President's Message

2021 President: Erica Burton

Morning CRC Membership!

I hope you had a wonderful 4th of July holiday weekend!

I do not know about you, but I am still celebrating after our first successful in-person CRC event at the Chicago Botanical Gardens in June! Our Board was cautious going into this event, knowing that we were one of the first regional councils to bring back a live conference, and I couldn't be more pleased with the success of the event. It was so wonderful to see - and hug! - so many of you. I want to send major kudos to our Board, and especially our Planning & Education Chairs, for making this event such a smash success.

Now that we know it can be done, please plan on participating in several more opportunities to connect. Our CRC Planning Chairs are looking ahead to a joint event with our friends at the Wisconsin Employment Relocation Council (WiERC) in September, in addition to a fun welcome in Chicago the week of the Worldwide ERC Global Symposium. We want to see you there!

Please also start to consider running for the CRC Board. We'll have several Board seats open this year, and applications will be requested in September. Like we have always said, we welcome and want your participation and involvement. We would love for you to consider running for a position, and helping us continue to drive CRC forward. We have successfully navigated a stressful year, and the organization needs the participation of its membership to continue our positive momentum.

In the meantime, until our next meeting, my heart remains full from seeing all of your smiles, and enjoying all of your hugs. I will be counting down the days until we see
Happy July!

Many Blessings,
Erica Burton, CRP
CRC President
erica.l.burton@chase.com

Membership Update

2021 Chair: Deisy Garcia

COVID 19 has not stopped our membership growth. Year-to-date we have welcomed nine new service companies and eleven corporate companies. Help us continue our membership growth. Contact Deisy Garcia if you know anyone who might be a good candidate for membership consideration.

Here is a 2021 year-to-date view of our new member companies.

Since 1/1/2021 we've had 39 new members
Corporate 16
Service 23

New Service Companies in 2021
• Cultivating Consulting LLC
• Mills Van Lines
• Envoy
• Century 21 Affiliated
• Mainsail
• Old Republic Relocation Services
• Relocity
• Synergy Housing
• Odyssey Relocation

New Corporate Companies in 2021
• Envirotech Office
• SMR Automotive Systems USA Inc
• Ritchie Bros.
• Hewlett Packard Enterprise
• NIKE Inc.
• American Express
• Amcor Flexibles North America
• Facebook
• Conagra Brands
• AbbVie
• Stryker

Thank you!

Deisy
Deisy.garcia@wba.com

Planning Update

2021 Co-Chairs: Dori McBride and Denise Mast

June event:
Thank you to everyone who attended our June event at
the Chicago Botanic Garden. The virtual attendees were pleased with the professional level of technology we employed with our first hybrid event. Additionally, our in-person attendance was close to a hundred and the excitement amongst the attendees was electric. Everyone’s feedback about being together was so encouraging, we’re excited as we plan the next event. The planning chairs and CRC board extend a special thank you to the CRC members who, as panelists, shared their professional insights on the state of business during and beyond the pandemic. The “nuts and bolts of mobility” was a successful and informative session. Our second session, Making Diversity, Equity and Inclusion a priority in the relocation space, with Keynote speaker Monica Guillory, was met with rave reviews. Thank you, Tracy Toth, for introducing us to such a dynamic speaker who gave us actionable items to practice in our everyday lives. If you would like a copy of Monica’s slides, please log in to CRC’s website, select Events, then past meeting presentations.

Next event:
We are excited to announce that the next conference will be a joint event with WiERC and CRC, taking place on Monday, September 13th at the Kenosha Country Club in Kenosha, Wisconsin. Please block your calendar for a full day event that will include two educational sessions followed by lunch and networking via fun activities like golf, cooking, Jenga and pickleball/tennis. Stay tuned for more details!

October:
As we look ahead, the WERC Global Symposium will be held in Chicago on October 20th – 22nd. This will be another great opportunity for us all to be together in person. Additionally, as Jen Breen and Evan Miller shared during the June event, the Gala on Thursday night is a great opportunity for you to network with your peers while flexing your philanthropic muscles.
Thank you,

Dori
dmcbride@relodirect.com

Denise
Deemast2002@yahoo.com

Charitable Causes

2021 Chair: Jeanette Oakeshott

Thank you, thank you, thank you, to everyone who helped organize and also those who attended our very fun, very first virtual auction. We smashed our goal and were able to donate $11,500 to our three worthy charities. We look forward to helping them further during the year. See below for current updates, more information on specific volunteer opportunities to come during the year.

Lulu’s Locker Rescue is in the process of developing a new website and hoping for it to go live next month. Their biggest need is always fostering, of course, however, they are always looking for volunteers to help at their small cat center in Frankfort, IL. We will share more information on in-person volunteer opportunities as they become available.

Chicago Pet Rescue is always looking for foster and adoption homes and in-person volunteer opportunities are starting to open up. Norridge Petco and Skokie PetSmart stores are now accepting cat socialization volunteers and CPR will also be adding their first adoption event at the end of July at Skokie PetSmart. Please contact Elena Tanta, Executive Director, directly for more information or to sign up to help: savinganimals@chicagopetrescue.org

Chicago Furniture Bank has now moved into their new warehouse and is in the midst of their bus(iest) season. They are always in need of donations of furniture/home items and to their warehouse capital campaign and for - Donate — Chicago Furniture Bank. Mark your calendar for the warehouse Grand Opening Party on 8/26 from 5PM - 8:30PM. Our first in-person volunteer opportunity is on Saturday, August 21 at the Gold Coast Art Fair in downtown Chicago. Can you help? We need 12 volunteers to man the three entrances, with half of the proceeds going to CFB. Shift times are 9:30AM – 2PM and 1:30PM - 6PM. https://amdurproductions.com/event/2021-gold-coast-art-fair/

Let me know if you can join us!

