**Highlights from the NKF SCM April 10-14, 2018 in Austin, Texas**

4 CRN Region Representatives, 4 Alternate Representatives, the CRN Chair, Chair-elect, Past-chair, RenaLink Editor and Spring Clinical Meetings (SCM) Program Chairs attended the 2018 NKF Spring Clinical Meetings (SCM) held at the Austin Convention Center in Austin, Texas.

Approximately 2800 people attended the conference, with 311 Dietitians registered.

Strategies I and II were held on Tuesday, April 10 and both received mostly positive feedback. We are pleased to announce our new Strategies I Course Director, Pam Kent, & our new Strategies II Course Director, Mary Sundell, for the SCM 2019 in Boston, MA.

The CRN Executive Committee (EC) is currently working on several projects:

* Updating patient education materials available on kidney.org
* Updating the CRN Handbook to reflect current roles and responsibilities
* Creating a Chronic Kidney Disease RD Database – This will provide a place for patients and practitioners to easily find qualified Dietitian practitioners working with pre-dialysis patients. If you are interested in adding yourself to this list, please contact your Regional Representative.
* Updating the KDOQI nutrition guidelines – These are set to be released early 2019.
* Updating the National Renal Diet – Joint project with AND’s RPG. Proposed completion 2019.
* Updating “A Clinical Guide to Nutrition Care in Kidney Disease” – Joint project with AND’s RPG. Proposed completion early 2020.
* Updating the Renal SOP/SOPP – Joint project with AND’s RPG. Proposed completion 2020.

CRN will be holding elections this year for Regions II and IV Representative, their Alternate Representatives and Chair-Elect. Any members residing in these regions interested in running for office are encouraged to please apply online. Nominations will be open mid-August through October 15th.

Nominations are currently open for award nominations for Recognized Renal Dietitian, Recognized Regional Renal Dietitian, Susan Knapp Award, Kopple Award and Outstanding Service Award.  Any member may nominate a member of their own or another discipline. Nominations are due July 20th. The CRN voted and approved to add local council awards for 1 large council and 1 small council each year. Please be on the lookout for award criteria as nominations will be accepted in Summer 2019.

CRN has 2 research grants currently offered. A CRN-Keryx Renal Nutrition Research Grant in the amount of $68,000. Applications are due July 19th. A NKF CRN Research Grant for $10,000 is also available soon. Applications for this grant will open August through October 15th. Further grant information may be found here: <https://www.kidney.org/professionals/research/awards>.

Our Kopple award recipient was Angela Yee Moon Wang, MD, PhD, FRCP and the CRN networking luncheon speaker was Kathy Harvey, MS, RDN, CSR.

The Journal on Renal Nutrition is looking for articles for their Product Update and Patient Education sections. They are also looking for more RD reviewers. If you are interested in writing an article or acting as a reviewer, please contact your Region Representative for more information.

CRN re-affiliation of local councils is open now through October 15th. Please visit <https://form.jotform.us/61014346215141> for affiliation renewal.

The Kidney Friendly Recipe Contest is once again underway! The winning recipe will be featured at the 2019 NKF SCM. The winner will receive a 1-year complimentary membership to NKF-CRN. Submissions are due September 14th. Find out more at <https://www.kidney.org/professionals/CRN/aboutcrn#recipe>.

**NKF Updates:**

The NKF staff reviewed numerous accomplishments and projects over the last year:

* The Big Ask, Big Give (<https://www.kidney.org/transplantation/livingdonors>)
* Discount Prescription Card Partnership with Watertree (<https://www.kidney.org/atoz/content/exciting-new-product-to-save-money-your-prescription-medications>)
* 2017 KDOQI Home Dialysis Controversies Conference – Discussions on how to overcome barriers for home dialysis (<https://www.kidney.org/contents/kdoqi-home-dialysis-controversies-conference>)
* An upcoming CKD Patient Registry
* Updated KDOQI Vascular Access Guidelines (anticipated publication Summer 2018)
* Updating the kidney.org website throughout 2018
* Outreach Programs, including: NKF Cares Helpline (<https://www.kidney.org/nkfcares>), NKF Peers (<https://www.kidney.org/patients/peers>), Keep Healthy Screenings (<https://www.kidney.org/keephealthy>)
* Several Nutrition Apps available:
	+ Journal on Renal Nutrition (<https://www.kidney.org/apps/professionals/journal-renal-nutrition-jrn-app>)
	+ CRN Pocket Guide (<https://www.kidney.org/apps/professionals/crn-pocket-guide-nutrition-assessment-patient-ckd-mobile-app>)
	+ My Food Coach (<https://www.kidney.org/apps/patients/my-food-coach-app>)
	+ Gout Central (<https://www.kidney.org/apps/patients/gout-central>)
	+ H2Overload (<https://www.kidney.org/apps/patients/h2overload-fluid-control-heart-kidney-health>)
* Online Communities (<https://www.kidney.org/online-communities>)
* Launch of *Membership Today,* the bi-weekly e-digest for members
* New Career Center (<http://www.careerwebsite.com/?site_id=22764>)

Profession Education Resource Center (PERC at <https://education.kidney.org/>):

* Free for all members! Cost increasing for non-members this year.
* New Course listings available with potential for future podcasts
* Able to include local division events
* SCM live streaming and an e-poster platform for posters & abstracts
* Interdisciplinary credits available (IPCE)
* Completed 1st live webinar this year from a local council in MN
* Contact Danielle Nathan to offer your upcoming event (Danielle.nathan@kidney.org)

Public Policy News:

* Public Policy Committee advises the NKF leadership – Judy Kirk is our RD liaison
* H.R. 1270 – Living Donor Protection Act (<https://www.kidney.org/sites/default/files/LivingDonorProtectionActInfographic_20170413.pdf>)
* H.R. 3867 – Chronic Kidney Disease Early Detection and Management (<https://www.kidney.org/sites/default/files/AdvocacyFactSheet-Delaware.pdf>)

The 2019 NKF Spring Clinical Meeting will be held May 7-11th in Boston, Massachusetts. We hope to see you there!

Kind regards,

Christine Benedetti, MS, RDN, CSR, LD, FNKF

CRN Chair 2018-2019