

## HOD Summer Meeting – July 13-14, 2021 (held virtually)

### Treasurer

- Affiliate assistance fund
  - Federal government has set up relief funding for non-profits experiencing a 30% loss in revenue over the past year may be eligible for up to \$16K in relief funding.
  - Contact small business association

### AARC Advocacy and Government Affairs

Federal and State Legislative Updates (Ann Marie Hummel)

See Agenda Book for additional information on Legislative Updates

- RT Compact Licensure
  - Must be wanted by states for it to work
  - Can be an expensive initiative
  - State RT Board Survey
    - Majority indicated their practice act had a state reciprocity clause
    - Majority indicated their state societies have not expressed interest in compact licensure
    - Majority indicated they did not consider it a priority of the AARC
    - Majority indicated they would consider opening their practice act to include compact licensure
- Oxygen Updates
  - CMS proposed decision memo on Home Use of Oxygen
  - Expands coverage to include acute conditions
  - Eliminates the Certificate of Medical Necessity
  - Changes “chronic stable state” to “time of need”
  - Allows recertification earlier than 90 days
- AARC member of the ATS Workshop
  - Looking at alternative ways to improve payment
  - AARC/ATS/ALA seeking health care consultant
  - Proposed legislative specifications by September
- Pulmonary Rehabilitation
  - AARC Member of ATS PR Workgroup

- Major campaign to improve awareness of PR benefits
- NHLBI COPD Action Tool
- COPDSOS.org created by the Dorney-Koppel Foundation targets:
  - Undiagnosed millions who are unaware they have COPD and are at risk from serious outcomes from COVID
  - Need appropriate screening and accurate diagnoses of persons at risk
  - Effective COPD treatment including pulmonary rehabilitation
  - Equitable funding for COPD research
- COPD public service announcements (PSAs) coming out this summer to run on major networks.
- New York (enacted June 18)
  - Requires hospitals to have clinical staffing committee (respond related to COVID-19)
    - ◆ Includes frontline workers providing direct care
    - ◆ Staffing for each patient care unit
    - ◆ Shift work based on patient care needs
- Other state initiatives
  - Nebraska on rescinding RTs being able to perform ECMO as part of their scope of practice
  - North Carolina bills HB 610/SB 520 to add advanced respiratory care practitioner to the respiratory care scope of practice
  - Montana bills to move the Respiratory Care Board under the Board of Medical Examiners and the ability to eliminate occupational and professional boards
  - Wisconsin introduced a bill to create a complementary and alternative health care (CAHC) practitioner

## **AARC Executive Director Report**

Joint Marketing Campaign: 10-year marketing campaign with CoARC and NBRC

- Public Service Announcement (PSA) video links (can search by RT Strong):
- <https://www.aarc.org/an21-rtstrong-new-video-highlights-respiratory-therapy-as-essential-to-patient-care%e2%80%af%e2%80%af/>
- <https://www.moreerts.com/>
- Corporate sponsors increased from 12 to 18 this year
- Membership Challenges: we have a strong value proposition but we need to be able to better communicate the value
- **HOD Questions/Comments to Executive Director:**

- What AARC efforts are being done about diversity and inclusion for hiring staff?
  - Response: The AARC is actively recruiting women and diverse candidates to fill positions.
- Looked at opportunities missed during COVID and now looking at repercussions on post-COVID issues related to burnout, PTSD, etc?
  - Response: Focusing on outreach campaign with targeted marketing campaign and PSAs to bring awareness of the value of RTs.
- Would AARC consider decreasing membership rates overall?
  - Response: no plans to reduce membership fee. AARC needs to do a better job at promoting value of membership.
- We need to do a better job with diversity, equity, and inclusion – can we follow other organizations’ lead on strategies for recruiting more diverse members?
  - Response:
    - ◆ PSAs designed to show representation of diversity
    - ◆ 14 of 40 of positions in the AARC EO is diverse – there are opportunities to improve diversity
      - AARC has a diversity, equity and inclusion committee
      - Avoid holding meetings in states with discriminatory legislation
- Membership issues are multifactorial – how will the AARC partner with the NBRC and health systems to show that RTs are of value?
  - Response:
    - ◆ Joint marketing campaign to recruit and retain RTs
    - ◆ advocate for the work of RTs
    - ◆ Drop in membership will impact revenue sharing – may see a decrease in revenue sharing – will evaluate at the end of September – currently \$14 but this is based on membership > 40,000.