Thank you,
Corporate Membership and Engagement

2021 Chair: Serendia Compton

CRC Corporate Member Survey Says!
It’s been a busy summer for everyone in the industry and Return to Office is picking up as well as our workloads. To best plan for our corporate members to attend round tables as well as future events, a survey was distributed in June. Based on the feedback we’ll plan for a virtual Corporate Member Round Table to be held on Tuesday August 3, 2:00 p.m. – 3 p.m. central, invitations will be distributed soon – Save the date! In addition, we encourage the Corporate Members to continue discussions and find support in our Private LinkedIn group “CRC Corporate Global Mobility Member Collaboration” - pose questions or polls, provide feedback, and network with other Corporate members. Need assistance joining the group? Reach out to Betsy Ortolano or Deisy Garcia.

Thank you,

Serendia
Serendia.Compton@bcbsil.com

Education

2021 Chair: Tracy Toth

CRC’s annual scholarship is awarded to a High School senior who relocates during their high school career more than 50 miles and due to a parent’s job relocation into the Chicagoland area. As our industry knows well, moving is one of the most difficult and stressful life events that one can experience. This is especially true during high school years for both the student and their parents.

This year, the Education Committee received 11 applications from high school seniors in the fall of 2020. The 2021 CRC scholarship review committee, President Erica Burton, Vice President Betsy Ortolano and committee members Tracy Toth, Iyonna Rivers and Barb Heinzel completed the evaluations and three finalists were selected.
Iyonna Rivers had the honor to announce this year’s Scholarship Winner, Jeremiah Lee of Buffalo Grove, Illinois, who attended Adlai E. Stevenson High School and relocated with his family from Baltimore, Maryland to the Chicagoland area. CRC hosted Jeremiah and his family last month (June) at the Chicago Botanic Gardens at CRC’s first in person meeting since February, 2020, where Jeremiah shared his story of perseverance in his winning essay. One of Jeremiah’s pieces of advice was something that everyone should be reminded of from time to time… Always remember to stay true to who you are. Be proud of yourself and don’t change to try to please others.

CRC presented Jeremiah with a $1,000 scholarship award and also presented on behalf of Worldwide ERC a generous scholarship match of an additional $1,000.

Jeremiah will study Bioengineering at the University of Illinois Urbana Champaign and will be the third person in his family studying Bioengineering/Biomedical Engineering since his parents also studied in this field. Ultimately Jeremiah is planning to be a surgeon and decided this when he was only ten years old! Our sincere congratulations go out to Jeremiah and his family on this well-deserved award!

**CRP Review Class**

On May 12th and 13th over two days, CRC held its annual CRP Review Class. The virtual review class led by Pam Jacknick, Craig Anderson, Rob Chipman, Rob Johnson and Elizabeth McGrath, hosted 21 students who were eligible to sit for the Worldwide ERC CRP exam, being held between June 1-21st. CRC’s instructors and class facilitators Barb Heinzel and Tracy Toth wished the students well at the conclusion of the class and best of luck on their exams! Thank you to everyone who contributed to the success of this class.

**Worldwide ERC CRP Exam being offered again in Fall 2021!**

If you did not have a chance to take the exam in June, or you want to retake the exam due to not passing, Worldwide ERC is offering the exam again this Fall. Please see below for highlighted details or visit WERC’s full site.

In support of WERC and the CRP designation, the CRC Education Committee is considering hosting another “CRP Prep Class” in Fall 2021, dependent upon CRC member interest and participation. Please contact Tracy Toth if you are seeking the designation CRP and interested in attending a fall CRP “Prep Class”.

[WERC's Webpage with full details](#)

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**Sponsorship**

2021 Chair: Bridget Ritchie

A big thank you to our June meeting sponsors! What a fabulous in-person meeting it was, and it is with the help of sponsors, that we are able to get together and host these events.
Now that we are going to be meeting back in person – your branding is even more visible, so we encourage you to sponsor one of our upcoming meetings in 2021!

2021 June Meeting Sponsors:
Platinum: Chase
Gold: Manilow Suites
Keynote Speaker: Powell Relocation Group

Thank you also to our annual web sponsors – with a special thank you to Freddy Paxton and the Paxton Companies. Paxton is a 2021 web sponsor and Freddy flew all the way in from his home base in DC to see everyone, support CRC, and support his sponsorship of us, and somehow we missed putting his logo on screen with the rest of the web sponsors! We’re so sorry Freddy!

Thank You to our 2020/2021 Website Sponsors

We will have sponsorship opportunities available for our ever-popular September meeting in Lake Geneva. More details coming soon on both the exciting new change ups with the meeting itself, as well as the sponsorship opportunities that will be available. Be on the lookout!

Info on current sponsorship opportunities can be found by clicking this link: https://crcchicago.org/sponsorship

Thank you for your continued support and generosity,
Bridget BRitchie@powellmoving.com