AMWA attends White House signing of executive order on strengthening access to the Affordable Care Act and Medicaid

AMWA Leaders with Admiral Rachel Levine, MD, Assistant Secretary for Health and Human Services
The Year in Review

The American Medical Women's Association is dedicated to advancing women in medicine, advocating for equity, and ensuring excellence in healthcare.

AMWA proved adept at responding to critical healthcare challenges that arose in 2022. With the rollback of gains made by women prior to the pandemic and the increased challenges faced by women in medicine, AMWA met the need by promoting programs to advance women's leadership, foster physician wellbeing, and protect access to comprehensive reproductive care.

We have demonstrated the value of being part of a multi-specialty professional organization whose strength is to offer a community to women in medicine. The voice of women physicians remains integral as our country struggles with unprecedented levels of burnout, persistent healthcare disparities, and worsening chronic diseases, particularly in women's health.

The 107th AMWA Annual Meeting, *Thriving with Tenacity, Humor, and Hope*, held virtually in March, was marked by memorable keynotes presented by Dr. Rana Awdish, Dr. Kimberly Manning, and Dr. C. Noel Bairey Merz, poetry readings from artist-in-residence Dr. Zainab Mabizari, and plenary sessions on humor in medicine, intersectional identities, overcoming blindspots, and establishing a culture of wellbeing. The Gala high point was an inspiring fireside chat with Admiral Rachel Levine, MD (HHS Assistant Secretary for Health), Dr. Darilyn Moyer (CEO, ACP), Dr. Theresa Rohr-Kirchgraber (AMWA President), and Dr. Elizabeth Garner (AMWA President-Elect).

The Interim Meeting was held at Google offices in Washington, DC and included special meetings at the White House with the Office of Public Engagement, at HHS with Admiral Rachel Levine, MD, and at Congressional offices to speak about AMWA initiatives in reproductive health, sex and gender specific medicine, and public health.
AMWA and Korn Ferry released a landmark joint report, *Women in Medicine: Setting the Agenda for Change*, which identified career challenges faced by women physicians across sectors and introduced strategies to overcome obstacles to achieving career parity, and timely advancement.

AMWA’s signature leadership certification programs—AMWA ELEVATE for women physicians and AMWA EVOLVE for women trainees—expanded with the launch of new cohorts. A Leadership Diversity Fund, underwritten by founding sponsor Cross Country Healthcare, helped meet the goal of fostering a more diverse pool of women leaders. New partnerships with graduate programs in business and law offered opportunities for physician-leaders to gain more effective management skills or distinguish themselves as healthcare executives or entrepreneurs.

AMWA leaders and members were featured in the book, *Lessons Learned: Stories from Women Physician Leaders* edited by AMWA member Dr. Deborah Shlian with a foreword by AMWA President Dr. Theresa Rohr-Kirchgraber.

AMWA celebrates our five Women’s Wellness through Equity and Leadership (WEL) scholars. The Leadership Council honored 57 women with the AMWA Inspire Awards and sponsored a series of webinars to explore opportunities beyond clinical medicine. AMWA partnered with the Women in Medicine Legacy Foundation to launch the inaugural lectureship, *Transforming Healthcare: Celebrating Women in Medicine*. 
AMWA advocated on many public health issues this year, including support of the Inflation Reduction Act, reproductive healthcare, and campaigns focused on obesity treatment, period poverty, gun violence solutions, climate change, and paid family leave—with visits both on the Hill and at the White House. This work included 16 statements, 9 position papers, 3 public comments, and sign-ons to 40 letters, 13 amici briefs, 4 statements, and 2 resolutions.

We were honored to be present at the White House for the signing of the Executive Order on Strengthening Access to the Affordable Care Act and Medicaid and the celebration of the Inflation Reduction Act.

With the stunning overturn of Roe v. Wade, AMWA rallied quickly to focus on a full commitment to Restore and Protect Reproductive Rights. The strategy has been three-fold: (1) Co-founding the Reproductive Health Coalition to mobilize healthcare providers with a unified voice and action (2) Hosting Member Town Halls; and (3) Holding Public Forums, all aimed to support physicians’ ability to practice free of legislative interference.

AMWA mobilized efforts around nonpartisan civic engagement, wrote op-eds and letters, and held influence skills trainings to better navigate difficult conversations about reproductive care. We were thankful when all five state ballot measures passed favorably for abortion access.

AMWA published the 4th Sex and Gender Health Education Summit proceedings, which highlighted the intersectionality of sex, gender, race, and social determinants. Continued awareness is being promoted through grants, screenings of the film, Ms. Diagnosed, and distribution of the textbook How Sex and Gender Impact Clinical Care to curricular leaders. Nearly 200 AMWA students are working to develop information sheets on sex and gender aspects of common clinical conditions.
AMWA's Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) Council hosted the Diversity Dialogues podcast to foster honest discourse on a range of interdisciplinary topics. The Anti-racism Committee advocated for the elimination of race-based algorithms in medicine and policies that perpetuate racial disparities. The International Medical Graduate (IMG) community developed new resources to support the path to residency. AMWA also partnered with Diversity Science to provide members evidence-based, implicit bias training.

