

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Contact

Robin Burton, Executive Director
OPAF & The First Clinics
980-819-9404 phone
215-584-3033 cell
Robin@opafonline.org
opafonline.org

OPAF Receives Education Funding from ABC

December 12, 2017 – Charlotte, NC – OPAF & The First Clinics has received funding from the American Board of Certification in Orthotics, Prosthetics and Pedorthics to continue our expansion of educational opportunities for allied health care professionals. “Based upon the success that OPAF has seen with First Stride and First Things First Trainings and Clinics, we will not expand that same format and education model in 2018 with First Swim and First Dance Clinics” said Robin Burton, OPAF Executive Director. The funding allows us to develop, support and expand the education materials that will bring therapists and other teaching professionals to First Swim and First Dance Clinics and the ability to offer them continuing education credits for the event. Currently First Stride and First Things First offer physical therapists CEUs in 38 states nationally for physical therapists through ProCert. The same approach of classroom training, followed by a hands on education with a Train the Trainer aspect is planned for First Swim and First Dance Clinics.

“The ABC Board of Directors is delighted to be able to further support the mission of OPA and their dedication to the patient community and the profession. The bringing together of all members of the allied health team is an important achievement for improved outcomes and professional relationships” according to Debbie Merritt Plescia, CPO, ABC President.

The support of ABC in expanding the education aspect offered through the First Clinics helps us to bring together all members of the rehab team for the benefit of the patient and improved outcomes as well as benefitting the profession as a whole. We are all working together to provide the best possible care for all of our patients and introductory level adaptive recreation is a significant part of that plan.

###

About OPAF: Serving as the philanthropic arm of the US orthotic and prosthetic community, the Orthotic & Prosthetic Activities Foundation (OPAF), develops, implements, partners and hosts adaptive recreational clinics for those with physical challenges. The First Clinics are recognized as leaders in adaptive recreation. Whether this is the first time a participant is trying an activity after illness, injury or episode or the first time they are ever trying, First Clinics offer top notch adaptive instruction specifically for them. Founded in 1995 to support the Paralympic Games in Atlanta, OPAF & The First Clinics have moved forward to offer introductory level adaptive recreation opportunities to everyone, not just the elite athlete. For more information on OPAF and The First Clinics, visit www.opafonline.org.