

DOING MORE WITH LESS

Message from the President

By: Dan Sippl, RSVA President

As we relinquish our mild winter and spring and enter summer, we are all reminded the budgetary issues of the Federal and State Governments are still a great concern. Their available resources are being spent in varying ways to which we are not accustomed. Their quest for funding sources is of great concern as evidenced by HR 7 and the Portman Amendment.

During these times, it is so much more evident that we must maintain our coalitions and increase our efforts. The success of our efforts in HR 7 and the Portman Amendment can only serve to exemplify our need to build our relationships with all of our friends in the blindness community, along with the non disabled sector of our businesses. It is also important to remember, for the most part, our customers have had to restructure their spending habits, which have an adverse impact on our businesses.

However, we cannot afford to allow this to hinder our efforts to grow and improve our program for future generations as we maintain our financial status. There is still funding on the Federal and State levels. However, the "pie" may have others looking for a piece; so we must be vigilant in assuring that our slice remains intact as best as we can.

In budgetary issues, if you are not at the table, you will undoubtedly be on the menu. To assure a place at the table, we all have to be prepared with our plan of action for stability and growth. There is no better way to be and stay prepared

than to attend as many meetings as possible to network, make friends and gain their support in times of need.

The RSVA and ACB conventions along with Sagebrush Training are clearly proven examples of the efficacy of our goals and objectives. Moreover, we owe a big debt of gratitude to our colleagues in RSVA, ACB and all of their affiliates that stepped up to the plate for us in a time of crisis with HR 7 and the Portman Amendment.

What better place to give a personal thank you to those that supported us, than at the RSVA and ACB convention in Louisville? However, do not let your extension of gratitude stop there. Continue it at Sagebrush as we learn from the great speakers and each other as to how we can formulate a plan to maintain and grow our program by consensus with our Federal and State partners. See you in Louisville!

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FOR THE GREATEST SUMMER
EVENT EVER!!
HELP YOUR AFFILIATE SEND
DONATED ARTICLES
FOR THE ANNUAL RSVA AUCTION!!
(See the RSVA Convention Article for Details)***