



Advocacy and Today's Occupational Therapy Practitioner: Fire Up Your Political Power!

33RD ANNUAL CONFERENCE
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA
October 23, 2009



“POWER THROUGH ADVOCACY & CLINICAL EXCELLENCE”

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SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA
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Centennial Vision

"We envision that occupational therapy is a powerful, widely recognized, science-driven, and evidence-based profession with a globally connected and diverse workforce meeting society's occupational needs."



Power



► ADVOCACY

- Advocacy Track at 2009 OTAC Conference
- Region 2 Legislative Reception – OT Month Celebration!
- Over 50 healthcare related bills monitored in Spring 2009!



AGENDA FOR ADVOCACY TRACK

- ▶ Understand the current political climate in California
- ▶ Overview of OTAC Government Affairs
- ▶ Overview of California Business and Professions Activities
- ▶ Political Action Committees: What Are They & Why Are They Important
- ▶ Overview of State Policy Issues

AGENDA FOR ADVOCACY TRACK

- ▶ Grassroots Advocacy Training
- ▶ Guest Presentation from Mary Hayashi (D-Hayward), Chair of the California State Assembly Business and Professions Committee
- ▶ Lunch – CFOT Luncheon
- ▶ Legislative Capitol Office Visits
- ▶ Personal Advocacy Plan

Advocacy Panel Presenters

- ▶ **Dave Helmsin & Jennifer Snyder, Capitol Advocacy**
OTAC Lobbyists
- ▶ **Jane Dressler, JD, OTR/L & Gigi Smith, MS, OTR/L**
OTAC Government Affairs Co-Chairs
- ▶ **Chuck Willmarth**
AOTA Director of State and Regulatory Affairs
- ▶ **Winifred Schultz-Krohn, PhD, OTR/L, BCP, FAOTA**
OTAC Political Action Committee Chair

Advocacy Panel Presenters

- ▶ **Denise Miller, MBA, OTR/L**
AOTPAC Region 5 Director
- ▶ **Amy Lamb, OTD, OTR/L**
AOTPAC Chair
- ▶ **Andrea Heinrichs, MA, OTR/L, OTDS**
OTAC Doctoral Resident - Advocacy
- ▶ **Karen Polastri**
OTAC Executive Director