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A Word from the Executive Director

Greetings and a Happy New Year to everyone. Legislatively, it seems like we were just preparing the MHRA budget for the 2019-2021 biennium, but, here we are again, getting ready to prepare for the 2021-2023 budget cycle. I attended an all agency director meeting this past week and had a chance to listen to the Chief Fiscal Officer for the State, and other state leaders as they try to forecast what the next couple of years will bring for the State economy. One take away from this meeting I learned is that the State will be increasing service fees to state agencies by approximately 37-percent for the 2021-2023 biennium. I touched on this during my last newsletter and as many of you may recall, these fees include things like Human Resources, Financial, and IT services that our Agency pays to the State. Here at the MHRA, we keep a close eye on fee increases that the State charges our agency because they can have an impact on licensing fees.

During my last newsletter, I also touched on how agencies deal with budget shortfalls during a budget cycle. Just today (1-16-2020), we submitted our letter to the Interim Joint Committee on Ways and Means to request an expenditure limitation increase for our 2019-2021 budget cycle. We will be requesting \$134,666 increase to cover unexpected increases in legal fees by the Department of Justice, which was not made available to the Agency until after the 2019-2021 budget cycle. The Boards continue to face a high volume of enforcement cases and increased contested case hearings. Over the past 5-years, the number of Board investigations has increased by an average of 15.5 percent per year, from 121 cases in 2015 to 201 cases in 2019.

The MHRA will also be seeking an increase in spending authority for Facilities Rent and Taxes in the amount of \$48,000. Facing a growing concern about the risk of violence towards Board members and staff, the Agency has completed a security and threat assessment to identify weaknesses in facilities and procedures. In today's world of violence I feel especially concerned about providing a secure facility for our staff and volunteer Board members. This request is justified and I would be derelict in my duties if I did nothing to prevent potential harm. My hope is that the Legislature will approve this and ask that we can incorporate this into our lease agreement that will need to be negotiated by the end of May 2020.

The final item that we will be asking for is legislative approval to change our cost allocation model for how we pay for expenses at the MHRA. When we established the MHRA in 2017, we created a cost allocation model of 65/35 based on the percentage of licensees for the BLPCT and the BOP. BLPCT has been growing at a faster rate than the BOP, so an adjustment to our cost allocation model is in order. I will be seeking a 70/30 allocation model. This means that the BLPCT will be paying for 70 percent of shared expenses and the BOP will be paying for 30 percent of shared expenses. Fortunately, the MHRA has prudently managed its budget, and we have adequate cash reserves to cover the above mentioned increases in spending authority. I expect that the Legislature will take action on these items in February 2020.

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A Word from the Executive Director, Cont.

As far as the 2021-2023 budget cycle goes, we are starting to turn our attention in that direction. Both the BLPCT and the BOP are considering Legislative Concepts for the 2021 Legislative Session, and you can find discussions about these concepts in the Board meeting minutes posted on our website. The legislative cycle is very prescriptive and the MHRA will need to have concepts submitted by April 17, 2020. I hope to have more information about these concepts in my next newsletter.

- Charles Hill, Executive Director, Mental Health Regulatory Agency

“Plans are nothing, but planning is everything” – Dwight D. Eisenhower Ψ

The Dilemma of Disciplinary Supervision

As an agency tasked with protecting the public welfare, one huge area of responsibility for the Oregon Board of Psychology is dealing with complaints made against licensees. Occasionally, the resolution of these issues includes a period of disciplinary supervision by another psychologist who is tasked by the Board with remediating issues that contributed to the complaint.

This is a unique type of supervision since it asks the licensee to establish a trusting, change-based relationship that is rooted in a disciplinary action. This arrangement establishes the supervisor in both supportive and evaluative capacities. When disciplinary supervision is unsuccessful, it often results from the supervisor's failure to balance these competing roles as well as the supervisor's inability to consciously incorporate the unique features of these two roles into the process. As a result, licensees have sometimes been required to extend their period of supervision or another supervisory issue is introduced.

For this reason, OBOP is working to create a more systematic approach to disciplinary supervision. It started with the development of a structured, not vetted, registry of potential supervisors who have a background in disciplinary supervision. We have subsequently been working to insure that these supervisors are trained in this unique process. The Disciplinary Supervisor Workshop is an attempt to contribute to that end as well as to add another means for potential supervisors to hone their skills.

