



# News

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## Greetings from KEA

Greetings from a cold and snowy Kazakhstan! Here we are preparing for New Year as lights and decorations go up all over the cities and the 2019 signs remind us that another year has passed. This year we are again so thankful to have been able to promote Occupational Therapy in Kazakhstan. We are thankful for every family that we have met this year and for every child and adult with a disability who we were hopefully able to assist to achieve a greater quality of life. As we look to 2019 our mission as KEA continues to be: to promote Occupational Therapy in Kazakhstan, to connect all Occupational Therapists in Kazakhstan to collectively develop professionally, and to firmly uphold the profession in this country where Occupational Therapist is non-existent.

Happy New Year! And all the best for a wonderful 2019!



## World OT Day

The 26th of October this year was World Occupational Therapy Day. Over that time our president of the World Federation of Occupational Therapists (WFOT), Marilyn Pattison, was having high end meetings with the World Health Organization in Astana, Kazakhstan. This created a unique opportunity for our KEA president and a KEA board member to meet with Marilyn in Astana and join her in a live webinar to mark World OT day!

During the webinar the OTs discussed the role that WFOT has played in helping KEA to be established in Kazakhstan by giving guidelines for documentation and needed personal and for accepting us as an associate member of WFOT once all the needed criteria was in place.

Being an associate member of WFOT helps us as KEA to feel connected to something greater when at times we can feel quite isolated as western trained therapists in Kazakhstan. WFOT also keeps us accountable to good practice and international standards.

We were grateful for the opportunity to meet with Marilyn and for the encouragement and praise she gave us as an organization.



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