

## **New Year's Greetings from IOTA**

As the newest president of the Iowa Occupational Therapy Association, I thank you for the opportunity to serve. My goal is to work closely with Leanne and other past presidents, to place IOTA at the center of healthcare in Iowa. As a vibrant, growing field in healthcare, occupational therapy is primed to advance its place in the health arena. We need to work together to expand membership, advocacy, and collaboration to ensure best practice for our clients and for the people of Iowa. Together, we can guide the future of healthcare with emphasis interprofessional practice and evidence-based education. We have discussions in place to meet these objectives as we find improved methods of providing continuing education, establishing meaningful relationships, and developing the future of the occupational therapy workforce.

Just as Amy Lamb stated in her presidential address, I envision every practitioner a leader: A leader in their practice settings and within the organization. Finding and developing strengths and talents to maximize the cause of the profession will ensure a bright future for people we serve.

I invite each IOTA member to invite a coworker to join IOTA. We are currently redefining member benefits and will release those details in the coming weeks. As for now, it is our responsibility to look for ways to build the profession. The simplest way is to increase membership. With your support, we can double membership by the time we have our annual conference.

We are the future of occupational therapy. What we choose to do in 2018 will influence the coming generation of practitioners. We need to build a brighter future that will ensure occupational therapy is available for generations to come.

Please, join me in 2018 to make the most of our opportunities. I have hope in the future and confidence we will see significant growth in our profession and in the association.

Thank you again for being practitioners of excellence and I look forward to working with you.

All the best,

Steven S. Bowen

President, IOTA