## Welcome to the Kansas Counseling Association!

Hi! We are so happy that you are here. We appreciate the work you do for the people of our state, both in person and virtually. The Kansas Counseling Association is a place for counselors to turn for connection, professional development and advocacy. Our Executive Council met August 19, 2023 to kick off what we believe will be a fantastic year! We have professionals from all over the state providing their experience, leadership and guidance to enhance our collective professional development and growth.

We have some exciting things happening this year! You won't want to miss any of it, and you certainly will want to join, as the benefits of membership are sure to not disappoint.

Our Executive Council is committed and passionate about bringing you up to date information regarding the new counseling compact and how that will impact us as providers in our state. Additionally, we will bring news and information as it unfolds regarding the Mental Health Access Improvement Act, and what that means for Professional Counselors providing services to those individuals receiving Medicare. We are also diving deep into clinical supervision and its impact on clinical services, as well as the availability of quality clinical supervisors.

Our Kansas Counseling Association Conference is currently being planned by our Conference Committee. If you would like to volunteer your skills, talents and gifts, please reach out to our President-Elect and Committee Chair, Amanda Petrik-Gardner! The Conference will be March 1-2, 2024, and will include a Pre-Conference CE and our Spring Business Meeting. Our Keynote Speaker will be announced very soon...so stay tuned!

We will also be hosting meet and greets and happy hours to promote connection and networking within our association, and around the state. Dates and locations will be announced soon. We are so excited to be serving you this year and we cannot wait to connect with you!

Finally, we are working diligently and intentionally behind the scenes to bring a new opportunity to connect and learn. KCA CE Connect is a virtual networking and professional development event that brings networking + learning for our members – *as a benefit of your membership*. These events are also available to those outside of our membership for a reasonable CE fee. The dates for the events are below. Be sure to mark your calendars. We hope to see you there!

September 22, 2023 November 17, 2023 January 19, 2024 May 17, 2024

All dates will meet at 11:30 am for networking, followed by a CE from 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm. The topics and our fantastic lineup of Presenters will be announced shortly!

With Gratitude,

Jungelater on Bart LPC, LCPC, KPTS

Teresa Paterson Bartch, President