MiOTA, Southwest Chapter Meeting 2/4/16 Summary:

Attendance of 32 at the Rider-Sammons Residence.

The meeting started with 30 minutes of networking and dinner, then:

1. Denise Hoffman, MiOTA’s Advocacy Director, shared updates.
   1. Mental Health: there is a grant that is available for 8 states. Applications are due soon. MiOTA is looking for volunteers so that Michigan can be one of these 8 states. Questions or to volunteer to help, contact Denise: [dhoffmanot@gmail.com](mailto:dhoffmanot@gmail.com) .
   2. MiOTA continues to monitor the ABA therapists as they apply for licensure. Primarily looking for ways to work together, protect our OT scope of practice and ensure that consumers receive appropriate treatment.
   3. Lobby Day is the 3rd **Thursday** in April, the 21st, in Lansing. Opportunity to advocate for our profession, network, and earn PDUs. Please contact Jennifer Friesema, MiOTA Public Policy Director at [frieseje@gvsu.edu](mailto:frieseje@gvsu.edu) for more information or to join in.
2. Remember you can donate to the Friends of OT in Michigan, our PAC. Your donation, no matter how much makes a difference for our profession. Contact Deb at [debra.lindstrom@wmich.edu](mailto:debra.lindstrom@wmich.edu) or go to the MiOTA website for information.
3. As usual, the MiOTA website and newsletter contains this and more information, [www.miota.org](http://www.miota.org) . To become a member, click on the Membership tab, scroll down to the bottom of the page for a link to the membership application.
4. Karen Koch shared about a new type of toilet arm rest/grab bars called Comfort Arms. They provide the support needed without any part of the bar on the floor or the bulk of other versions. If you want more information, contact her at [functionalhomes@gmail.com](mailto:functionalhomes@gmail.com) .
5. Barb Rider, OT, and Dick Baker, architect, gave an informative presentation on “Accessible, Visitable, and Serviceable Housing Needs.” Together they presented both the human/client side and the technical aspects of adapting a home to meet the needs of a variety of individuals, families and caregivers.

Attendees of the meeting on 2/4/16 will be sent a CEU certificate via email soon.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine