



2022 ANNUAL REPORT

MEDICAL SOCIETY OF DC



MSDC

MEDICAL SOCIETY OF THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

A LOOK BACK

This year was an exciting one for the Medical Society and its members. As the medical profession adjusted to endemic COVID-19... then adjusted again... and continues to adjust, the Society continued to grow and offer more to its members and the District. President Dr. Kirstiaan Nevin oversaw aggressive advocacy efforts on issues expected to progress in 2023 and introduced a new mentorship program to help medical students learn more about medicine in DC. New president Dr. Susanne Bathgate will continue with a message of physician empowerment and financial growth.

MSDC launched the Healthy Physician Foundation and began integrating its work and messaging into its own. MSDC also held its first Awards Gala, recognizing four awardees changing the District for the better daily. The Society also continued to work more closely with government officials, holding a Board meeting with the interim director of DC Health and being named to the new Mayoral task force on the healthcare workforce.

This year saw more engagement and activity from MSDC members. We welcomed a new insurance partner and new Private Practice Physician Section. Members testified on numerous bills before the Council and led to advocacy successes like the introduction of the first prior auth reform bill in 10 years and major steps to regional license reciprocity

2022 set up success for the profession for years to come.

WELLBEING

NEW FOUNDATION

Announced in 2021, the Healthy Physician Foundation emerged as a true wellbeing organization. With a new app, website, and brand, the Foundation established itself as a tool to help physicians prevent moral injury, address burnout, and help troubled physicians. The Wellbeing Committee and Physician Health Committee now have new avenues for growth to help all physicians.

UNIQUE EVENTS

The new Foundation and MSDC cosponsored events designed to help physicians connect outside the office. In the spring Dr. Joe Gutierrez held a special tour of the Bonsai Museum at the National Arboretum. This winter Dr. Terri Stone held the first of a series of culinary medicine classes where she and guests showed physicians an easy dinner recipe and discussed practical nutrition tips.

PHYSICIAN HEALTH COMMITTEE

The Physician Health Committee, as it has for decades, continues to support physicians in distress with advocacy and monitoring. The committee added members to provide new and diverse perspectives. As burnout continues to accelerate in the medical space, the committee is preparing in the years to come not only advocate but provide leadership in this space.





ADVOCACY

Providing Quality Care to All

- Defeated ACA carve out bill
- Helped pass reform to loan repayment bill
- Pushed DC government to negotiate DMV regional license reciprocity



Promoting Public Health

- Passed bill prohibiting sale of flavored smoking devices
- Drafted guidelines for minor consent to treatment
- Funded 12-month postpartum Medicaid coverage in DC



Protecting Physicians

- Modified medical record retention bill
- Funded more DC Health licensing staff
- Named to Mayor's workforce task force

DC COUNCIL

MSDC once again had a successful advocacy agenda in 2022 to close out the 24th Council session. For the first time in 10 years, MSDC helped introduce legislation to reform the prior authorization process in DC. While that bill and another top priority – the Copay Accumulator Amendment Act – did not advance from committee, the Society gained momentum going into 2023 to reintroduce the bills and make progress.

Our other top priority – Consent for the Vaccinations of Minors Amendment Act – did pass the Council, as did legislation expanding the healthcare loan repayment program. Also passing after MSDC requested amendments was legislation to change medical record retention law.


MSDC continues to serve as a valuable content resource for the Council. The Committee on Health requested MSDC pull together a working group to make recommendations for minor consent to treatment legislation. MSDC issued its recommendations this spring.

MAYOR'S ADMINISTRATION

This summer, Mayor Muriel Bowser invited MSDC to serve with other associations, higher education institutions, and government officials to serve on a task force to address the healthcare workforce. The task force has been meeting this year and MSDC has weighed in on the major workforce issues facing our communities. MSDC has also met with Bower Administration officials on certificate of need changes and marijuana testing in pregnant people. As the year ended, MSDC was added to the opioid oversight panel legislation to have a seat on the oversight committee for the opioid settlement money.

DC HEALTH

DC Health leadership invited MSDC to its office for a Board of Directors' meeting for the first time since 2018. This showed how close of a working relationship the entities have ending 2022. Whether helping with medical license renewals or hosting the DC Health Chief of Staff in a committee meeting, MSDC works for its members with the regulatory body. In 2022, MSDC advocated successfully for DC Health to delay a COVID vaccine booster requirement for licensed practitioners and make permanent the temporary license process. As the year ended, the Board of Medicine also reported that they anticipate a DMV reciprocity for medical licenses in 2023. MSDC has been the most vocal proponent of this change in DC.




ANNUAL AND AWARDS

In 2022 MSDC held its first in-person awards ceremony. The event – Capital Healthcare Honors – attracted over 120 people and tens of thousands of dollars in sponsorship. The event, MCed by President Dr. Kirstiaan Nevin and Treasurer Dr. Raymond K. Tu, celebrated three physicians and one organization for their work over the past year. While the event had been held virtually in 2020, this was the first time MSDC handed out its awards in person separate from its annual meeting.

The awardees were:

- Certificate of Meritorious Service for outstanding service to the profession: Sara Imershein, MD, FACOG
- Dr. Charles H. Epps III Community Service Award for outstanding public service to the community: Princy Kumar, MD
- Distinguished Service Award for outstanding service to the Society: J. Desiree Pineda, MD, FACP
- John Benjamin Nichols Award for contributions to improving the health of the District: Mary's Center



MSDC members, guests, and DC leaders gathered at the AIA Courtyard and Event Center on October 28 to celebrate the Society's annual meeting of members. The meeting coincided with the Society's founding over 205 years ago and took place less than one mile from the location where the Society's first leaders gathered to found MSDC.

The highlight of the event was the inauguration of Susanne Bathgate, MD, as the Society's 158th president. Dr. Bathgate becomes president of the Society at the conclusion of the meeting and offered a forward-looking vision in her inaugural address. The business meeting began with special remarks from the Chair of the Council of the District of Columbia, the Honorable Phil Mendelson. The Council Chair encouraged the physicians present to remain involved in advocacy and share their perspectives before the Council.

MSDC President Dr. Kirsty Nevin then gave her presidential remarks. Dr. Nevin led the Society through a tumultuous year including the Omicron and B.A.5 COVID resurgences, Monkeypox, the Supreme Court Dobbs decision, and more.

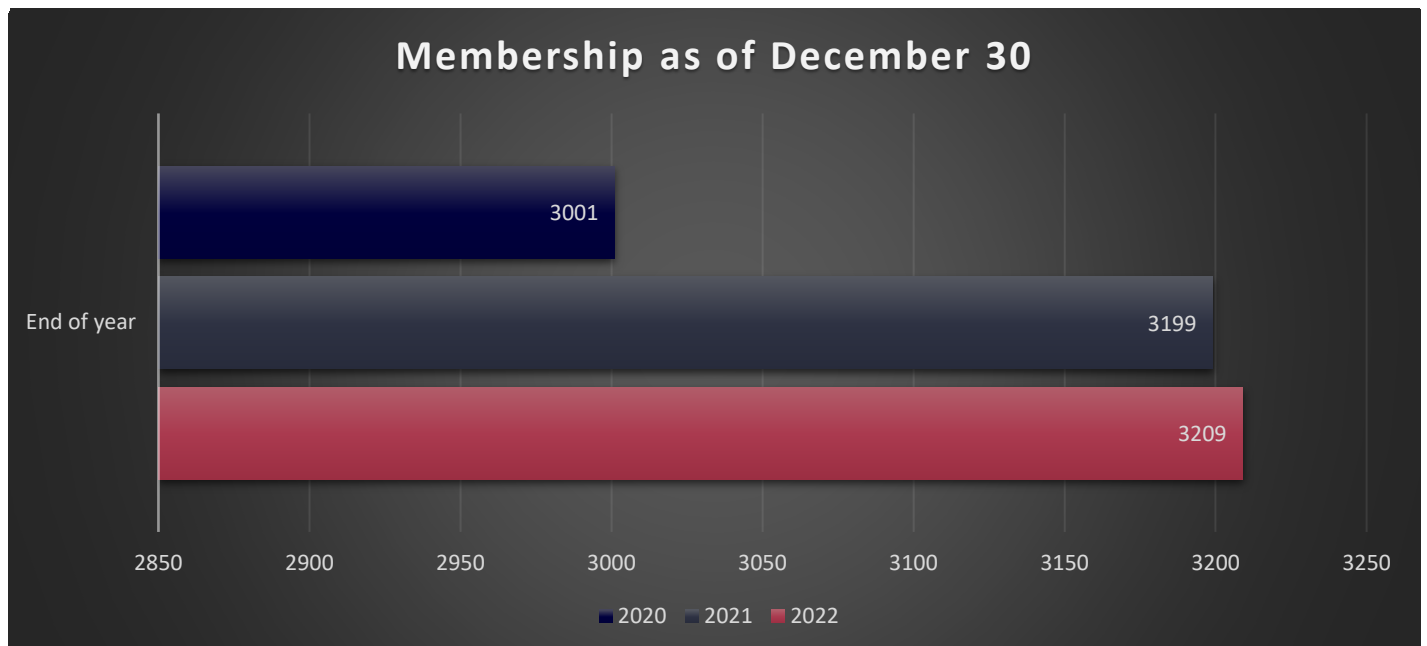
A new addition to the business meeting was the special recognition and thanks to Councilmember Mary Cheh. CM Cheh is retiring from the Council after this session and has been a major advocate for better health in the District, leading the movement for better access to healthy foods, more affordable prescriptions, and integrating health into other DC priorities.