At present, this training is not required to serve as a disciplinary supervisor but the Board hopes that it will contribute to creation of a cadre of individuals willing not only to engage in additional training but also to participate in ongoing study and consultation regarding the unique challenges of this type of professional supervision. The first workshop was held on January 17, 2020. If you missed this session but are interested in attending a future workshop, please contact Connie Farrier (connie.farrier@oregon.gov) to get your name on a waiting list.

- Patricia Bjorkquist, Ph.D. Ψ

Important IT Updates

New Licensing System!

As you may have read in previous newsletters, the Agency has been working to implement a new database system that will serve both boards and replace the two separate outdated databases that have been in operation for many years. New features will include enhanced security, online applications and payments, and a web portal that will be used to complete license renewals and update contact information.

The work on this database project first began in October of 2018 when the Agency contracted with a business analysis team to assess the boards' needs and translate those needs into working technical language. This work, along with discussions with the Office of the State Chief Information Officer (OSCIO), was built into a request for proposal (RFP) that included a sufficiently detailed description of the Agency's needs to ensure a secure and suitable work product. The RFP was issued to interested vendors in December 2018, and following thorough review and screening, the finalist vendor, Thentia Global Systems USA, Inc., was

Important IT Updates, Cont.

placed under contract in April 2019.

Initial planning and scoping work began with Thentia in May of 2019, and this has now advanced into the development stage of the project. There is also work in progress with the Oregon State Treasury, E-Government, and others to expand and allow for card payments for BOP, and to add online check payments (ACH) for both boards with the new system. Depending on progression from the various players, the new database is expected to launch in early Spring. You will receive further communication about this soon.

In the meantime, **please make sure that your contact information is current so that you receive important updates.** The new licensing system will require an email address in order to create a profile and login. While we are of course hopeful for a clean, smooth transition, the reality is that there are often snags and delays that occur with projects of this scope. We ask that you please bear with us through this process.

Website Migration

The boards were recently required to migrate websites from the SharePoint 2010 version to the 2016 version. All state agencies are required to complete this transition to increase cyber security and ensure ongoing system support. This project included working with the Oregon E-Government Program to perform exhaustive testing of the new websites before the launch, which occurred on December 11, 2019 for BLPCT and January 14, 2020 for BOP. The sites should look the same to the outside user, but if you find that anything is missing or not functioning correctly, please do let us know at psychology.board@oregon.gov. The MHRA website will transition next, with an expected completion date by April 14, 2020.

- LaRee Felton, Policy Advisor to the Board, Mental Health Regulatory Agency Ψ

Administrative Rulemaking

On January 23, 2020, the Board filed a Permanent Administrative Order for the following rule amendment:

Amendments to requirements for designation of education and licensure status; qualifying continuing education programs.

OAR 858-010-0062: This amendment modifies the rule requirements for designation of education and licensure status. It adds inactive status designations and prohibits false designations for non-existent specialty licenses.

Note: The Board received some feedback from licensees that included concern about their ability to continue to use any specialty designation. The purpose and scope of this rule is only to limit a licensee from claiming that they are licensed in a particular specialty area. The Board issues only a “psychologist” license and does not credential for specialties. This rule amendment does not prohibit psychologists from stating that they practice in a specialty area that they are qualified to practice in, or that they have received a certification from a legitimate certifying body. For many years, the Board has tried to communicate that titles like “licensed forensic psychologist” and “licensed neuropsychologist” are not acceptable, but has continued to see these inappropriate titles used. The rule now provides express clarity.

OAR 858-040-0035 & -0065: These amendments removes supervision or consultation for a fee from an Oregon Licensed Psychologist as qualifying for continuing education credit.

Note: In order to provide licensees with additional time to plan for their course of continuing education, the Board determined to delay the effective date of this rule amendment until April 1, 2020. Qualifying supervision or consultation received for a fee from an Oregon licensed psychologist under the former rule may count towards the continuing education requirements only through March 31, 2020.

Administrative Rulemaking, Cont.

On January 24, 2020, the Board filed a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for the following proposed rule amendments:

Establishes military spouse temporary practice authorization and fee; modifies contested case hearing procedure; contact information.

Amend OAR 858-020-0045: The proposed amendment adds a provision that the Board will not approve any license renewal or request to reactivate a license from inactive status to active or semi-active status if the licensee is not in compliance with one or more terms of any Board order or agreement.

