

Editorials

Preface: The Future of Rehabilitation Counseling Professional Associations

Rehabilitation Counselors and Educators Journal Editors

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Rehabilitation Counselors and Educators Journal

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Overview and Missions of ARCA, NRCA, and RCEA (ordered alphabetically)

American Rehabilitation Counseling Association (ARCA)

Parent Organization	The American Counseling Association (ACA)
Formation	1958
Members in 2022	652
Purpose/ Mission	ARCA is an organization of rehabilitation counseling practitioners, educators, and students who are concerned with continually improving the profession of rehabilitation counseling in its service to persons with disabilities. ARCA's mission is to enhance the development of people with disabilities throughout their life span and to promote excellence in the rehabilitation counseling profession. These goals are addressed by ARCA through public education and legislative activities.

Emphases

- To provide the type of leadership that encourages excellence in the areas of rehabilitation counseling practice, research, consultation, and professional development.
- To eliminate environmental and attitudinal barriers so that more opportunities are available with regard to education, employment, and community activities to people with disabilities.
- To increase public awareness of rehabilitation counseling and to extend its influence by encouraging members to become involved in the association's outreach and educational efforts.
- To help members develop their leadership skills through participation in ARCA's organizational activities
- To work with state officials to develop appropriate licensure requirements.

Strengths

- Provides leadership in advancing the profession and science of rehabilitation counseling.
- Promotes standards that represent the highest quality of professional rehabilitation counseling practice in a rapidly changing environment.
- Provides research findings with direct application to the current and future practice of rehabilitation counseling.
- Fosters dialogue and coordinates activities among rehabilitation counselors, educators, administrators, and other rehabilitation professionals within and among various specialty areas.
- Engages in active collaborations and partnerships with other national professional organizations and with consumer groups.
- Provides complimentary liability coverage for student members of ACA (parent association).

Publication *Rehabilitation Counseling Bulletin*

Website <http://www.arcaweb.org/>

National Rehabilitation Counseling Association (NRCA)

Parent Organization	None
Formation	1958
Members in 2022	159
Purpose/ Mission	NRCA is dedicated to the professional development of those committed to maximizing the self-determination and inclusion of people with disabilities. NRCA embraces a holistic approach to its mission to facilitate the fulfillment of human potential and promote global understanding of inclusivity. NRCA represents practitioners at all academic and practice levels and facilitates dialogue among practitioners from varying disciplines to share in the development of research, education, intervention strategies, and expanded opportunities for people with disabilities. Furthermore, NRCA seeks to increase awareness of work in these areas on a global level, so that synergies are recognized and communities of practice are expanded.

Emphases

- NRCA embraces a strengths-based, goal-oriented, and collaborative approach which focuses on (a) empowerment, (b) employment, and (c) community inclusion for people of all ages with disabilities, along with others who confront various sources of marginalization.

Strengths

- NRCA general membership and board membership is very diverse in terms of race, disability, age, gender, sexual orientation, geography, and socio-economic status.
- NRCA recognizes that disability and rehabilitation practice are global issues for which we provide a platform for respecting and learning from other cultures.
- The issues surrounding global social justice permeate everything NRCA does.
- NRCA is very supportive of rehabilitation students at all levels (Bachelor's, Master's, and Doctoral) and provide students a number of outstanding leadership opportunities.
- NRCA has an excellent and well-respected journal, the *Journal of Applied Rehabilitation Counseling*, which is one of the oldest journals in the field.
- NRCA offers hybrid conferences and webinars that provide excellent professional development opportunities for members and the broader rehabilitation community.

Publication	<i>Journal of Applied Rehabilitation Counseling</i>
Website	https://nationalrehabcounselingassociation.wildapricot.org/

Rehabilitation Counselors and Educators Association (RCEA)

Parent Organization	The National Rehabilitation Association (NRA)
Formation	2006
Members in 2022	232
Purpose/ Mission	RCEA brings together counselor educators and practicing counselors, providing research resources to those who wish to stay current on issues relevant to contemporary practice. RCEA provides a place for counselors and educators to come together, collaborate, and network. RCEA welcomes rehabilitation counselors from all practice settings and seek to provide members with training, continuing education opportunities, and more.

Emphases

- RCEA was born of a recognition that rehabilitation counselors and educators need to communicate and collaborate in order to provide the best possible services to individuals with disabilities. It is a significant purpose of this division to reignite the passion in our profession through such collaborations, and to strengthen professional identities of rehabilitation counselors.

Strengths

- It is an organization for rehabilitation counseling professionals that combines both practitioners and educators.
- Provides an open-access journal that allows for relatively easy dissemination throughout the field.
- It is a division of the oldest association for rehabilitation professionals in the National Rehabilitation Association with a history of state and regional activity.

