



Advancing Excellence in Pharmacy

# KeePosted

Official Newsjournal of the Illinois  
Council of Health-System Pharmacists

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## Our New ICHP Communications Manager Meet Melissa Dyr Dahl

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Feature Article

by Melissa Dyr Dahl, ICHP Communications Manager

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Hello everyone! My name is Melissa Dyr Dahl and I am the new communications manager for ICHP. Like many of you, I feel so fortunate to

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### ***Regularly Scheduled Network Meetings***

Chicago Area Pharmacy Directors Network Dinner  
3rd Thursday of Odd Months  
5:30pm

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### ***Regularly Scheduled Division and Committee Calls***

Executive Committee  
Second Tuesday of each month  
at 7:00 p.m.

Educational Affairs  
Third Tuesday of each month at  
11:00 a.m.

Government Affairs  
Third Monday of each month at  
5:00 p.m.

Marketing Affairs  
Third Tuesday of each month at  
8:00 a.m.

Organizational Affairs  
Fourth Thursday of each month  
at 12:00 p.m.

Professional Affairs  
Fourth Thursday of each month  
at 2:00 p.m.

New Practitioner Network  
Second Thursday of each month  
at 5:30 p.m.

have found a job that I really enjoy, and I look forward to sharing that passion with all of you.

I think my interest in creative digital/media arts (photography, graphic design, writing, etc.) probably started when I was a pre-teen growing up in Byron, Illinois. I have always loved taking photos, reading, writing, and making videos (this was way before YouTube – thank goodness!) In high school, we had the chance to shadow individuals pursuing various careers that we were interested in, so I got to intern with a commercial photographer at a print company and at a radio station. I was hooked. I knew I had to do something creative.

My passion for media followed me to college. I attended Winona State University in Winona, Minnesota where I majored in Mass Communications with an emphasis on broadcasting. There, I participated in my university's forensics (speech) team. I also spent two years as a radio personality and the program director for the campus radio station, 89.5 KQAL. During my senior year I was lucky enough to land a job at a local television station, WXOW-TV 19, in La Crosse, Wisconsin as the weekend producer. I would also fill in as a reporter during the week, between classes and radio responsibilities. The week prior to graduation, I was promoted to morning producer of News 19 Daybreak, a 90-minute morning television newscast. I was pretty pumped to have found a fulltime job before even graduating - Woohoo!

I stayed with WXOW for three-and-a-half years, until 2009, when I took a chance and moved to State College, Pennsylvania. There, I switched gears career-wise for a while, and began working at a local winery. I was quickly promoted to store manager and began planning events, designing promotional materials, and was put in charge of social media marketing and e-mail blasts, among many other tasks.

In 2013, I took another leap of faith and moved with my husband to Quito, Ecuador for what was supposed to be a 10 month adventure. Ten months somehow turned into almost five years living abroad. It was an amazing experience that shaped me and my world views in more ways than I could have ever imagined. I was fortunate that during a great chunk of this time I was able to continue working for The Winery at Wilcox as their webmaster. While in Ecuador, I also participated in and helped out with different digital projects for an archaeological project -using and improving my working knowledge of adobe design programs. In 2016, I welcomed a sweet, perfect, beautiful, baby boy into the world and was lucky enough to stay home with him for two full years.

All of that now leads us to the present. I've come full-circle. I'm back at home in Byron, now with that still-sweet, two-year old son. (The two's are known for being terrible, but they're also pretty terrific.) I was still living in Ecuador (getting ready to move back) when I saw the job posting for the ICHP communications manager position and applied. It seemed like the perfect fit - an accumulation of all my work experience and projects that really gets me excited. I also loved the idea of working for a non-profit organization. I know it's all of you pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, and students out there on the front lines who make the real "hands-on" difference, but in a way, I feel like I get to be a tiny part of that now, and it makes me pretty proud.

I really look forward to working with all of you, especially Marketing Affairs

Technology Committee

Second Friday of each month at  
8:00 a.m.

Chicago Area Pharmacy  
Directors Network Dinner

Bi-monthly in odd numbered  
months with dates to be  
determined. Invitation only.

[KeePosted Archives >>](#)

and the Champions sub-committee. If there is ever anything I can help you out with, please feel free to contact me (even if it's just for some Ecuador travel tips). I can't wait to meet many of you at this year's annual meeting and put some faces to all these names. See you in September!

*Calling New Practitioners...*  
**Join the NPN e-board!**

**2 conference calls per month**  
Interested new practitioners should contact:  
Bernice Man, *NPN Chair*, at [Bernice.Man@nm.org](mailto:Bernice.Man@nm.org)  
**We would love to have YOU on the NPN e-board!**

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