

American Probation and Parole Association A Force for Positive IIII

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Dear Members and Community Corrections Professionals:

The world of probation and parole, much like the world itself, is in a strange and transitional time in history as a result of COVID-19. You're still being asked to keep our communities safe, but now there are measures obstructing your work that no one could have anticipated just over a month ago. The American Probation and Parole Association (APPA) knows your work is challenging. And on behalf of the board of directors, led by APPA President Tim Hardy, and the staff, we want you to know we appreciate you and your dedication to client supervision.

As all of us adjust to the new normal, APPA is working hard to meet you wherever you may be. We understand the collective strength of our field. Fortunately, our industry is filled with great leaders, both emerging and experienced, and we will work with all to develop solutions for our brand-new world. Member education is a fundamental component of APPA. As such, our digital resources are expanding like never before, and we hope they make your work life easier in some small ways. Our 45th Anniversary Webinar Series will provide opportunities for contact hours throughout the coming months. Check back regularly as we continue to update our offerings including some exciting partnerships.

Our website features a regularly updated Coronavirus Resource Page to keep you apprised of how the justice system is impacted. Plus, APPA Connect is seeing more traffic than ever as members ask or answer questions regarding COVID-19 and other pressing concerns. You missed a great conversation if you didn't connect to last weeks' virtual roundtable, but no worries, part two is coming soon.

As our understanding of this tumultuous time deepens, we hope that you'll share information and knowledge with us as well. What are we doing that works best? What ways can we improve? What else can we do to assist you? Reach out to us via email or on Facebook, Twitter, or LinkedIn with ideas and questions. Please email questions about membership or communications to aburch@csg.org.

This pandemic is already having a seismic impact on APPA, and we need you now more than ever – we need your support, advocacy, and membership, and we will continue to provide valuable service to you for years to come. As Governor Beshear of Kentucky says, "we will get through this together." We know this time will pass, and all will be stronger for it. The work we do now is a steppingstone to a brighter future. And while I can't make assumptions about what the recovery will look like or when it will begin to happen, I know it is time to reset. Team APPA is dedicated to rethinking the educational experience and reengineering our business model to ensure we offer the value you deserve. Thank you for your service. Stay safe and healthy and have hope!

Sincerely,

Veronica Cunningham APPA Executive Director

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