

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

Values. Ethics. Advocacy.

Dear Colleague:

Congratulations on joining the South Dakota State Medical Association (SDSMA), as well as your local district medical society. We are proud to be associated with you.

SDSMA speaks on behalf of physician and medical student members across the state in our commitment to improve the health of all South Dakotans. In partnership with our 12 district medical societies, we have been helping South Dakota physicians set high professional and ethical standards since 1882.

From legislative and legal advocacy to continuing medical education (CME) and technology-driven practice management support, SDSMA membership provides solutions to the challenges faced in the profession of medicine. SDSMA understands how difficult it is to practice in today's environment, and that's why we offer a wide variety of programs and services to help physicians and medical students at every stage of their career.

There are many opportunities to get involved with SDSMA to promote your profession. Members can serve on the Council of Physicians by being elected as a representative by their district medical society or specialty society. Or, members might consider submitting their name to serve on one of the other standing committees when a vacancy exists. The "Member Guide" describes these and other ways you can get involved in improving the practice of medicine through the SDSMA.

As a benefit of your membership, you will begin receiving *South Dakota Medicine*, our monthly publication which includes member news items of interest and cutting edge clinical topics. You will also be listed in our next Member Directory, a

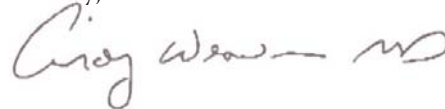
pictorial directory published each year that is mailed to all SDSMA members and available to non-members for a charge. When you have time, we would appreciate receiving a black-and-white photo of you for this purpose.

Finally, we encourage you to contribute and belong to SDSMAPAC, our political action committee. This organization contributes financial and non-financial resources to candidates for public office, specifically the South Dakota Legislature, South Dakota Supreme Court, U.S. House of Representatives, and U.S. Senate.

SDSMAPAC is also involved in political education for SDSMA and SDSMA Alliance members, encouraging involvement in the political arena on behalf of organized medicine in South Dakota.

Welcome to the South Dakota State Medical Association. There are many other benefits to talk about, so please let us know if we can be of assistance - we're here to serve you!

Sincerely,



Cynthia Weaver, MD
President



Barbara A. Smith
CEO