Amend OAR 858-040-0036: The proposed amendment specifies that programs completed to fulfil the terms of a Board order or agreement do NOT qualify towards the continuing education requirements for licensure renewal or reinstatement.

The agency requests public comment on whether the options should be considered for achieving the rule's substantive goals while reducing negative economic impact of the rule on business. Please email your comments to laree.felton@oregon.gov or mail them to the Board's office at 3218 Pringle Road SE, Ste. 130, Salem, OR 97302. All comments must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on February 25, 2020. A public hearing will be held at 10 a.m. on February 25, 2020 at 3218 Pringle Road SE, Salem, OR 97302.

Please visit our [Administrative Rulemaking Webpage](#) for more information.

- LaRee Felton, Policy Advisor to the Board, Mental Health Regulatory Agency Ψ

Enforcement Actions

During the period of time from July 13, 2019, to October 12, 2019, the Board took the following actions:

Kathleen F. Moore (Respondent), **STIPULATED ORDER**, effective September 13, 2019. Respondent is not licensed by the Board to practice psychology in the State of Oregon, and does not hold a license in any health care profession in the State of Oregon. The Board found that Respondent has engaged in the unlicensed practice of psychology in Oregon by performing suicide risk assessments and diagnosing certain mental disorders. Respondent violated ORS 675.020(1)(a) and (b), and was ordered to pay a civil penalty of \$5,000.

Thomas Deshler, Ph.D. (Licensee), **STIPULATED ORDER**, effective September 13, 2019. Licensee met with Patient A, an adult male with a history of domestic abuse toward his spouse, Subject B. Much of Licensee's therapy was intended to help Patient A with anger management. Licensee invited Subject B to attend four of these sessions, and Subject B agreed to do so. During a session, Subject B spoke about Patient A's history of domestic abuse towards her and that she (and their children) felt afraid of him when he was angry. During the four sessions, Subject B expressed fear for the life and safety of her and her children, but Licensee did not address, acknowledge or affirm the fear and safety concerns raised by Subject B, nor provide her with any referrals. Licensee noted in a chart note, that Subject B was looking for affirmation that refusing to be intimate with Patient A was based on his anger and his persistent demands, but did not address this issue with Patient A during the therapy session, nor in any follow-up with Subject B. Licensee violated ORS 675.070(2) (d)(A), ES 2.01 and ES 3.04. Licensee was placed on probation for a minimum of 18 months, ordered to practice under supervision for a minimum of 18 months, to complete 10 additional hours of continuing education addressing domestic violence and collateral therapy, to create and institute an office policy to address domestic violence, collateral therapy and ruling out danger to children and to pay a \$10,000 civil penalty of which \$5,000 is stayed contingent on Licensee's full compliance with the terms of the Order.

Deborah White, Ph.D. (Licensee), **STIPULATED ORDER**, effective September 13, 2019. Licensee and another Oregon licensed psychologist jointly signed a letter in which they identified themselves as clinical psychologists. In the letter, Licensee described the subject of the letter as being emotionally unstable with

Enforcement Actions, Cont.

“clearly unresolved damage.” This letter provided an opinion regarding certain psychological characteristics of the subject, which had the potential of negatively affecting the employment status and reputation of the subject. Neither Licensee nor the co-signer of the letter conducted a psychological evaluation of the subject of the letter. Licensee violated ORS 675.070(2)(d)(A) and ES 9.01(b). Licensee was reprimanded and ordered to pay a civil penalty of \$1,000.

Loren Mallory, Ph.D. (Licensee), **STIPULATED ORDER**, effective September 13, 2019. Licensee and another Oregon licensed psychologist jointly signed a letter in which they identified themselves as clinical psychologists. In the letter, Licensee described the subject of the letter as being emotionally unstable with “clearly unresolved damage.” This letter provided an opinion regarding certain psychological characteristics of the subject, which had the potential of negatively affecting the employment status and reputation of the subject. Neither Licensee nor the co-signer of the letter conducted a psychological evaluation of the subject of the letter. Licensee violated ORS 675.070(2)(d)(A) and ES 9.01(b). Licensee was reprimanded and ordered to pay a civil penalty of \$1,000.

