



The Maryland Psychiatric Society: Working Hard To Serve Our Members



2016-2017 MPS Initiatives

During the 2017 Maryland General Assembly, MPS reviewed over 85 bills and provided testimony or written positions on 26 bills that directly affected psychiatry. Some of the major successes MPS helped to achieve this past session included:

- Passing a law that expands access to mental health services, or at least “keeps the door open” to such services by requiring the Governor’s proposed budget for fiscal year 2019 and 2020 to include a 3.5% rate increase for community providers over the funding provided in the prior year’s legislative appropriation.
- Ensuring a mandate that additional levels of care for behavioral health disorders must be included as basic insurance benefits in health insurance policies.
- Passing legislation that expands the use of telemedicine for behavioral health services.

Distributed practice information regarding:

- ◆ Maryland Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) registration and updates
- ◆ CDS Renewals
- ◆ CRISP news and useful tools
- ◆ Risk management tips addressing Treating College Students, Medical Marijuana, and Bullying
- ◆ Medicare & Medicaid rates, meaningful use, MACRA payment reforms, Part D updates, EHRs, and PDLs
- ◆ Criminal history check and fingerprinting for license renewals

Commented on proposed Maryland telemedicine and network advocacy regulations to **improve access to care**.

Provided feedback and participated in the Maryland Insurance Administration’s market conduct surveys on **Parity**.

Offered **online bill pay** for member dues via the MPS website, as well as member accounts with an **online member directory**, ability to update addresses, practice information and more.

Transitioned to a calendar year so members can **simplify with one dues bill** and opt to participate in the APA payment plan.

Hosted a **free CME** with the APA on “Applying the Integrated Care Approach: Practical Skills for the Consulting Psychiatrist”

Co-sponsored a **multi-day CME** activity with The Southern Psychiatric Association in Baltimore.

Presented a joint CME activity with MedChi featuring a performance by **Richard Kogan, M.D.** at Goucher College.

Engaged and supported residents and early career psychiatrists with a **networking** event and lunches.

Diversity Committee hosted a successful **happy hour** introducing Resident-Fellow members to available APA fellowships.

Supported twenty-nine members’ advancement to Fellow status, and **Margo Lauterbach, M.D.** to Distinguished Fellow.

MPS Paper of the Year Awards presented to winning submissions by **Jennifer Coughlin, M.D.** and **Traci Speed, M.D., Ph.D.**

Honored **Robert Roca, M.D.** with the 2017 MPS **Lifetime of Service Award**.

Member Benefits

- ◆ Strong **representation** in Maryland General Assembly, with state regulators, and within the mental health community.
- ◆ **Reduced rates** for excellent CME programs.
- ◆ Networking and peer support through the **member listserv**, committees and meetings.
- ◆ **Patient referral service** matched callers over 800 times with member practices based on patient preferences.
- ◆ Subscription to monthly **MPS News**, which includes positions and office space available.
- ◆ Listing in and free copy of the annual MPS **Membership Directory**.
- ◆ Subscription to **The Maryland Psychiatrist**, the journal of psychiatry in our state.
- ◆ A place to turn for **solutions to problems** regarding insurance, billing, malpractice, legal needs, etc.
- ◆ Reduced rates for **ads** in **MPS News** and the annual directory.