

## AMTA-Maryland Chapter

July 2015

### Dear Maryland AMTA Members:

We, your delegates to the AMTA House of Delegates, are asking for your input.

Delegates are your voice in AMTA leadership, and as your elected representatives, we encourage you to read on and share your thoughts about the recommendations and proposals we will be considering this August at the National Convention in Pittsburgh.

Thank you,  
Robin Anderson & Amelia Mitchell

The volunteer seated House of Delegates is structured to represent the opinions of our members. The delegates keep the association strategically focused by presenting bylaw changes for the Board of Directors' review. The House of Delegates also votes on proposed AMTA Position Statements that reflect AMTA's stance on important massage therapy issues.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### Human Trafficking (Indiana Chapter)

**Recommendation that a workgroup or operations committee be established to research and recommend a plan that the American Massage Therapy Association can use to develop support material and create a guide for working with Homeland Security, the Human Trafficking Task Force, and other organizations working on human trafficking.**

*Delegates' Note -while we agree that Human Trafficking is a serious issue and that it does affect our industry, the suggestions seem beyond the scope of the AMTA and we would suggest a more educational proposal to support members in understanding and taking action, if necessary, to help end Human Trafficking.*

Read the recommendation here =>

### Complimentary Online CEUs (Wisconsin Chapter)

**To advance the art, science, and practice of massage therapy, as well as to increase member satisfaction and member retention it**

**is recommended that AMTA offer complimentary online CE to its members.**

*Delegates' Note - We agree that complimentary CEUs would be a nice perk of membership, we also value and appreciate the expense of developing quality educational materials and making them available online. Perhaps a small number of required courses, such as Ethics and HIV and Communicable Diseases could be made available at no cost, while new or more extensive courses continue to be available for a reasonable fee.*

[Read the recommendation here =>](#)

## **Media Education Kit (Wisconsin Chapter)**

**Recommend the Board commission the creation of a model journalist/media education kit for chapters send to authors and publishers in response to negative representation of massage therapy in media.**

*Delegates' Note - We would encourage the kit to be educational, not defensive and would also suggest that the kit include tools such as talking points for local chapters and representatives if they are asked by the media to respond to a situation.*

[Read the recommendation here =>](#)

## **POSITION STATEMENT PROPOSALS**

### **Massage for Burn Scars**

**It is the position of the American Massage Therapy Association (AMTA) that massage therapy may assist in the rehabilitation of burn scars.**

*Delegates' Note - We agree with the position statement and appreciate the preparation that has gone into it. There are a few edits and minor corrections, otherwise we look forward to approving this proposal.*

[Read the proposal here =>](#)

### **Portability**

**It is the position of the American Massage Therapy Association (AMTA) that regulations, in statute and/or rules, should provide options for portability of credentials, which can be used to help meet the licensing, certification, or registration requirements of massage therapists across the United States.**

*Delegates' Note - We all want Licensed Massage Therapists to be able to move around the country more freely and be able to obtain licensing in other states with fewer obstacles and burdens. AMTA holds a unique position as it works with lobbyists on the state level for appropriate legislation. We recognize the approval of this Position Statement will*

*continue the process which will bring AMTA further into the forefront of this national concern. It is our hope that National will be willing to bring the financial resources that will be required for the legislation for true portability to be created around the USA.*

Read the proposal here =>

## YOUR 2015 DELEGATES

**Robin Anderson, LMT, BCTMB, CEAS - Lead Delegate for AMTA-MD chapter**

**Amelia Mitchell, LMT, LLCC, NCBTMB**

We want to hear from you! Please send an email [maryland@amtamassage.org](mailto:maryland@amtamassage.org) if you would like to offer any opinions/viewpoints. We would appreciate receiving responses by August 3rd, 2015. And please feel free to reach out to us. All of our contact information is listed on the AMTA website. We are here for you.

## CURIOUS ABOUT NATIONAL CONVENTION?

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania | August 19-22

Join us in Pittsburgh this year! Marylanders can simply drive up and save a bit in travel expenses. As an attendee you will have an opportunity to take CEU classes from leading educators, and learn about so many other aspects of your industry. You will meet and socialize with massage therapists, educators and vendors, getting a chance to really connect with others from Maryland as well as around the country. Therapists who attend National tend to be leaders in the field, people who are curious and ready to learn more. Join us in August. All the information you need is available on the [national website](#), and feel free to contact us also for more information. Your Maryland Chapter is planning to gather with our neighbors during convention for a meet and greet - stay tuned for details.

Full Convention info here =>