Publication	<i>Rehabilitation Counselors and Educators Journal</i>
Website	https://www.nationalrehab.org/rcea

Presidents of ARCA, NRCA, and RCEA by Year

Year ^a		ARCA	NRCA	RCEA
1959		Salvatore DiMichael	David E. Young E. J. Buchanan	
1960		William Usdane	Robert A. Lassiter	
1961		Abraham Jacobs	Harley B. Reger	
1962		Lloyd Lofquist	LeRoy C. Larsen	
1963		C. H. Patterson	I. W. Leggett	
1964		William Gellman	Richard A. Koebler	
1965		Daniel Sinick	Gordon D. Smith	
1966		John McGowan	Charles D. Maine	
1967		John Muthard	Richard A. Morris	
1968		Marceline Jaques	Daniel C. McAlees	
1969		Martin Acker	Edwin J. Chorn	
1970		Leonard Miller	Alton R. Ray	
1971		Gregory Miller	Mary S. Smith	
1972		Richard Thoreson	Michael A. Oliverio	
1973		George Ayers	Carl E. Hansen	
1974		Lawrence Feinberg	Thomas K. White	
1975		George N. Wright	Betty S. Hedgeman	
1976		Tom Porter	Anne D. Crumpton	
1977		Ray Ehrie	James E. Gray	
1978		Bob Johnson	Philip Case	
1979		Frank Touchstone	Arnold Wolf	
1980		Don Linkowski	Joyce Pigg	
1981		Kenneth Reagles	Robert Hasbrook	
1982		Dan McAlees	Lawrence Warnock	
1983		Stanford Rubin	Henry C. DeVasher Jr.	
1984		Ken Thomas	Martha S. Wolf	
1985		Paul McCollum	Patricia A. Mundt	
1986		Edna Szymanski	Allen Searles	
1987		Randy Parker	Susan Magruder Pollock	
1988		Brian McMahon	John G. Moline	
1989		John Thompson	Ethel D. Briggs	
1990		Ross Lynch	Florence Curnutt	
1991		Dennis R. Maki	Patricia Nunez	
1992		Martha Walker	Robert Neuman	
1993		Jeanne Patterson	Richard Coelho	
1994		John Dolan	Madan Kundu	
1995		Linda Shaw	Jack Hackett	
1996		Michael Leahy	Jan La Forge	
1997		Bill Richardson	Joseph Turpin	
1998		Vilia Tarvydas	John Reno	
1999		Donna Falvo	Gregory G. Garske	
2000		Chow Lam	Win Priest	
2001		Deborah Ebner	Lorie McQuade	
2002		Ellen Fabian	Chris Reid	

Year ^a		ARCA	NRCA	RCEA
2003		Susan Bruyère	Thomas Wilson	
2004		Timothy Janikowski	Connie McReynolds	
2005		Betty Hedgeman	Connie McReynolds	
2006		Jan LaForge	Jeanne Patterson	Ray Feroz
2007		Irmo Marini	Jeanne Patterson	Dru Fentum
2008		Patty Nunez	Charles Palmer	
2009		Yolanda Edwards	Joseph Keferl	
2010		Carolyn Rollins	Penny Willmering	
2011		Frank Lane	Jennifer Wiebold	
2012		Carrie Wilde	Elizabeth Boland	
2013		Joe Keferl	Pat Decouteau	
2014		Paul Toriello	Connie McReynolds	
2015		David Staten	Thomas Wilson	Cayte Anderson
2016		Quiteya Walker	Angela Price	Dana Byrum
2017		Henry McCarthy	Ian Shadrack	Sara Johnston
2018		Michelle Bradham-Cousar	Chrisann Schiro-Geist	Stephen Zanskas
2019		Noel Ysasi	Michelle Marmé	Dru Fentum
2020		Michael Hartley	Michelle Marmé	John Keegan
2021		Stephen Zanskas	David Perry	Cayte Anderson
2022		Sonia Peterson	David Perry	Susan Benton-Flowers
2023		Valerie E. Dixon	Ian Shadrack	Rene Gonzalez

Note. ARCA = American Rehabilitation Counseling Association, NRCA = National Rehabilitation Counseling Association, RCEA = Rehabilitation Counselors and Educators Association. The greyed-out area for RCEA represents the years prior to its formation. Blank spaces that are not greyed out either did not have a president for that period or the president could not be determined by researchers or the designated association. Finally, leaders of all three associations were invited to write or to revise these descriptions prior to publication.

^a Year represents the year the individual's presidency concluded. In many cases, their presidency spanned two different years.