

# 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition



Serving Over 3,600 Physicians  
in El Dorado, Sacramento  
& Yolo Counties

Sierra Sacramento Valley Medical Society

SSVMS

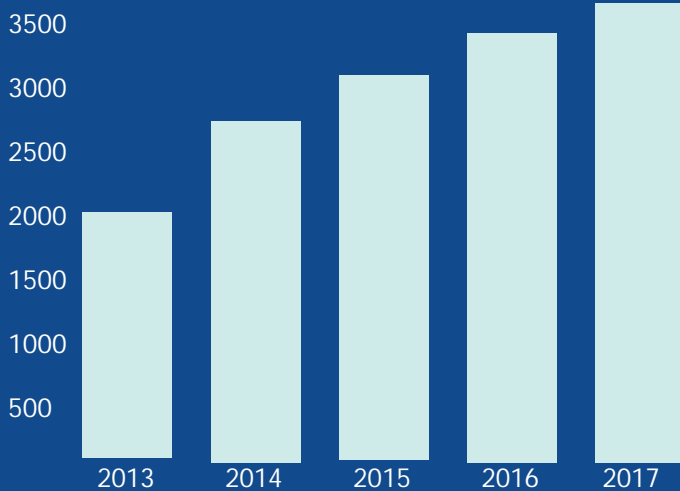
150 years

Established 1868

The Sierra Sacramento Valley Medical Society (SSVMS) is dedicated to bringing together physicians from all modes of practice to promote the art and science of quality medical care, and to enhance the physical and mental health of our entire community. In continuous operation since 1868, SSVMS is the oldest medical society in California with over 3,600 physician members in Sacramento, El Dorado and Yolo Counties. SSVMS is a nonprofit organization, and is a component society of the California Medical Association (CMA). SSVMS provides many benefits to our members by advocating for physicians and their patients to ensure access to quality healthcare. We achieve this through: Dedicated **physician led** committees; A 44-member **delegation** that develops and recommends health care **policy** positions at the local, state and national levels; **Economic** advocacy, **legal** and **practice management** assistance to help physicians and their practices; Events throughout the year to provide physicians **fellowship** and **professional development** opportunities; Programs that help physicians reclaim the **joy of practicing medicine**; Philanthropic programs that are committed to supporting the **future of medicine** and providing **access to care** to those in need. In essence, SSVMS's core activities help physicians maintain practice viability, **connect** with fellow physicians, and allows them to focus on what's most important; **caring** for their patients.



## MEMBERSHIP GROWTH



## SHAPING HEALTHCARE IN 2017

SSVMS and CMA advocate for physicians and the patients they serve at the local, state and national level.

Significant 2017 victories:

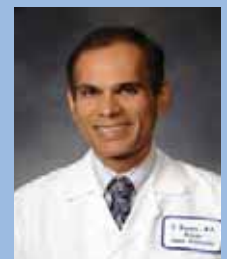
- Defended Medical Staff self-governance by protecting California law to ensure that medical staffs stay distinct and separate from hospitals.
- Secured over \$1 billion annually to improve Medi-Cal provider reimbursements and an increase in graduate medical education funding.
- Increased funding to Sacramento County Maddy Fund by 100%.
- Passed Legislation to remove pain as the fifth vital sign and allow for partial fills of opioids.
- Convinced CMS to further reduce 2018 MACRA reporting burdens.

Learn more at [ssvms.org](http://ssvms.org).



## 2017 PRESIDENT-ELECT MESSAGE

This is a special time for all of us as we celebrate the 150th anniversary of our medical society. Moving from a handful of physicians to 3,600 members now, the medical society has become a powerful guiding force for our profession that enables us to continue serving our patients. The pen has been replaced by the computer, and email and iPhones dominate. But compassion and connection are still elements that are vital qualities of physicians that cannot be replaced. As physicians, no matter the specialty, we all seek the same thing. Doing what is best for our patients and ensuring that our profession endures.



2018 President  
Rajiv Misquitta, MD

With uncertainty in the air, and the rapidly changing insurance environment, the medical landscape is evolving at a rapid pace. Medicine is one of the most heavily regulated professions, and with so many competing demands placed on the lives of physicians, it is not surprising that burnout is on the rise within our profession. SSVMS, once again, rose to the challenge by establishing the Joy of Medicine program. I had the opportunity to chair this group, which is composed of talented physician leaders. We had a successful summit last September with 180 physicians in attendance. I have no doubt that if we put our minds together, we stand a better chance of coming up with solutions.