Arlen S. Craig, Ph.D. (Respondent), **STIPULATED ORDER**, effective September 13, 2019. During several sessions in the course of therapy with Client A, an adult female, Respondent would hold Client A’s hand and touch her lower back. During the course of therapy, Respondent engaged in flirtatious behavior with Client A. Following the termination of therapy, Respondent began to communicate with Client A using a personal email address. Respondent and Client A began to meet at Starbucks, and on occasion, meet in Respondent’s car and drive to a secluded area and engage in encounters that included physical acts of intimacy. Respondent violated ORS 675.070(2)(d)(A), ES 3.04, ES 3.05, ES 10.05 and ES 10.08. Respondent’s license to practice psychology in the State of Oregon was revoked and he was ordered to pay a civil penalty of \$5,000.

Todd E. Ransford, Ph.D. (Licensee), **STIPULATED ORDER**, effective September 13, 2019. Licensee was appointed by the Clackamas County Circuit Court to develop a family reunification plan for reconciling the relationship between Patient A (the father) and Patient B (the daughter). Licensee was also tasked to implement and oversee the family reunification plan, which would involve the participation of the mother and former spouse, Patient C, and thereafter implement and oversee the reunification plan. After initiating therapy contact with all three Patients, Licensee failed to contact Patient A, B or C. Patient A’s therapist called Licensee and left a voice message, but received no response. Licensee also failed to respond to an email sent to him by Patient C’s therapist, and a voicemail. Licensee was aware of the efforts made by Patient A’s therapist to contact him, but did not return the phone calls or email. Licensee states in his response to the Board that the initial delays in providing treatment to this family were a function of Patient B’s unwillingness to meet with her father, but that the lack of progress in the fall of 2018 “...was my fault.” Licensee failed to meet with Patients A, B or C throughout the remainder of 2018 and early 2019. On February 27, 2019, due to the lack of response by Licensee and an apparent termination of services, Patient A filed an affidavit with the court asking for a new reunification therapist. Licensee violated ORS 675.070(2)(d)(A), ES 3.04, ES 3.09, ES 10.10(a) and (c). Licensee was reprimanded, his license was suspended for a minimum of 12 months, with 11 months stayed, he was placed on probation, ordered not to perform any family reunification work or engage in family mediations, ordered to practice under supervision and ordered to pay a civil penalty of \$10,000 of which \$5,000 is stayed contingent on Licensee’s full compliance with the terms of the Order.

Robin Keillor, Ph.D. (Licensee), **STIPULATED ORDER**, effective September 23, 2019. Licensee self-reported that on her last day as Director of the Pacific University Student Counseling Center, she discovered that some of her patient files were either incomplete or missing. A subsequent audit revealed that there were 71 incomplete clinical notes involving ten different patients. Licensee failed in her ethical duty to maintain complete professional records for all of her patients. Licensee violated ORS 675.070(2)(d)(A), OAR 858-010-0060(1)(d), ES 3.04 and ES 6.01. Licensee was reprimanded, ordered to practice under supervision for a minimum of six months, and ordered to pay a civil penalty of \$1,000.

Enforcement Actions, Cont.

Jason M. Sibson, Psy.D. (Applicant), **STIPULATED ORDER**, effective September 13, 2019. Without receiving notice that his application had been approved, Applicant began to practice as a psychologist, and held himself out to the public as a psychologist. Applicant worked as a psychologist in Oregon from early January 2019 until mid-March 2019 without an Oregon license. Applicant was under the belief that there was a “90-day-grace period” in Oregon that permitted persons with an active license in another state to practice psychology in Oregon prior to licensure. That belief is mistaken. Applicant practiced psychology in the Oregon without a license. Applicant violated ORS 675.020(1)(a) and (b) and OAR 858-010-0036(2)(a), and was ordered to pay a civil penalty of \$500.

Charles N. Zimmerman, Psy.D. (Applicant), **STIPULATED ORDER**, effective September 13, 2019. Without a Board approved psychologist resident supervision contract, Applicant began to practice as a psychologist, and held himself out to the public as a psychologist. Applicant worked as a psychologist resident from June of 2017 until May of 2019 without a license or an approved resident supervision contract, which constitutes the unlicensed practice of psychology. Applicant violated ORS 675.020(1)(a) and (b) and OAR 858-010-0036(2)(a). Applicant was ordered to pay a civil penalty of \$1,000. Ψ

