

Brenda Koverman, MBA, MS, OTR/L
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Education and Professional Experience:

I am a life-long learner and attained a PhD in Health Sciences in 2021. My educational background includes an MBA that has enabled me to promote fiscal responsibility while promoting quality and equitable services. I was peer-nominated and won manager of the quarter at Rush University Medical Center. I have successfully led program development initiatives in primary care, cancer, and early mobilization. My work roles as clinical leader and assistant professor provide a broad perspective of occupational therapy roles in both clinical and academic areas.

Professional Activities and Honors:

I have held diverse board positions in a community health center, a condominium association, the Illinois OT association, and the American Occupational Therapy Political Action Committee (AOTPAC). I led successful projects as state OT president to change the practice act and revise the bylaws. During my term as the condominium board treasurer, we increased our reserves to improve our fiscal viability. As an AOTPAC board member, I actively participated in fundraising and advocacy efforts.

Professional Activities:

AOTA: AOTA member 1983-present; American Occupational Therapy Political Action Committee District III Board Member, 2012 to 2018; Vice Chair Manpower Committee, American Occupational Therapy Conference, 1996

State Association Service: Illinois Occupational Therapy Association: Director of Advocacy, 2022-present, President, 2002-2004, President Elect 2003, Legislative Co-Chair 2000-2001, Licensure Committee, 1992-1993, District Chair 1990-1995

Other: American Medical Rehabilitation Providers Association Branding Task Force, 2019; American Medical Rehabilitation Providers Association Website Design Task Force, 2018; CMS Technical Expert Panel for Inpatient Rehabilitation Patient Experience Survey, 2016-2017; Howard Brown Health Center: Executive Vice President 1995-1997, Chair of Development Committee 1997-1999, Board Member 1994-1995, Co-Chair 13th Annual Dinner 1996, Hampden Court Condo Association Treasurer 1999-2001

Position Statement:

I am the current director of advocacy and have led and collaborated with other OTPs and organizations on several projects. These include increasing outpatient Medicaid reimbursement, attending legislative fundraising events and organizing compact act efforts. I am actively involved and knowledgeable in reimbursement issues with my role as rehabilitation director. I have advocated for occupational therapy services with annual attendance at AOTA Hill Day. Through education and advocacy, we can improve access to care and advocate for reimbursement changes when needed. As an association, we need to engage practitioners, educators, researchers, leaders, and students to find solutions to reimbursement and policy barriers. Based on my experiences and skills, I believe that I will serve the organization well. Please accept my nomination and I would be honored to serve as a board member.