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## Letter from KAND President-Elect

Hello everyone!

My name is Jenny Nixon, the President-Elect for the KAND. Effective June 1, I have the pleasure to follow in the footsteps of our current KAND President, Tracey True. Tracey has donated countless hours over her KAND Presidency to lead our state organization of nutrition experts. Thank you, Tracey, for all your hard work, passion, and dedication to our profession.

In the upcoming year, you can expect all the Board's energy to go towards supporting KAND's mission and vision. KAND's mission is to empower members to be the food and nutrition leaders. KAND's vision is to optimize health through food and nutrition. KAND is an advocate of the dietetics profession, serving the public through the promotion of optimal nutrition, health, and well-being. Our first order of business will be having our Board of Directors (BOD) orientation in early June. If you have any interest in becoming more active in KAND this year, please reach out. We'll be happy to incorporate your strengths, talents, and passion.

I hope to meet many of you in person in the upcoming year.

Meanwhile, a few tidbits about me...I'm a second career dietitian with a passion for weight management. I have a private practice which I use to fuel my passion. I also work for D.D. Williamson - a part of Givaudan as a Global Product Manager. My other full-time job is being "Mom" to my teenage son. This role also includes Uber driver, personal chef, counselor, first aid responder, etc. We live in Louisville and were able to enjoy our first Derby together at Churchill Downs this month.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve. It's going to be a fun year with opportunities to network, getting (re)connected with each other.

All the best!

Jenny

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# 2023-2024 Annual Kentucky Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (KAND) Membership Survey

You are invited to participate in this member survey to help inform KAND leaders about members' likes, dislikes, thoughts, and ideas for a successful organization. Please consider the following questions and **help us create a bright future for KAND that will meet your needs and goals as a member.** The survey should take less than 10 minutes to complete.

Responses accepted until May 30, 2023. Please click the button below to access the survey.

Take the Survey!



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## PHE Update

You may have heard that the public health emergency (PHE) surrounding COVID-19 (20,21,22...) is finally coming to a close! The federal PHE will formally end on May 11, 2023. This has significant impacts on special flexibilities of MNT care, particularly telehealth, through Medicare. HOWEVER, fortunately Kentucky legislation requires the coverage of MNT delivered via telehealth to mirror that of in-person counseling for all government and private payers. As such, not much will change for most dietitians in Kentucky billing for telehealth services. That said, there may be some minor changes to outpatient clinics billing as part of a larger hospital system. At this time we are waiting for further clarification on what, if any, billing restrictions may resume in these instances. We have been informed that the current flexibilities for telehealth care will extend through December of 2024. We will update you as we learn more.

We are also continuing to work to provide you with the best resources as to best practices for billing with private payers. But we need your help! If you currently practice in Kentucky and bill private insurance, we want to hear from you. Please take 5 minutes to complete the linked survey so that we can best meet your needs and get more dietitians billing insurance in our state!

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## KAND IDEA Book Club

The KAND IDEA Book Club will break for the summer (June and July), and will resume in August. Dates and times TBD. When we resume we will continue to discuss the book, *Diversity in the Workplace: Eye Opening Interviews to Jumpstart Conversations about Identity, Privilege, and Bias*.

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## KAND Members Represented at National Kidney Foundation Spring Clinical

Maggie Murphy, PhD, RD, LD, FAND presented “Food Insecurity with Renal Nutrition Considerations” on April 13th in Austin, TX during this year's National Kidney Foundation Spring Clinical Meetings. The event presented a unique opportunity for kidney healthcare professionals to learn new developments related to all aspects of kidney care.

At this event, the National Kidney Foundation presented its top nutrition award, the [Joel D. Kopple Award](#) to Kentucky renal dietitian, Lois Hill, MS, RDN, LD for her significant contributions to the field of renal nutrition. Lois presented “Nephrology Nutrition: Past, Present and Future Possibilities,” speaking on the past, the present and the future of our profession as renal dietitians and the importance of advocacy for medical nutrition therapy.



### Lois Hill, MS, RDN, LD, LDE

Lois' passion is CKD nutrition advocacy as a lobbyist for Medical Nutrition Therapy legislation for CKD. She advocates for increased use and expansion of CKD Medical Nutrition Therapy with the Coalition for Kidney Health.

### Kentucky Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

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