Senate Bill 855 Survey: Barriers to Licensure for Immigrants or Refugees

Pursuant to SB 855 (2019), the Agency is engaging in a study regarding the manner in which persons who are immigrants or refugees become licensed as psychologists, psychologist associates, licensed professional counselors, and licensed marriage and family therapists. We would greatly appreciate if you could take the time to complete a short survey to help us identify and understand possible barriers to licensure. The survey will ask you to describe your experience as an immigrant or refugee that has applied or is currently applying for licensure, and any barriers to licensure that you may have experienced or perhaps witness. It also asks for suggestions or feedback regarding how the Agency could address any barriers while maintaining thorough and consistent standards to protect consumers of mental health services in Oregon. We hope to gain a better understanding and to develop a strategy to address barriers faced by immigrants and refugees who are qualified to engage in the professional practice of psychology, professional counseling, and marriage and family therapy in Oregon. **Survey link:** https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SB_855 Ψ

OHA Workforce Reports Released

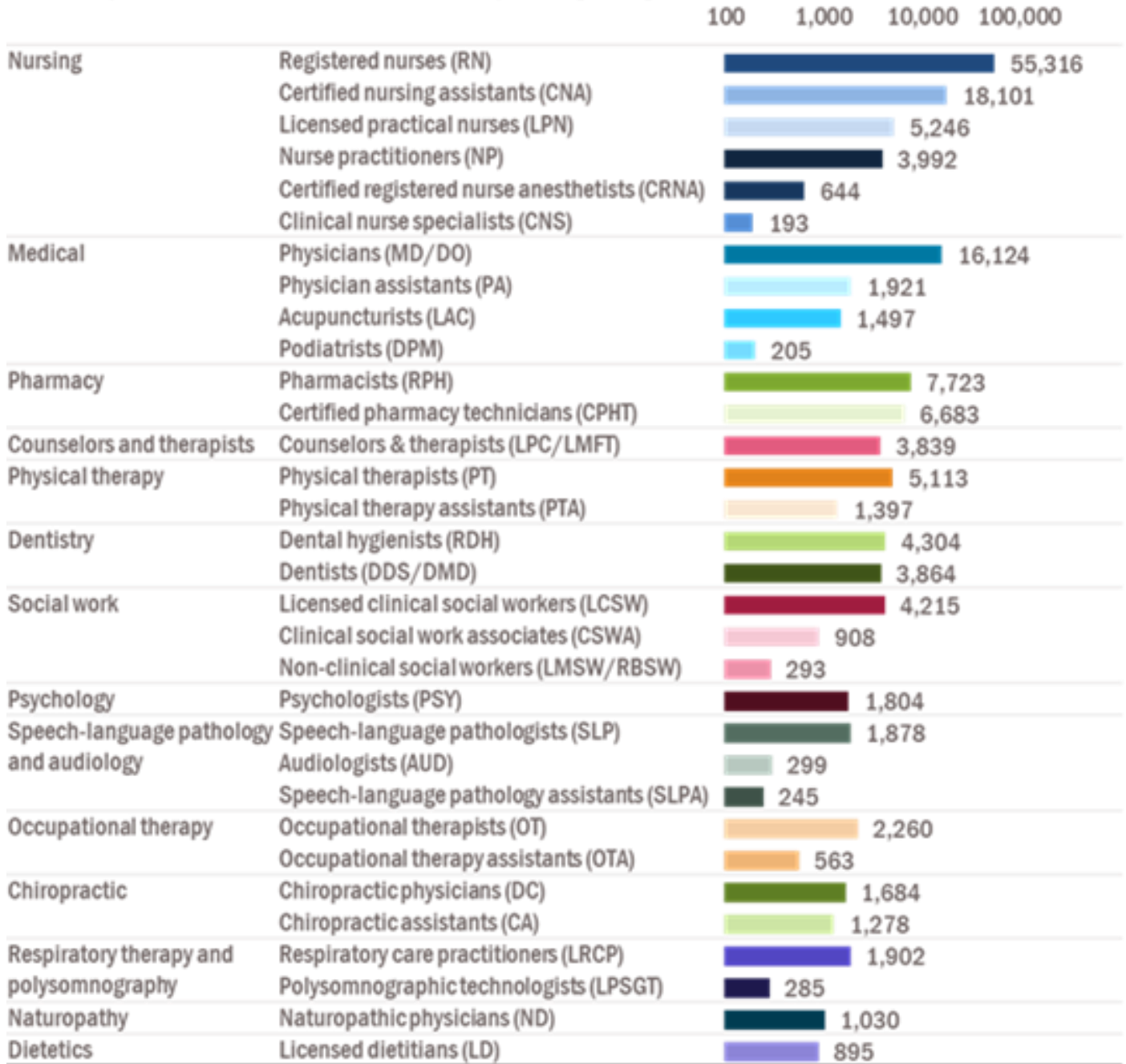
The 2016-2017 health care workforce reports are now available from the Oregon Health Authority (OHA). OHA’s [Health Care Workforce Reporting Program \(HWRP\)](#) collaborates with 17 state licensing boards to collect and analyze data for over 150,000 licensed health professionals in Oregon working in over 30 occupations (see figure below). The program surveys professionals practicing in physical, oral, behavioral health care and more. These data are used to understand Oregon’s workforce supply and to inform educational investments and policy recommendations.

