial resources for prevention and wellness."

Over the past year, the Wisconsin Prevention Network has been able to be involved in several advocacy roles.

WPN has been represented on the Prevention Committee of the State Council on Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse (SCAODA). WPN was also present at State Representative Terese Berseau's press conference as a supporting organization of the proposed legislation to raise the beer tax. Members of WPN are all included on a list serve used to assist in keeping members up-to-date on policy initiatives and proposed legislation. The WPN Public Policy committee meets bi-monthly via teleconference on the third Wednesday of the even numbered months.

Several Executive Board members had their terms of

service expire. Therefore, nominations from the membership have elected five members to serve two year terms. Elected members include Jill Gamez, Bette Wahl, Lucy Gibson, Karen Torgerson, and Jane Larson. A heart-felt thank you is extended to Karen Knudson for serving on the Board of Directors in the past.

Anyone interested in becoming a new member of the Wisconsin Prevention Network is encouraged to take the step to get involved in a statewide advocacy organization! WPN is poised to grow into the direction members guide it and we need more prevention professionals in the state of Wisconsin to step forward and become members of WPN!

A Call to WPN Members

Every year prevention professionals talk about the need for additional networking activities and the need to collaborate with each other. A central theme has been to join our voices together to be heard within the state of Wisconsin. By becoming an

active member of WPN we can make this vision a reality. WPN is a membership driven organization. This means that the direction, focus, and energy of the organization has to come from within the membership. With this structure estab-

lished, it is now time to strengthen the voice of the membership. Get involved! Get others involved! Collectively we can make a difference and our voices can be heard. What do you want to see tackled by WPN?

Proposed State Legislation

- AB 474 Alcohol Abuse Treatment and Prevention Act, introduced by Rep. Berceau: This bill increases the tax on malt beverages (2.4 cents a 12 oz bottle) to fund alcohol and drug treatment and prevention programs, and alcohol enforcement.
- AB 196 Introduced on March 19, 2007 by Rep. Bies, Moulton, Montgomery, Kerkman, LeMahieu, Jeskewitz, Mursau, and A. Ott. This is an Act to amend the statues relating to providing alcoholic beverages to an under-age person who suffers great bodily harm or death from their consumption. Current wording of 125.075 statute excludes a provider's liability for persons ages 18-20. It is currently referred to the Committee on Criminal Justice. Visit <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/2007/data/AB-196.pdf> to review the proposed legislation.
- AB 189 Introduced on March 19, 2007 by Rep. Hraychuck, Ballweg, Bies, Flasee, Mursau, and Senator Harsdorf. This is a Bill to create a new "Class D" license for retail sales of wine by certain restaurants for consumption on or off premises where sold. It is currently referred to the Committee on State Affairs. Visit <http://nxt.legis.state.wi.us/nxt/gateway.dll?f=templates&fn=default.htm&vid=W1:Default&d=indxauth&jd=A41> to review the proposed legislation.

To keep up-to-date on all legislative bill actions, sign up for legislative alerts by going to:

<http://notify.legis.state.wi.us/Home.aspx>

The Wisconsin Legislative Notification System allows anyone the opportunity to follow legislation by receiving daily or weekly emails for specific legislative activities.

Have you heard? On January 27—30, 2008 there will be a training entitled: *Engaging States and Local Communities in Prevention Policies*. It will be held in San Diego, CA and is the 14th in a series of national conferences on the avoidance of alcohol-related problems using public policy strategies. Visit www.Cal-Council.org/API4 for more info.

Our Mission

Wisconsin Prevention Network is a statewide membership association of individuals and organizations working together to assure human and financial resources for prevention and wellness.

Who We Are

Wisconsin Prevention Network is a voluntary, incorporated, non-profit organization consisting of professionals and interested persons from a variety of health and human service disciplines throughout the state. WPN members currently represent over 30 prevention areas.

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Visit us on the Web!
www.wisprevnet.org