

## FROM WHERE I SIT

by Jacqueline A. Watson, DO, MBA, Executive Director

# 2014

Spring has Sprung! And it's time to update you on the many activities the Board has been involved in since our last publication in summer 2013.

### Here are a few noteworthy mentions:

In September 2013, we co-hosted the Federation of Chiropractic Licensing Boards (FCLB) District III & V regional conference held in Washington, DC. The meeting was very well attended and discussions were held on topics such as the chiropractic workforce and the ACA impact, regulating chiropractic assistants and transparency with the public on disciplining licensees. Representatives from both the Mayor's and Councilmember Yvette Alexander's offices were in attendance. CM Alexander's office presented a proclamation on behalf of the City Council declaring September 20, 2013, National Chiropractic Regulation Day. Dr. Vanterpool was honored to accept this designation on behalf of the Board and the Board has agreed to use the month of September to host an annual meeting for the public and licensees. (See more on page 7.)

### FAREWELL

In October, we bid Feseha Woldu, PhD, farewell and good luck. Dr. Woldu served as the Sr. Deputy Director of the Health Regulation and Licensing Administration (HRLA) for fourteen years. During his tenure, Dr. Woldu was instrumental in shaping HRLA into the highly regarded organization it is today with over 180 employees that staff more than 22 professional boards and regulate over 70,000 licensees. Dr. Woldu is now the Vice President of Quality at Howard University Hospital and we wish him all the best. (See page 4.)

### WELCOME

- In January, we welcomed **Rikin Mehta, PharmD, JD, LLM**, as the new Sr. Deputy Director for HRLA. Dr. Mehta joins us from the US Food and Drug Administration. Dr. Mehta has brought with him a collaborative culture that promises to enhance the operations of HRLA. I enthusiastically look forward to working with him as he executes his vision to move HRLA to the next level. (Meet him on page 3.)
- In November 2013, the Board welcomed new chiropractic member, **Carol Hopson, DC**. Since joining the Board Dr. Hopson has gotten right down to work and her contribution to the Board is already being appreciated by her peers. (Meet Dr. Hopson on page 6.)
- In addition, I am happy to report that we welcomed three new staff members to our licensing team, **Marvin Romero, LaJuan Jeffries-Johnson** and **Mary Harris**. (Meet them on page 4.)

### 2014 WORKFORCE SURVEY

In February, the Board disseminated an online workforce capacity survey to all licensees. The survey is meant to capture and analyze critical demographic and practice information data in order to measure current, and determine future, chiropractic workforce needs in our nation's capital, particularly with the implementation of the Affordable Care



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Act. I am happy to report that 56% of eligible licensees responded to the survey. The data from the survey is being analyzed and a final report will be published later in the fiscal year. The report will be used to help inform policy makers and decision makers about the chiropractic workforce in the nation's capital.

### RENEWALS 2014

2014 renewals will begin on October 1, 2014. The Board posted a policy guideline to their website last year regarding recommendations on CE quantity and quality. After several discussions, and a review of other state board requirements, the DC BOC decided that the quantity of CE hours required during renewal should increase from 24 to 30 hours. The Board believes that the additional 6 CE hours over 2 years will allow licensees to acquire knowledge in subject areas the Board believes is relevant to continued safe practice. The Board recommends that licensees obtain

CE's in the following subject areas—**3 hours of communicable diseases, including HIV/AIDS, and 5 hours in any combination of ethics, risk management documentation, record keeping and cultural competency**. Though not currently required by law, the Board encourages members to start taking courses in the subject areas listed above. I encourage you to visit [www.doh.dc.gov/boc](http://www.doh.dc.gov/boc) and select the link "**Board of Chiropractic policies**" to keep abreast of new policies recommended by the Board.

### CEU AUDIT

The Board conducted a 100% CEU audit in 2013 and obtained a 92% compliance rate. **Please remember that all licensees are required to complete 24 hours of CEU's to be eligible for renewal.** All courses must conform to DCMR §17-4807 and licensees that are non-compliant with their CEU's will be disciplined by the Board.

### FCLB ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Dr. Vanterpool, Board Attorney, Brian Kim and I attended the 88th Annual Educational Congress in Myrtle Beach. The theme, **Changing Tides of Regulation**, brought together a diverse group of chiropractic regulators from around the country, and internationally, to discuss hot topics in chiropractic such as licensure portability in the face of the Patient Protection Affordable Care Act, Telehealth, Advertising issues such as Groupon Contracts and fee-splitting. (More on page 5.)

The Board will continue to fulfill its mission to serve and protect the public and ensure high standards of chiropractic care and professionalism through best-practices in regulation, education and outreach.

2014 promises to be an exciting year for the Board. September has been designated as Chiropractic month by the Board and DC BOC will host an open house for the public where they will release the findings of the workforce survey report conducted earlier this year. Stay tuned for the date. Our next issue will be in September 2014. Until then, Be Well.