Earlier in 2019, the HWRP released reports on both the [supply](#) and [diversity](#) of health care professionals practicing in Oregon. Occupational profile factsheets detailing supply, demographics and practice characteristics for each occupation reporting in the 2016 and 2017 licensing cycle are the newest release (click [here](#) to view the psychology occupational profiles).

Visit the [program website](#) to view all the current and historical reports, to request public use data and to subscribe to notices for future report releases. Questions? Email Wkfc.Admin@dhsoha.state.or.us

OHA Workforce Reports Released, Cont.

Number of active licensed health care professionals surveyed by the Oregon Health Authority's Health Care Workforce Reporting Program in 2016 and 2017 (log scale)



Pictured: Bar graph depicting the number of active licensed health care professionals surveyed by the Oregon Health Authority's Health Care Workforce Reporting Program in 2016 and 2017. The nursing workforce has the most licensed practicing professionals, followed by medical, pharmacy and then dentistry workforces. Ψ

Obituaries

Dr. Robert William Davis, 1934 - 2019

Dr. Robert W. Davis passed away peacefully on November 25 at the age of 85. His wife Mary Ann, daughters Molly and Suzanne, and son John survive him. His sons Robert and Joel, and daughter Mary Christine, predeceased him. Dr. Davis practiced clinical psychology for over 55 years, with a focus on individual and couples psychotherapy. Above all, he loved his family and patients and visited with many clients, colleagues, family members, and friends up until his final days.

Dr. John Perez Galindo, 1950 - 2019

It is with great sadness that the family of Dr. John Perez Galindo announces his passing Sunday, Nov. 10, 2019, at the age of 68. John will be lovingly remembered by the love of his life, wife of 51 years, Nancy; and his children, Sarah (John) and Laura. His four grandchildren, Isabel, Maya, Laylah and Quincy; and his brother, Dale (Shirley), will also affectionately remember John. John was preceded in death by his loving grandmother and mom. John went back to school later in life to pursue his Doctorate in Psychology from Pacific University. John's passion was helping others. Being able to make that his career brought him so much joy.

Dr. G. Timothy Scott, 1942 - 2019

Dr. G. Timothy Scott, Ph.D., of Eugene, Oregon, passed away on Sunday, November 17, 2019 at Riverbend Hospital in Eugene, Oregon. A talented and well-known bioenergetics psychotherapist, Dr. Scott was born on February 7, 1942 in Boise, Idaho. Before becoming a psychologist, Dr. Scott obtained a B.S. in Accounting from Oregon State University and worked as an auditor for Boise Cascade for a number of years. Determining his true calling lay in a different direction, he returned to school, earning a Ph.D. in Psychology from the University of Oregon in 1979.

Upcoming Events 2020

February

2/7: Oregon Jurisprudence Examination*
2/17: Office Closed for Presidents' Day
2/20: Consumer Protection Committee
2/21: Education Committee Meeting

March

3/6: Oregon Jurisprudence Examination*
3/13: **Board Meeting**
3/20: Education Committee Meeting

April

4/3: Oregon Jurisprudence Examination*
4/16: Consumer Protection Committee Meeting
4/17: Education Committee Meeting

May

5/1: Oregon Jurisprudence Examination*
5/8: **Board Meeting**
5/15: Education Committee Meeting
5/25: Office Closed for Memorial Day

**Committee meetings are tentatively scheduled each*

Reminder! Please make sure to update your email address if it changes so that you continue to receive correspondence. Notify us right away- but not more than 30 days- of any change in your contact information.

Please use our [Contact Information Change Form](#)



OBOP News is the official newsletter of the Oregon Board of Psychology and is edited by board staff. Please visit our website at Oregon.gov/psychology, email, or contact us with any comments or suggestions.

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