The inaugural Gender Equity EmpowHER Summit focused on strategies for addressing workplace injustices and common gender biases. AMWA also collaborated with Dr. Julie Silver and Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine (ELAM) on the #InvestInHer campaign to promote recruitment, retention, and reentry of women physicians.

AMWA co-founded the Gender Equity in academic Medicine and Science (GEMS) Alliance, an organization that seeks to achieve equity for women by catalyzing alignment, collaboration, and innovative approaches.

AMWA's Humans Before Heroes initiative aims to reframe mental health licensure and credentialing questions so that there is no stigma to seeking mental health care. AMWA and Doctors Under the Radar have also promoted strategies to increase self-care and self-awareness around burnout.

AMWA convened the Action Coalition for Equity, a community of diverse allies committed to working collaboratively to advance equity and inclusion. The Revolution by Resolution campaign continues to pursue the adoption of gender equity resolutions by state medical societies. A webinar series with Physician Just Equity equipped women with strategies for navigating workplace politics and recognizing "red flag" signs. On a national level, AMWA increased advocacy efforts supporting passage of the Equal Rights Amendment.

Physician Suicide Awareness Day was another opportunity to reinforce concerns about the increased risk for suicide among women physicians.
AMWA is an affiliated NGO of the United Nations Department of Global Communication (UN DGC). During the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), AMWA held a parallel event—Medical Women Leaders Promote Gender Equity and Sustainable Development Goals. Dr. Padmini Murthy, AMWA Global Health Lead represented AMWA as a non-governmental advisor of the U.S. delegation to the CSW. AMWA also joined Women in Global Health's Gender Equal Healthcare and Workforce Initiative to promote equity around the world.

AMWA participated in the Medical Women’s International Association (MWIA) Congress hosted by the Taiwan Medical Women’s Association. The U.S. Delegation was led by MWIA Secretary General Dr. Padmini Murthy. AMWA Past President Dr. Connie Newman and Executive Director Dr. Eliza Chin were inducted as MWIA Vice-President of North America and Treasurer, respectively.

AMWA hosted several film screenings in 2022, including *Fauci, Far East, Deep South, and Training Rules*, and added several more films to the on-line gallery of films that promote education and advocacy. AMWA's Music and Medicine Committee partnered with Rutgers University Women’s Health Institute to jointly publish *Humanities and Healing: An Arts and Medicine Journal*. Studio AMWA hosted the #WhiteCoatChallenge: What does the coat mean to you? AMWA’s two Artists-in-Residents have been working towards projects that will be unveiled at the AMWA Annual Meeting.

Literary AMWA's 5th issue featured powerful stories and poems about race, gender, implicit bias, and pandemic isolation. We continue to promote the intersection of dance, theater arts and medicine, opportunities for medical education, and partnership with the Reimagining Medicine Festival.
PHYSICIAN FERTILITY

A generous gift of $10,000 from Dr. Satty Keswani will help advance AMWA's work in physician fertility.

WOMEN’S HEALTH

AMWA hosted a stake-holder roundtable on *Women and the Obesity Epidemic* and published proceedings outlining strategies for addressing barriers to care. We promoted *Check-in on Menopause*, a telehealth program and co-organized the 4th Annual *HPV Prevention Week*. AMWA continues work on contraception, migraines, and osteoporosis.

PUBLIC HEALTH

AMWA's participation in the White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health led to a commitment to serve healthy food at AMWA events and a new partnership with the American College of Lifestyle Medicine (ACLM) to promote education of food as medicine.

Senior Fusion, a program supported by AMWA, received a $75,000 grant from the Long Foundation to bring tech innovation and programs to older adults.

Following the 2021 Physician Fertility Summit, AMWA held a 3-part workshop series, *Turning Fertility Challenges into Change*, that focused on storytelling, advocacy, and reproductive life plan discussions. AMWA was honored to receive the Hope Award for Advocacy from RESOLVE: The National Infertility Association, with whom we partnered to create the AMWA-RESOLVE Coverage-at-Work Toolkit. AMWA now offers employer fertility benefits through ARC Fertility.

AMWA's *Gun Violence Solutions Task Force* launched the podcast, Unloading: Community Solutions for Gun Violence with a focus on diverse perspectives and experiences. Over 1000 physicians and other health professionals signed a petition asking HHS for new action on gun violence, now the #1 cause of death in children. AMWA's *Domestic Violence Committee* held a half day summit and is developing an educational toolkit to address gaps in care. *Physicians Against the Trafficking of Humans (PATH)* hosted numerous LIFT (Learn to Identify and Fight Trafficking) trainings, thanks to generous support from the Meehan Foundation, Dr. Elizabeth Berdan, and others.
By the Numbers

Your support through membership, donations, and sponsorship makes our work possible. Thank you.

The power and impact of AMWA comes from the inspiration, dedication, and passion of our leaders and partners. Thanks to all who have enriched our community and contributed to the success of our initiatives.
A Legacy of Service

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SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL AMWA COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS, PILLAR LEADS, REGIONAL GOVERNORS / DIRECTORS, BRANCH PRESIDENTS, CLINICAL LEADS AND LIAISONS, WITHOUT WHOM OUR WORK WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE.
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