

WHAT WE DID FOR YOU IN 2018

Represented your interests in the Washington State Medical Association by participating in the WSMA General Meeting and the WSMA Legislative Summit.

At the annual **WSMA House of Delegates** meeting, delegates from Thurston and Mason counties introduced several resolutions and worked with other county medical societies to urge the WSMA to adopt those resolutions. Board members supported resolutions to revise language in its non-discrimination policies to include “sexual orientation or gender identity” protections; expand state level non-discrimination laws to include all healthcare interactions in the state; and, directed the WSMA to be a resource for providers and provider groups looking to update their non-discrimination policies.

They also sponsored resolutions to eliminate e-cigarettes, encourage hospitals to treat opioid use disorder as a chronic disease, and direct the WSMA to support policy that eliminates barriers to increase funding for and promote access to medication-assisted treatment at all state-certified drug treatment facilities.



Thurston and Mason County board members and member physicians participated in the **WSMA Legislative Summit** in Olympia, WA and met with state representatives to speak on priority legislative issues for the medical society. They played an integral role in the passage of HB 2257, which prohibits maintenance of certification from being required for certain health professions.

Board members also participated in the **WSMA Leadership Conference** in May 2018, where the theme was innovation in health care leadership. They learned new ways of thinking to help drive them toward a vision of making Washington state the best state to practice medicine and receive care.

Collaborated with local physicians and organizations to promote the practice of medicine in Thurston and Mason counties and to provide informative meetings for our members.

TMCMS Annual Meeting: Dr. Chelsea Unruh was our 2018 keynote speaker. Their topic? LGBT Health: Why you should care. Dr. Unruh is one of the foremost LGBT healthcare providers in Thurston County and soon to be Washington State. The presentation sought to define and

correctly utilize appropriate terminology used in the LGBTQ community; recognize health concerns of populations within the LGBTQ community; examine the current political climate's implications on this populations' health; explain where to obtain up to date medical literature and resources; and model sensitivity to diversity in communication and care.



Thurston-Mason Health Care Champions: TMCMS worked with the Thurston County Chamber of Commerce to recognize local Health Care Champions in the annual community event that honors local physicians and others who have gone above the call of duty in the health care field. This year, we recognized the following:

Dr. Annie Iriye, Professional Leadership Award

Meg Martin and the Interfaith Works Overnight Shelter, Health Care Safety Net Award

Paul Wilkinson, Lifetime Achievement Award

Karen Hilburn Cancer Fund, Community Impact Award

- **2018 Legislative Session Update:** WSMA Legislative Affairs Director Katie Kolan gave an informative presentation to members and guests about the 2018 legislative session.
- **Cannabis as Medicine:** We explored the evolving science behind the use of cannabis for pain management and its medicinal value.
- **DRs, DOs, & Chiropractors:** We broadened understanding, access, and collaboration among practitioners.

Welcomed new physicians to the TMCMS. Hosted another successful New Members Social in September of 2018.

Generated frequent newsletters to keep our members informed of upcoming events and important information.

Supported the health and wellbeing of our communities through charitable giving to Together! and Interfaith Works. This work continues in 2019.



Referred new and displaced patients to our member practices and produced the 2018 membership directory.