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## From the Editor

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## FROM THE EDITOR

When the editor of a professional journal implores the members of that profession to read the journal, or any professional journal, he or she is “preaching to the choir.” And yet, I find myself in that position. I have run into members of our organization and many other mental health providers who struggle to keep up with the ever growing body of knowledge that helps us to provide the best services possible services to our clients. I know it is difficult for me as well. At the same time, I have run into members of our organization who had no idea that we have a journal. Given the work our review board does and the work of those who format, proof, and edit the journal, I ask that you encourage your fellow members and other mental health professionals to take a look at this publication. It is, in my opinion, a quality state journal that provides the reader with thoughtful information. The three articles in the current edition are examples of good work that will inform your practice and impact your counseling students.

Joel Lane has written an excellent article that reviews the ethical implications of bartering for mental health services. Bartering has a long and difficult history in the ethics of the profession. We must also acknowledge, as Joel points out, that if we are to be sensitive to the differing needs and cultural issues of our clients, bartering for services will continue to have a place in the profession.

Our second article looks at poverty’s powerful impact on families. It limits educational opportunities, influences family safety, and impacts decisions concerning food, utilities, and shelter. This colors the view a counselor might have when working with this population. Yet, there are strengths and “treasures” to be found within the family that lives in poverty. Strengths and treasures that are often overlooked. Drs. Cholewa & Smith-Adcock present a model for conceptualizing counseling families in poverty that will improve your practice and empower your clients.

Finally, Drs. Reiner and Hernandez present a thoughtful article about the direction of professional school counseling. Are they educators with a background in counseling or professional counselors who work to impact the social/emotional, career, and educational needs of students. They seek to offer a thoughtful answer.

Finally, this is my last edition as editor. I thank the editorial board and my two graduate assistants, without whom this journal would never be published. They are simply the best!  
Sincerely, Perry C. Francis