

Please Come to Albuquerque

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Admitting We Have a Problem is the First Step to Solving It

The chiropractic profession in the United States has been continually hampered by one serious problem: no unity.

Every time you see this profession miss another opportunity, you can be certain that our lack of mutual cooperation is much to blame. On a national level, we have two primary chiropractic associations. And while the ACA and ICA don't always agree, the biggest mischief-makers are the handful of "wannabe" organizations. These typically have negligible membership, no voting structure, and cannot hope to accomplish anything more than spoiling the plans of one or both of the primary national chiropractic associations.

The national situation is complex, and may be solved over time. Meanwhile, the situation only seems to improve as long as the ICA and ACA continue to focus on what they each do well, and develop the confidence to leave other tasks aside.

On a state level, the issues are more tangible and the players more sensitive to member expectations. Even so, there are at least 25 states have more than one state chiropractic association. Typically, this results in unnecessarily limited participation by local DCs. It can also result in embarrassing showdowns in the state legislature and a seemingly justified position taken by legislators: "I'll listen to you when you chiropractors can agree on what you want."

The Congress of Chiropractic State Associations (COCSA) has decided to attempt to bring together chiropractic state associations in states with multiple associations. This will not be an effort to force any mergers or influence the philosophy of any organization. Instead, it will be a chance to:

- open meaningful dialogue;
- establish lines of communication;
- explore areas of cooperation; and
- unify the chiropractic profession in that state.

Official representatives from the state chiropractic associations listed on the right have been invited to attend the COCSA's annual convention on November 10 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. They are to attend a very special closed-door meeting of "similarly situated" associations. The goal will be to present some ideas and possible solutions to the problems of lack of communication and disunity.

While some may be inclined to refuse the COCSA invitation, there is really no legitimate reason to do so. The worst that can happen is that your association could lose the price of an airline ticket and the two nights' hotel stay. This is nothing compared to the potential benefit to your chiropractic association, your practice, your patients, and the citizens of your state who have yet to enjoy the benefits of chiropractic care.

If you are a member of one of the associations invited below, make certain your association doesn't

miss out. Talk to your leaders and let them know you want one of them there. We are expecting important things to happen at this meeting, including alliances and cooperative efforts between chiropractic associations in the same state and neighboring states.

State Chiropractic Associations Invited to Meet:

1. Arkansas Chiropractic Association
2. Arkansas Chiropractic Society
3. California Chiropractic Association
4. ICA of California
5. Colorado Chiropractic Association
6. Colorado Chiropractic Society
7. Connecticut Chiropractic Association
8. Connecticut Chiropractic Council
9. Florida Chiropractic Association
10. Florida Chiropractic Physicians Association
11. Florida Chiropractic Society
12. Georgia Chiropractic Association
13. Georgia Council of Chiropractic
14. Illinois Chiropractic Society
15. Illinois Prairie State Chiropractic Association
16. ICA of Indiana
17. Indiana State Chiropractic Association
18. Kentucky Association of Chiropractors
19. Kentucky Chiropractic Society
20. Chiropractic Association of Louisiana
21. Louisiana Chiropractic Society
22. Louisiana Union of Chiropractic Physicians
23. Massachusetts Alliance for Chiropractic Philosophy
24. Massachusetts Chiropractic Society
25. Michigan Chiropractic Council
26. Michigan Chiropractic Society
27. Academy of Missouri Chiropractors
28. Missouri State Chiropractors Association
29. New Hampshire Chiropractic Association
30. New Hampshire Straight Chiropractic Society
31. Council of New Jersey Chiropractors
32. New Jersey Chiropractic Society
33. Chiropractic Federation of New York
34. New York Chiropractic Council
35. New York State Chiropractic Association
36. Chiropractic Association of Ohio
37. Ohio State Chiropractic Association
38. Joint Chiropractic Associations of Oklahoma
39. Oklahoma State Chiropractic Association
40. Chiropractic Association of Oregon
41. Oregon Doctors of Chiropractic
42. Chiropractic Fellowship of Pennsylvania
43. Pennsylvania Chiropractic Association
44. Chiropractic Society of Rhode Island
45. Rhode Island Chiropractic Alliance
46. Palmetto State Chiropractic Association
47. South Carolina Chiropractic Association
48. Chiropractic Society of Texas

49. Texas Chiropractic Association
50. Virginia Chiropractic Association
51. Virginia Society of Chiropractic
52. Wyoming Chiropractic Association
53. Wyoming Chiropractic Council

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