



DIRECTIONS

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We are now NEW PATHS!

The recent vote of our association's membership has led to several changes. The most notable and obvious is the addition of a trailer to our name. This change has already led to questions from some members. With those inquires in mind the following recommendations are being sent to all State and local chapters as well as members through this letter. As other questions come up or further clarification is needed please contact our By-Law chair, Suzanne Weber or me.

- Effective November 1, 2005, the name of our Association is the National Eligibility Workers Association: Professionals Associated Through Human Services (NEW: PATHS).
- The trailer PATHS may be added to Chapter names. Example: Mountain State Chapter of NEW PATHS.
- In keeping with Article IX Section 6 of the National By-Laws chapter by-laws should reflect the National By-Law name change where applicable.
- Changes to chapter or State logos and Policy and Procedure handbooks will be at the discretion of the local chapter.

These are the first of many changes that will be the result of the votes cast by our members. These changes are new to all of us and it is an opportunity for continued growth and improvement in our Association. Thank you for your continued support of NEW: PATHS.

Pam Harrison

OMAHA, HERE WE COME!

Where is Omaha, Nebraska and what can they offer me? Omaha is located right in the middle of the US and could be the most centrally located city.

Omaha has tasty treats including several restaurants amid a century-old warehouse. Have you ever tasted the tender Omaha STEAK? They have shops and more shops located in the heart of downtown. There is an OLD MARKET that provides unique and interesting shops, boutiques and pubs along cobblestone streets. Also located in Omaha is BORSHIEM's FINE JEWELRY & GIFTS, which is America's largest independent jewelry store. Omaha's newest shopping center VILLAGE POINTE opened in May of 2004.

Ranked the Best Zoo by Readers Digest, there is so much to see at the world-renowned OMAHA'S HENRY DOORLY ZOO. There is the GORILLA VALLEY, a three-acre

continued on page 4

Letter From The President

Pam Harrison

I want to take the time in my first letter to you as your new President to tell you a little about myself. I have been married for 31 years. Keith and I met in college. Like all parents we have beautiful, smart, accomplished children. They are starting on their own new paths as they leave home. What the future holds for all of the Harrison's as we experience these changes is exciting as well as thought provoking.

Such are the changes we as an association are facing with the start of NEW PATHS. There will be many challenges. As members, **you** are the foundation of our association. As we reach out to include new members, from different human ser-

vices fields, that foundation will grow stronger and more diverse. The commitment, however, will remain the same. We will provide a professional association that reaches out to educate and heighten your professional skills.

NEW PATHS has always been a source of renewal for me. It makes me proud to be an eligibility worker and to belong to an association that cares both about its members and the work they do. While change is an everyday occurrence within our profession, the constant support offered by NEW PATHS remains solid. As a Board we are reaching out to membership to help in exploring our future. Please let us know the best way to help you and our association.

ADVERTISE WITH NEW PATHS



Do you have a great product or service that would interest NEW PATHS members?

- Reach NEW PATHS members nationwide.
- We have space for you in our newsletter!
- Cost per business card size ad is \$25.00 per issue or \$90.00 for 4 issues.

For more information please contact:
Suzanne Weber at
18webs@state.nd.us

Explore NEW PATHS in Omaha

The theme for the 2006 conference will be "Explore NEW PATHS in Omaha." Your Board of Directors is doing the groundwork for the conference in Omaha, Nebraska, August 20 - 23, 2006.

Some of the things that we have planned for 2006 will be:

- **Representatives from TANF, FNS and Medicaid** – hear about the reauthorization of TANF, changes in Food Stamp eligibility requirements and the prescription drug authorization known as Part D. Hear it first about changes coming from the Federal level.
- **A wide variety of workshops** – we are planning a mix of informational program workshops as well as self-actualization and self-improvement workshops.
- **Night Out With NEW PATHS** – as always a fun and exciting evening exploring a part of our Host City
- **Attendee Luncheon** – a great meal with wonderful networking opportunities
- **First Timer's Orientation** – If you have never attended a NEW PATHS conference – this is the place for you.
- **Prizes, prizes, prizes. Lots of door prizes!**
- **And a host of other information and fun activities for your personal and professional growth.**

Watch future issues of this newsletter and our website at www.nationalnew.org for more information.

NEW PATHS needs you!

As we begin a new year many changes are occurring in our organization. We have a new name (NEW PATHS), a new president (Pam Harrison), and four new national board members. Now is the time to think about running for a board member position. Next year there will be 4 positions open on the Board of Directors.

Members of the Board of Directors participate on various standing and special committees, represent the membership on planning and policy making, act as an advocate for NEW PATHS, participate in existing state and local chapters and participate in other activities to encourage membership at all levels of the association.

