



Peer Assistance Foundation

Texas Society of  
Certified Public Accountants

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## **TSCPA Peer Assistance Foundation Annual Report May 31, 2008**

The Peer Assistance Foundation was established to assist CPAs in Texas suffering from the addiction of alcohol or drug abuse and mental health issues, such as depression. The TSCPA program is the peer assistance program for CPAs approved by the Texas State Board of Public Accountancy.

The TSCPA Peer Assistance Committee manages the direction and activities of the program. The Accountants Confidential Assistance Network is a network of CPA volunteers who are available to individually help other CPAs with their addiction and mental health problems. Many in this network meet regularly in the larger cities in Texas, to provide support to each other and newcomers. A CPA who has overcome addiction is often able to assist another CPA with alcoholism, drug abuse or mental health issues in a much more effective and understanding manner.

These efforts have been ongoing for over ten years. Network volunteers are encouraged knowing they have helped quite a few CPAs recover from the effects of alcoholism and drug abuse, and depression. It has been a satisfying effort for those involved to see CPAs who were once struggling begin to lead lives full of hope and promise.

### **2007-2008 Activity**

TSBPA increased funding of the Peer Assistance Program by fifty percent and the Program Director position was made into a full time position. This position had previously been part time with a 1,000 hour maximum. TSCPA increased administrative support by dedicating an Administrative Assistant to the Foundation for up to twenty hours per week.

The Foundation held its Annual Training Meeting at the South Padre Island Raddison Resort. There was record attendance for the training. The first mentor/monitor training meeting was held in the Spring of 2008 with TSBPA also in attendance.

Discussions with the Ohio Society Peer Assistance Program were held to exchange marketing strategies and explore opportunities for future partnerships. A representative of Ohio was present for the South Padre Annual Training and will also participate in the September 2008 meeting.