



The Maryland State Medical Society

News: For Immediate Release

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MEDCHI FOCUSES ON TOTAL COST OF CARE AT SPRING HOUSE OF DELEGATES MEETING

BALTIMORE, May 8, 2019 – MedChi held their Spring House of Delegates meeting last month and were pleased to be joined by Carefirst CEO, Brian Pieninck, and HSCRC Deputy Director, Chris Peterson, for vigorous discussions of payment models and total cost of care. As payment issues and other administrative burdens continue to impact the profession of medicine, MedChi is pleased to provide a venue for productive discourse between our members and health industry leaders. Also in attendance were Senator Clarence Lam, MD, and Delegate Terri Hill, MD, who connected with their MedChi colleagues about the recent legislative session.

MedChi's House of Delegates adopted several resolutions to improve the practice of medicine in Maryland, including:

- Initiating a study on physician compensation disparities;
- A comprehensive approach to addressing gender disparities in medicine and a commitment to pay equity
- Calling for a prohibition on the use of unclaimed bodies as cadavers in medical education and research;
- Establishing improved guidelines for medical cannabis dispensary education, training, and resource; and
- Supporting increased training for Buprenorphine practitioners.

The House also adopted a resolution that will right historic wrongs by awarding posthumous membership to those who were denied membership based on race before MedChi and all its component medical societies were fully integrated. MedChi was one of the earliest medical associations to integrate, but this resolution seeks to rectify exclusionary practices of the past in the house of medicine.

Several awards were shared with accomplished members. Howard Haft, MD, was awarded MedChi's Distinguished Public Officer Award for his work with the Maryland Primary Care Program. Brooke Buckley, MD, was recognized for her contributions to Maryland Medicine. Stephen Rockower, MD, was honored for his service on MedChi's Board of Trustees. Longtime leader Joseph Snyder, MD, was recognized for his service on the Board of Directors for the MedChi Insurance Agency. University of Maryland School of Medicine medical student, Da'Kuawn Johnson, was honored for his volunteer work with Baltimore's Talent Mentoring Program.

MedChi would like to thank everyone who attended. Gene Ransom, MedChi CEO, states "MedChi's strength comes from the diversity, knowledge, experience, and passion of our members, and couldn't accomplish our good works without your participation in the process."

About MedChi

MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society, is a non-profit membership association of Maryland physicians. It is the largest physician organization in Maryland. The mission of MedChi is to serve as Maryland's foremost advocate and resource for physicians, their patients and the public health of Maryland. For more information, please visit www.medchi.org.