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Free CEU: Lactose Intolerance Webinar Jan. 25, 2010



NEXT VDA MEETING

JOIN US

Tuesday January 12th, 5:00 PM,

FAHC UHC

1 South Prospect St

St Joseph wing Room 5206

Burlington

VDA Presidents Message

Dear VDA Members

I am sure that it is has been a busy year for all of us personally, but it has also been a busy year for the Vermont Dietetic Association, and the American Dietetic Association. And the new Health Care Reform legislation dictates that 2010 will be another active and important year for us all.

I know that everyone is very busy with family, jobs, and other obligations but I strongly encourage **ALL** members to dedicate time this upcoming year to help strengthen and secure the perceived value of our professional services by the public, the medical and the public health community. VDA has formed a committee that is looking to clarify the role of the Registered Dietitian in Vermont's Blueprint for Health and to establish clear recommendations for the medical community for referrals to an RD within the Medical Home model. We must remember that although we are the profession that is uniquely qualified to provide dietary counseling, other healthcare professionals have dietary counseling within their scope of practice. The only way we can be sure that our unique services are valued, utilized and reimbursed as the new legislation unfolds, is by actively being engaged in the process itself.

Please make the time and take advantage of this opportunity to help shape the vitality of our profession. You can read about how you can be involved in this newsletter.

Have a great year!

Sylvia Geiger

VDA President

sylviamgeiger@hotmail.com



ADA Public Policy Workshop

The virtual 2009 ADA Public Policy Workshop was a highly successful event which reached a large number of members and will again be offered electronically starting on March 22, 2010. More details to follow soon.

Why should you attend the Public Policy Workshop?

We know, in addition to health-care reform initiatives already begun by state governments, should Congress successfully pass a bill and President Obama sign it into law early 2010, RDs across the country must be strategically positioned to ensure various measures are properly implemented.

We also know that Congress will be taking up Child Nutrition and the Older Americans Act Reauthorizations in 2010 and 2011, respectively. All of these federal initiatives have impact at the local and state levels, and that RDs need to be prepared to advocate for access to our services and the nutrition care consumers need.

The challenges presented by the legislative agenda and later by implementation of the law into regulation and by funding opportunities to state and local governments, require an ever more sophisticated grassroots force. ADA believes that PPCs and SPRs are critical to ensuring the grassroots is informed, motivated and mobilized to make the right things happen. But that also requires training in advocacy techniques, knowledge of how government works, communications and leadership.



Member Spotlight-Leslie Langevin

1. Tell us about yourself, your past and present jobs, how long you have been an RD and what you find to be the most interesting part of your job.

I grew up in South Burlington and attended the University of Vermont where I got my Bachelor's and Master's degree in Dietetics. I recently became a RD in August. I have always been very interested in research and have worked at the General Clinical Research Center at Fletcher Allen Health Care as a Bionutrition Research Aide for the past year. I presented my own Master's research on worksite wellness programs, this past year at FNCE in a poster session. I am just starting out and have many different occupation venues that all involve nutrition. I work as the coordinator for UVM nutrition student internships, as a per diem clinical dietitian at Porter Hospital, and I have been developing a private practice over the past few months to provide nutrition counseling and group presentations to worksites. One of my first exciting jobs will be providing one-on-one nutrition counseling and group classes for the Essex School District. I find it very interesting to work with the UVM students, and learning about all of the different research protocols that are being studied. My greatest challenge so far is trying to develop my private practice, in terms of learning how to market, and how to accept insurance reimbursement.

2. How did you get into this field?

I started out in college as a pre-dental/med major, with the hopes of one day being an orthodontist. My love of the Foodnetwork opened my eyes to the world of food, and when I started learning about nutrition I knew it was the right path for me.

3. Aside from your professional career, what else would you like VDA members to know about you?

I am new to the VDA crowd and am happy to be part of this wonderful group. In addition to my love of everything food related, I enjoy running, cross-country skiing, biking, hiking, gardening, and winemaking. My husband jokes that I have turned our backyard into a mini farm, since every year I take another 10 feet for the garden. I have many career aspirations, and I'm excited to think about where life's adventures will take me.

Become a FACEBOOK friend.



You are invited to become a member of VDA's Facebook page. Stay connected with other VDA members. View photos of past events and find out more information about what is coming in the future. If you are new to Facebook, do not worry. Creating an account is quick, easy, and free.

To Create a Facebook account:

1. Visit www.facebook.com
2. Create an individual Facebook profile for yourself

Minimal information is required and you can choose settings that only allow people you select to see your information. It's worth it.

Then ask to join our new group "Vermont Dietetic Association"

We would like to acknowledge Deana Novembrino and Joe Frost for their assistance in setting up this Facebook page.

Desiree de Waal
Website Administrator