

# Strategies That Work: Recognition of Chapter Excellence Through the Chapter Key Award

Aris Eliades, PhD, RN and Dina Dornack, MSN, RN, Akron Children's Hospital

Delta Omega Chapter at the University of Akron



## Background

- Established in 1991, the Chapter Key Award acknowledges Chapter excellence
- Delta Omega Chapter has successfully attained multiple Chapter Key Awards



## Recognition



Excellence Awards recipients



Dorothy Garrigus Adams  
Founders Award



Cameos of Caring



Nurses Week Practice Awards  
to nurses at area hospitals

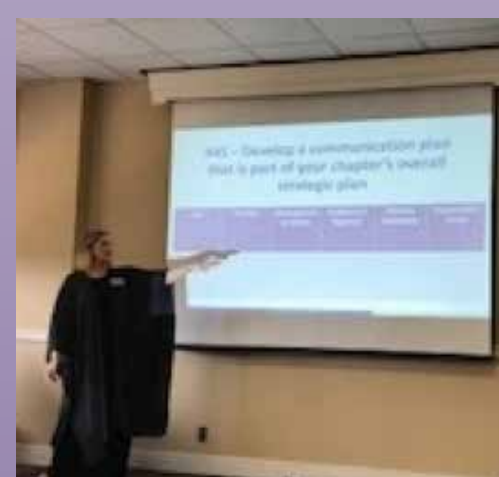
## Professional Development Programs and Publicity

- Ensuring chapter activities are advertised and documented in quarterly newsletters and multiple communication formats
- Programs increasing community awareness of health promotion and prevention of illness

## Strategies

### Leadership development

- Intern and Extern leadership program
- Financial support of leaders, students and members to attend conferences



Region 10 Conference



Biennial Convention

### Membership engagement

- Community service

Donating toothbrushes  
for dental health



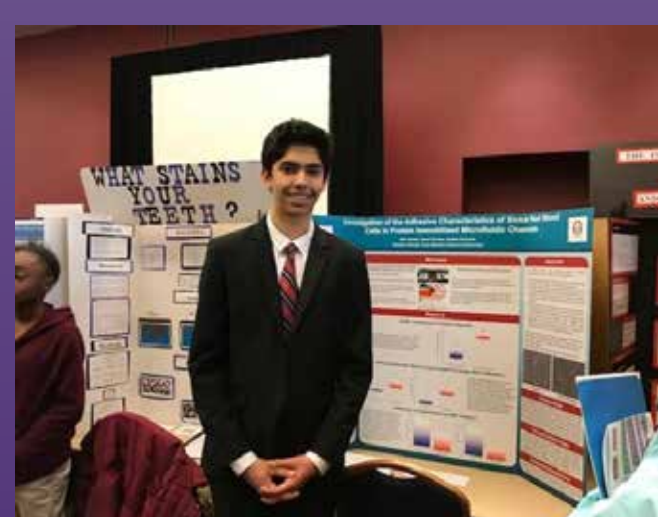
Chapter volunteers serving  
lunch to the hungry



Health fair for adults with  
developmental disabilities



Serve as judges and provide 2 monetary  
awards for best Nursing-Related Project  
at Regional Science Fair



## Committee Participation

- Leadership Succession
- Governance
- Program Planning
- Induction
- Research Grants & Recognition Awards



## Chapter Operations

- Designate a responsible person or group to collect data throughout the biennium:
  - In our chapter the president is responsible with help from the Board and committees
- Review at monthly Board meetings:
  - Chapter Key Award criteria
  - Committee work is reviewed annual reports at our transition meeting
  - Monthly committee meetings are used to review Key award criteria
- Aligning the Chapter Strategic Plan with the Key Award criteria:
  - Using available Sigma resources
  - Developing processes to sustain and expand successful programs
  - Developing new programs to address changes in the Key Award criteria

## Challenges may include

- Lack of internal expertise to develop processes that can be sustained
- Changes in Chapter leadership and activity level of members
- Not compiling and submitting the annual report in a timely manner
- Gaps in meeting officer responsibilities
- Lack of sufficient detail in the narrative on the Chapter Key Award application
- Not recognizing overlaps that may lead to using the same program or activity for multiple categories
- Reluctance to incorporate social media as a communication approach
- Resistance to moving from face to face meetings to embracing online video and web conferencing to increase participation of Board and committee members
- Not responding quickly enough when updated criteria and forms become available after the biennial convention

### Contact information

ddornack@akronchildrens.org

aeliades@akronchildrens.org