MEMBERSHIP AND FINANCES

MSDC membership continues to grow, surpassing 3,200 members this year. Our membership remains diverse, including private practice physicians and employed physicians. The Society grew to three sections for different member segments: Women in Medicine, Private Practice Physicians, and Early Career Physicians. Three new volunteer groups – the Bylaws Task Force, Membership Committee, and Gender Equity Task Force – launched and offered new ways for members to share their expertise.



Financially, the Society saw struggles like many nonprofits in 2022. The stock market's declines impacted the Society's reserves, although as of December the Society had more than one year's expenses held in reserves. This is thanks to Asset Strategy Consultants, MSDC's long-time investment advisors. Operationally, the Society will likely see a small loss as it continues to reinvent its business models. We anticipate the actions taken in 2022 will begin a reinvention of the Society's value and raise new revenue streams. The Society re-upped its partnership with Vida Fitness and added UHC's Dual Choice program as a Platinum Sponsor. Unity also joined as our insurance partner, replacing our previous insurance option.





EVENTS

DC Government Events

- License renewal webinar
- DACS series on opioids
- CRISP events on advanced planning



Advocacy events

- Prior auth and copay day of action
- Physician Advocacy 101
- AMA/MSDC Prior auth advocacy discussion



Hot topic events

- Climate change advocacy with WPS
- AMA Dismantling Stigma for All
- Scope of Practice in and Around DC with MSV
- COVID 19 Oral Treatment Briefing with Pfizer

WOMEN IN MEDICINE

Studies have shown that women in medicine face more stress and more challenges to life and career than male physicians. MSDC partnered with other companies to provide WIM participants quality networking and wellness. To celebrate National Women Physicians Day, MSDC held a virtual get together on February 3. People learned about the event because WIM co-Chair Dr. Kasaraneni was interviewed on local news about the event and women physicians. This summer, WIM held a spa day event with partner Vida Fitness. Looking ahead, WIM will hold a chocolate tasting on National Women Physicians Day in 2023, continuing what is now becoming a tradition.

EARLY CAREER PHYSICIANS

Whether you are a student, resident, or new attending, the ECPS had an event for you. The summer three-part program on preparing for residency was a hit, with many medical students getting experienced advice on applying to residency programs. In the spring, ECPS had a webinar on “Getting the Most Out of Your Employment Agreement.” During the MLK Day weekend, ECPS members braved the weather and health situation to participate in the National Day of Service. All of this was reviewed and concluded with ECPS’s first annual meeting, held concurrently with the MSDC annual meeting. Early Career Physicians are MSDC’s quickest growing member segment, and their engagement shows.

PRIVATE PRACTICE PHYSICIANS

MSDC’s newest member segment held a virtual meet-up in February, to think about what activities would be most useful to members in 2022. They followed it up with a special advocacy event, to discuss how best to advocate before the DC Council on patient and physician issues. The event was led by Advocacy Committee Chair Dr. Klint Peebles and had a special focus on prior auth. The Section then partnered with AMA for a virtual session on E/M documentation and coding.

Committees (Chairs)

Advocacy (Klint Peebles)

Bylaws Task Force (Laurie Duncan)

Finance (Raymond Tu)

Gender Equity Task Force (Klint Peebles and Jaya Kasaraneni)

Membership (EW Emanuel)

Task Force on Family Violence (Kim Bullock)



MSDC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Presidents: Kirstiaan Nevin and Susanne Bathgate
Presidents-Elect: Susanne Bathgate and Ashesh Patel
Secretaries: Laurie Duncan and Theresa Stone
Treasurer: Raymond Tu
Chair, Board of Directors: Desiree Pineda

At-Large Directors

Julian Craig
EW Emanuel
Anthony Ibe
Klint Peebles
Desiree Pineda
Theresa Stone
Dock Winston

AMA Delegation

Peter Lavine (Delegate)
Raymond Tu (Delegate)
Kirstiaan Nevin (Delegate)
Neal Barnard (Alternate)
Matthew Lecuyer (Alternate)
Meghan Schott (Alternate)

Thank you to departing At-Large Director Laurie Duncan for your service.

Major Board actions of note in 2022

- Created a Gender Equity Task Force
- Adopted healthy food in healthcare facilities resolution and endorsed the AMA policy on nutrition
- Tasked the Membership Committee with reporting on a new member model in time for the 2024 membership year
- Adopted a new policy on endorsements
- Modified the Associate and First-Time member rates
- Adopted the 25th DC Council Advocacy Agenda

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Thank You to Our Platinum Partner



Thank You to Our New Diamond Partner



Thank You to Our Strategic Partners

Silver Partners





Thank You to Our Corporate Partners

New Bronze Partner



Bronze Partners



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