Qualifications for becoming a member of the Board of Directors are fully explained in the bylaws. "Eligible candidates shall be members of the National organization for at least the 12 months immediately preceding August 31 of the election year and be a voting member in order to be eligible to run for the National Board of Directors" *Article VIII Section 3 of the bylaws*. Board members are elected and serve a three-year term.

All newly elected Board members take office on November 1st.

ETHICS BEGINNING AND BEYOND

Ethics is the study of how people treat each other and whether their behavior is right or wrong. Ethics is questions, a search for truth. We need to be a "hunter" for truth. Everyone becomes a judge of what is right or wrong in the search for truth. We need to become committed and follow through on this search. Our ethics influence choices we make in our lives and our workplace. Ethics involve our own personal values and applying those values to where we have been and to where we are going today and tomorrow.

When making choices in a complex world, we are often faced with ethical dilemmas. To make the right choices, we need to ask ourselves three questions: Is it legal? Is it balanced? And, is it prideful? As Eleanor Roosevelt once stated, "No one can make you feel inferior without your permission." When we make choices, we need to be aware of others and what effect those decisions will have on them. Always remember, "There is no right way to do a wrong thing."

Keep in mind the 5 "P's" of ethical decision making:

1. Perspective—Know your facts and be objective.
2. Purpose – Find your purpose, mission statement.
3. Pride – What if your decision is published in the newsletter?
4. Patience – Understand the difference between patience and tolerance.
5. Persistence – At first if you don't succeed, try again. Always have options available.

NEW PATHS

A recent vote of the membership has added the name trailer (PATHS) to our name. We are now known as NEW PATHS. This addition has brought about many changes for our association.

- A new logo is being developed, it will be replace our current logo and should be available soon.
- We will be updating all written materials such as letterhead, pamphlets and brochures with the new name and the new logo. These supplies will be replaced as the old materials are depleted.
- We are currently discussing the pin for the national association. Look for more information in future newsletter editions!

During the recent vote, the size of the National Board was also decreased to 14 members. This will happen with the next election (2006). Currently, there are six board members whose terms will expire this year. There will be four seats available at this election. In addition, board members are limited to four consecutive terms (12 years) served on the National Board.

Further directives about these changes have been provided to your Chapter President. If you need additional information, please contact Suzanne Weber, By-Laws Chairperson or Pam Harrison, President.

NEW PATHS Chapter Challenge

The 2006 Membership Drive was designed by NEW PATHS' National Membership Committee to increase overall membership through the chartering of new chapters in 2006. Any active chapter may take this challenge, so GET INVOLVED!! Here's how it will work.

NEW PATHS will award \$200 to the first three active chapters who actively mentor and sponsor the establishment of any newly chartered chapter by November 30, 2006.

Currently "inactive" chapters are exempt from this offer as they have already received their charters, but they are all strongly encouraged to "reactivate" their chapters to increase their chapter's membership. The sponsoring chapter is not eligible to receive any other incentive or rebate related to the new chapter formation. Also, the newly established chapter is not eligible for any other incentive or rebate for the charter members of the new chapter. The newly formed chapter is however, eligible for the seed money that is given to them once they receive their charter. Chapter Presidents have been sent a listing of all active NEW PATHS chapters as well as a listing of potential state contacts in all 50 states to get you started. The NEW PATHS Chapter Handbook will soon be available on our website, www.nationalnew.org for you to refer to when sponsoring a new chapter. Upon request, a PowerPoint on disk entitled, "How to Start a Chapter" can be available by contacting Jennifer Sipe of the Membership Committee at sipej@saccounty.net.

So, NEW PATHS Chapters, start your engines and let's get some new chapters formed!!

Other Incentives:

The training incentive for members who join, rejoin or renew their membership when they attend a local or state chapter sponsored training event is still in place for 2006 as well as the GRIN Rebate. To take advantage of any of these incentives, please check out the details on our website, www.nationalnew.org. For questions concerning this membership drive, please contact the Chair of the 2006 Membership Committee, Julie Berger at bergej@co.mecklenburg.nc.us.



National Eligibility Workers Association
Professionals Associated Through Human Services

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Continued from page 1

valley where you are on exhibit and the gorillas roam free; LIED JUNGLE, the world's largest indoor rain forest and DESERT DOME. Also for nature lovers is the LAURITZEN GARDENS, an impressive garden that covers 115 acres with more than 2,000 roses.

For art lovers there are extensive displays of American Western art, Old World masters and first-class traveling exhibits at the JOSLYN ART MUSEUM, a premier visual arts center. Be sure to see the magnificent 35-foot tall sculpture of multi-colored blown glass. The HOLLAND PERFORMING ARTS CENTER opened in October 2005.

Last but not least is the world-famous BOYS TOWN HALL OF HISTORY where you can watch an interactive, audio-visual lesson on the visionary Father Flanagan and childcare in the United States.

Please join us August 20-23 for an exciting time Exploring NEW PATHS in OMAHA!

Gerri Zeimens