

Greetings from the Florida Counseling Association!

Here in the Sunshine State, the demand for **quality** professional counselors is on the rise. The **Florida Counseling Association** is the key to opportunities for professional development, networking, legislative awareness/public policy, advocacy and much more! FCA supports the continual growth and development of **your skills** as a professional counselor. Mental health, couples, marriage and family, school counselors and counselors in training are **networking** with each other more and more to empower clients to live health lifestyles and cope with the complicated world we live in today. **Awareness and advocacy** in state legislation plays a prominent role in allowing professional counselors to freely counsel populations ethically and effectively. **FCA** is a support system for *all* professional counselors and counselors in training.

FCA would like to invite you to renew or join our association. We are constantly on the move to improve and advance the counseling profession. Membership has its benefits! In our 65 years of serving counselors, we have been instrumental in “growing” qualified professional counselors through the services we provide...

- **ACA CONFERENCE REGISTRATION DISCOUNT:** FCA members will receive a registration discount for attending the 2015 ACA Conference & Expo at a cost of \$275 for Professionals and \$160 for New Professionals/Students/Retirees. Attendees can earn up to 17 CE hours with up to 32 tracks to choose from. Please contact ACA Member Relations Representatives to sign up for the conference at 1-800-347-6647 x 222, Monday – Friday, 8:00 am – 6:00 pm ET. For more information about the ACA Conference & Expo, please visit the website at www.counseling.org/conference.
- **Professional Development:** FCA hosts an **Annual Convention** (October), **Leadership Development Institute** (June). **Professional Development Institute** (year round) are a series of educational workshops provided by our Divisions and Regions throughout across the state throughout the year. Registration information about counseling workshops are posted on the website and in the Guidelines newsletter along with leadership opportunities. Visit us at www.flacounseling.org
- **Networking:** FCA provides opportunities for networking at **conventions, conferences, Divisional and Regional trainings and socials.** We support and sponsor local efforts to increase our public presence and network regionally, divisionally and across sister Associations. Our up-dated website and Guidelines newsletter inform you of the going on's around the state and regionally. **Division membership** provides you a connection to those who share your field and/or interests in professional counseling.
- **Legislation, Public Policy and Advocacy: FCA works for you.** Our association is active in state legislative issues. We work closely with likeminded sister Associations and encourage “grassroots” advocacy. Join others in Tallahassee, DC and in your home districts to see your efforts recognized and our legislative process in action at **Legislative Day(s)** and **Legislative Week(s).** Train to be an advocate for your state and county at our half day **legislative training** offered in the Fall at convention. We hope that you will join us in our advocacy campaigns for counselors and those we serve. **Don't be a victim, be an advocate.**
- **FCA Guidelines:** FCA's premier **newsletter!** Find out the latest in legislative matters, division and chapter updates, recognition, trainings, counseling websites and more!
- www.flacounseling.org: Our evolving **website!** Check out more detailed information about FCA and give us feedback on what you would like to see on our website. Join or renew FCA or register for convention on-line.

The **Florida Counseling Association** is working hard to promote and support the field of professional counseling in the state of Florida. We strive to provide the best tools and resources for our counselors to grow professionally and be successful in serving individuals, families and communities in Florida.

Activate your membership today and encourage a friend too!

Michelle Bradham-Cousar, FCA
President, 2014-2016

Anne Flenner, FCA
President-Elect, 2014-2016

Shon D. Smith, FCA,
Past President, 2014-2016