Pizzazz…was the word used to describe the much needed update to the Practice Council monthly notes. We all are a part of many formal organizations that follow the traditional meeting format. Well that format can be slightly dull and lack “pizzazz”. Additionally, it can be viewed as less engaging and limits the opportunities for meaningful discussions. After the January brainstorming teleconference the Leadership Team convened and discussed with members the ways we could foster deeper connections among our membership. Thus, The Practitioner Connection (tentatively named) was born! This informal communication will be released monthly and will feature hot topics, member spotlights, and updates. If you have other ideas, let us know!

New Member Spotlight
We are always excited to have new members who bring fresh ideas and perspectives. Let’s give a warm welcome to a few of our newest members! Please reach out to them and make them feel welcome!

Ramy Barhouche
Practitioner
Beirut, Lebanon
rbharouche@gmail.com
Practice Interests:
Youth/Community Development; Social Capital;
Formal/Informal Education

Jennifer Renick
Student/Practitioner
Los Angeles, CA
jrenick@students.pitzer.edu
Practice Interests:
School-based interventions; at-risk youth

Sarah Small
Student (Marymount California University)
Ranchos Palos Verdes, CA
SSmall1@marymountcalifornia.edu
Practice Interests:
Community development; family strengthening;
community engagement; resource development;
program planning

Esprene Liddell
Graduate Assistant (Penn State Harrisburg)
Middletown, PA
espreneliddell@gmail.com
Practice Interests:
Program evaluation, organizational development,
youth development and community enhancement

Julia Siwierka
Graduate Student (Wichita State University) Wichita, KS
juliasiwierka@gmail.com
Practice Interests: program evaluation

Kamee Abrahamian
Student (Pacifica Graduate Institute)
Portland, OR
lorikamee@gmail.com
Practice Interests:
tergenerational trauma;
multidisciplinary arts and media,
diversity; gender politics

More new members featured next month!
Hot Topics

Practitioners we would like to use this space to identify hot topics in the news that we should be discussing as a council. Each month the call will designate time to discuss a hot topic that was selected by members. Topics can include social justice issues such as gun control, voting rights, etc. Also, topics may stem around the community psychology field. What topic should we discuss in March?

Tell us here: http://goo.gl/forms/pfCk1xWVpc

January Meeting Recap

• The January Strategic Planning Call included conducting a Strengths-Weaknesses-Opportunities-Threats (S.W.O.T) Analysis on the council. In addition to celebrating successes, members identified areas of improvement including:
  o Effectively connecting and engaging members
  o Enhancing practice/practice council visibility in new, engaging ways
  o Enhancing/maximizing collaborative relationships within the Society
  o Engaging in energized practice activities

• The SCRA Community Grants Program has received funding for the sixth year!
  o Congratulations to Jessica Drum who has been appointed the new co-administrator for the Mini-Grants program!

• Find the full January minutes online: http://scra27.org/what-we-do/practice/documents/

Practice Council Leadership Team

Olya Glantsman: Co-Chair (EC Representative)
Kyrah Brown: Co-Chair
Jasmine Douglas: Secretary/Historian
Alaa AlDoh: Representative to the Website and Social Media Committee
Nicole Freund: Recruitment Coordinator
Carlos Luis: Past Council Chair

Contact us: compsychpractice@gmail.com | Visit us online: http://scra27.org/what-we-do/practice/