MiOTA, Southwest Chapter Meeting 5/12/15 Summary:

Attendance of 18 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 on what is going on in the state. MiOTA, along with the state organizations for Speech and Physical Therapy, continue to keep a close eye on what is going on with the ABA therapists and treatment for autism. The original bill was blocked, but activity on another bill has begun. Potentially at issue is infringement on our scope of practice, the ABA licensure process and the definition of the ABA therapist scope of practice, and weak standards of supervision for ABA aides. May 20 is a date for public comment in Lansing on this. If you have the ability to attend, please contact Denise. ABA is also being promoted by certain organizations above OT, speech or PT for treatment. If you have examples of this, please forward them to Denise or Holly Mauk. Questions or to volunteer to help, contact Denise: [dhoffmanot@gmail.com](mailto:dhoffmanot@gmail.com) or Holly [hmauk@mhsa.com](mailto:hmauk@mhsa.com) .)
2. Katy Potter, Occupational Therapy Assistant Program Director at Baker College gave an informative presentation about CarFit. She described a CarFit event and clarified what it is not. (It is not a driving evaluation.) Anyone can benefit from making sure their “body fits their car,” but the target audience is older drivers who are typically more seriously injured in minor car accidents. Utilizing the suggestions from a CarFit check could improve these statistics. Any OT practitioner can be trained including COTAs and students. Please contact her at [kathryn.potter@baker.edu](mailto:kathryn.potter@baker.edu) for more information.
3. Diane Andert, a certified driver rehabilitation specialist and OT also shared about evaluating drivers. She is one of the few certified specialists who can prescribe adaptations to cars in Michigan. Contact Diane at [dander@drivewellmi.com](mailto:dander@drivewellmi.com) for more information.
4. Miscellaneous business: MiOTA membership: special discount of 20% until May 15. Sign up now! (Usual fee for OTRLs is $100, takes it down to $80.) Link for membership is on the MiOTA website.

-Currently there is a vacancy for Reimburesement Director.

-Please send MiOTA any information you would like to share on the website highlighting things OTs are doing in our communities, especially things that promote occupational therapy.

[www.miota.org](http://www.miota.org)

Attendees of the meeting on 5/12/15 will be sent a CEU certificate via email soon. Thanks to Dr. Atchison and the Western Michigan University OT Department for providing these.

Respectfully,

Christine