### **AARC President Sherry Tooley – Q/A**

- Egan Lecture changed to Robert Kacmarek Lecture to begin in Phoenix, AZ
- Membership challenges were presented by the Executive Director and concerns over declining membership. Would it be beneficial to collaborate with the AARC Membership Committee to get more momentum behind increasing membership?
- Does the AARC have a financial reserve and its status? Would you be supportive of moving the annual business meeting to the first day?
  - Finance response: President Tooley assured the HOD that the AARC is financially sound with an adequate reserve. HOD representation is on the AARC finance committee. Our goal should be to serve our membership more than preserve assets. Taking concerns over membership very seriously and making decisions

that support growing membership. AARC has a liquidity policy to keep a certain amount of in reserve.

- Annual Business Meeting Response: Moving the annual business meeting will be open for discussion with the BOD, HOD, and EO. Need to make sure we are addressing the need of the members and delegation. Delegates not in attendance are in violation of the AARC Bylaws.

## **Resolutions**

We are operating under the current budget and HOD resolution #62-21-4 would require the AARC BOD to vote to allocate additional funds.

- HOD Resolution #62-21-4: HOD approved
  - Resolve that the AARC will increase the annual funding for the HOD Delegate Assistance (DA) Committee from \$7500 to \$14,000 in 2021.
- HOD Resolution #62-21-5: HOD approved
  - Resolve that the AARC will budget \$14,000 for the HOD Delegate Assistance (DA) Committee in 2022 and that the DA committee be consulted annually in the determination of the DA budget for 2023 and beyond.
- HOD Resolution #67-21-6: HOD not approved
  - Resolve that the AARC establish the “AARC Respiratory Therapy Courage Award”. This award will honor Respiratory Therapists for their courage exhibited during the 2020 COVID-19 Pandemic. The first award will be announced in honor of every Respiratory Therapist worldwide. For future awards, a committee comprised of HOD and BOD members will develop future guidelines, with this award carrying a high level of distinction within the profession and memorializing annually those Respiratory Therapists who lost their lives during the pandemic.
- HOD Resolution #77-21-1: HOD approved
  - Resolve that the AARC allow the moving of the AARC Annual Business Meeting to the first day of AARC Congress allowing the advantage for the attendance of more HOD members.
- HOD Resolution #77-21-2: HOD approved
  - Resolve that the AARC include all HOD awards in the AARC/ARCF awards ceremonies.
- HOD Resolution #94-21-3: HOD approved
  - Resolve that the Chartered Affiliate Leadership Boot Camp Assistance Program Policy No: CA.009, Eligibility: # 1 which reads: (Only affiliates with less than \$20,000 in assets will be considered for assistance) be replaced with the following language: 1. All Affiliate applications will be reviewed and considered on a case-by-case basis.

## **Best Practices**

- Getting Personalized License Plates for RTs – a how-to from the Missouri Society: <https://youtu.be/CjTrNPGL6Bw>
- An Investment in our Future – Mobile Application and Website (Hal Ungerleider: [RCSW.Tech@gmail.com](mailto:RCSW.Tech@gmail.com)): <https://youtu.be/GVvgbcyGkig>
- Navigating a Virtual Symposium in a Pinch and on a Dime (Amber McVeigh: [Amber.McVeigh@nhrmc.org](mailto:Amber.McVeigh@nhrmc.org)): [https://youtu.be/H3CvcwfH\\_Sl](https://youtu.be/H3CvcwfH_Sl)

### Open Mic

- MA – Robert Kacmarek – Draegar reached out to the MSRC to donate VM500 ventilator to each of the six RT schools. Go to their Facebook page to see the announcement
- Question about APRT credential – when will the NBRC have a credential?
  - Information provided in the 2020 HOD Winter Meeting
    - Exam Development Process (5 years to complete)
      - ◆ Validity study, Personnel survey, Job analysis study, Development of test specification, Validation study