Thank you for all you do for your patients and for the community. I look forward to your engagement as we tackle the issues of the new year and am confident that, together, we can sail through gracefully. Finally, I invite you all to take a moment to think about why you went into medicine. What better way to bring the joy back than to go back to the beginning.

~ [rajiv.misquitta@gmail.com](mailto:rajiv.misquitta@gmail.com)

Join over 3,600 physician members that are making a difference in the lives of colleagues and the patients they serve.

# 2017 MEDICAL SOCIETY HAPPENINGS



Yolo County Physician Social



Volunteer Physicians for Future of Medicine



CMA Legislative Leadership Day



SPIRIT Specialty Clinic in Sacramento County



Celebrate the Season Social and Volunteer Recognition Event



Medical Students Advocating at the Capitol

Join over 3,600 physician members that are making a difference in the lives of colleagues and the patients they serve.





# COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

SSVMS HAS CARED FOR PHYSICIANS & THE PATIENTS THEY SERVE FOR 150 YEARS

Sierra Sacramento Valley Medical Society (SSVMS) involves physicians in community service, education, and research through its charitable programs. SSVMS' Community Programs and services are focused on increasing access to healthcare, improving health outcomes, mental health advocacy, physician wellness and building the future of medicine. SSVMS' Community Programs are supported by grants and generous donations from our members and from the community.



## SPIRIT PROGRAM

*#SPIRITHeals*

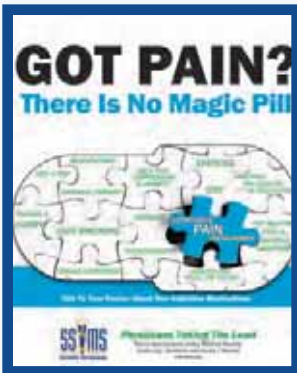
SSVMS' Sacramento Physicians' Initiative to Reach out, Innovate and Teach (SPIRIT) program recruits and places physician volunteers to donate medical services to the medically indigent and uninsured members of our community. Working together with partner physicians and the region's health systems, the SPIRIT Program provides uninsured people in the Sacramento region the care that helps them lead healthier, more productive lives. Since its inception, SPIRIT has provided over \$10 million in free care, treated over 50,000 patients and performed over 1,000 surgeries. In 2017:

**45+ VOLUNTEER PHYSICIANS**

**50+ SURGERIES PERFORMED**

**900+ PATIENTS TREATED**

**\$350k IN DONATED SERVICES**



## RX SAFE PHYSICIANS PROGRAM

*#SSVMSCares*

SSVMS' RX Safe Physicians program is a partnership with the Sacramento County Opioid Task Force and Partners in Care of El Dorado County. This physician led coalition includes community members and experts collaborating to prevent opioid misuse and abuse to help save lives. The program focuses on educating providers regarding safe prescribing, promoting complimentary methods of pain management to physicians and patients and increasing access to naloxone.



## JOY OF MEDICINE PROGRAM

*#SSVMSGratitude*

SSVMS' Joy of Medicine program relieves physician pain and helps them to reclaim the joy of practicing medicine through education, advocacy and program services designed to nurture individual well-being and collegiality and to promote systems-wide change. Through the Joy of Medicine program, SSVMS supports physician wellness and personal resilience through no-cost consultations and education, connecting with colleagues through socials and physicians peer groups, and collaborating with leaders to foster a culture of wellness in the local physician community. For more information and to access wellness resources, visit:

**JoyofMedicine.org**

Help SSVMS change lives. Volunteer or consider making a tax deductible donation at [ssvms.org/programs](http://ssvms.org/programs).



# COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

SSVMS HAS CARED FOR PHYSICIANS & THE PATIENTS THEY SERVE FOR 150 YEARS

**DONATE \$150 TO COMMEMORATE SSVMS' 150 YEAR ANNIVERSARY!**



## SMART MEDICAL CLEARANCE

*#MentalHealthAdvocacy*

Patients in mental health crisis frequently present to one of the Sacramento Region's Emergency Departments (ED) for medical evaluation and treatment. Recognizing that the ED is not an optimal environment for patients in psychological distress, SSVMS convened emergency medicine physicians and psychiatrists to develop and implement the SMART Medical Clearance protocol to standardize the medical clearance process across all EDs and inpatient psychiatric hospitals with the goal of improving the quality of care for patients in crisis. The SMART protocol facilitates the safe and timely transfer of patients to appropriate treatment centers in a resource-conscious way by relying on evidence-based medicine and thorough history and physical exams. For more information and access to resources visit:

**SMARTMedicalClearance.org**



## MEDICAL STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP FUND

*#FutureofMedicine*

Since 1969, SSVMS has supported the future of medicine by providing scholarships to deserving medical students who have graduated from a high school in El Dorado, Sacramento or Yolo Counties. Awardees, including the Paul J. Rosenberg, M.D. Scholar, are officially recognized at SSVMS' Annual Awards and Installation Dinner. In 2017:

**\$13k+ GRANTED**

**50+ YEARS SUPPORTING THE FUTURE OF MEDICINE**



## MUSEUM OF MEDICAL HISTORY

*#SSVMSTeaches*

SSVMS' Museum of Medical History showcases the history of medicine in our region and features medical artifacts from the fields of Surgery, Clinical Diagnosis, Infectious Disease, Pharmacy, Radiology, Chinese Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynecology and Medical Quackery. It is staffed by the Medical Society's Historical Committee and is operated entirely from community donations. The museum is free of charge and open to the public. In 2017:

**1500+ VISITORS**

**35+ SCHOOLS & COMMUNITY GROUPS**

Help SSVMS change lives. Volunteer or consider making a tax deductible donation at [ssvms.org/programs](http://ssvms.org/programs).

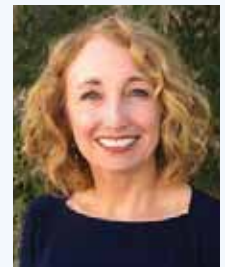


# CELEBRATING 150 YEARS

SIERRA SACRAMENTO VALLEY MEDICAL SOCIETY

ON MARCH 17, 1868, 12 physicians met in Sacramento to form the Sacramento Society for Medical Improvement, which is now known as the Sierra Sacramento Valley Medical Society (SSVMS). For 150 years, SSVMS has brought together physicians from all specialties and modes of practice to promote the art and science of quality medical care, and to enhance the physical and mental health of our entire community. SSVMS is the oldest medical society in continuous operations in the West. SSVMS is a component county medical society of the California Medical Association and has grown to represent over 3,600 physicians, medical students, residents and fellows in the Counties of El Dorado, Sacramento and Yolo.

When a cholera epidemic swept through the Sacramento area in 1850, killing 1,000 people, the physicians who survived – about one third of them perished in the epidemic – went on to form the Medical Society of California on March 12, 1856. Benjamin Franklin Keene, MD of El Dorado County was elected as the first president of the State Medical Association, which is now known as the California Medical Association.



Aileen Wetzel  
Executive Director

SSVMS' early goals – to learn more about diseases and their cures through sharing of information; to formulate and support ordinances for public health, sanitation and food inspection; and to support the principles and ethics of the medical profession – continue to benefit communities in the Sacramento region.

The Sacramento Society for Medical Improvement, the initial name for our current Society, founded the Sacramento Board of Health, the second in the United States, and influenced the formation of the first State Board of Health and the first railroad hospital. Dr. Frederick Hatch, MD served six terms as the first President of the Medical Society. Dr. Hatch was also elected Superintendent of Public Schools for the City and County of Sacramento and was a member of the Board of Education, serving from 1855 to 1860. He was the first President of the City Board of Health and was appointed by the Governor to the State Board of Health in 1876 and served as Secretary until his death.

In 1947, medical society leaders founded the Sacramento Medical Foundation, now known as BloodSource, as a regional blood supply for the Sacramento region's growing population.

The Medical Society's founders were professional and civic leaders, serving as Presidents of the Sacramento, California, and the American Medical Associations, officers of the Sacramento City Council and State Board of Health, Surgeon General of California, City Health Officer, Superintendent of the County Hospital, Director of the State Library, President of the Board of Education, Superintendent of Public Schools, Mayor of Sacramento, State Senator, and Secretary of State for California.

SSVMS continues to grow physician leaders. Seventeen SSVMS member physicians have been President of the California Medical Association, and three have gone on to serve as President of the American Medical Association. Today, SSVMS member physicians are serving as Immediate Past President of the CMA, as Speaker of CMA House of Delegates, as a California State Senator, and as a U.S. Representative in Congress.

The practice of medicine, the care of patients, surgical techniques, hospital care and nearly every facet of the medical profession, for doctor and patient alike, have benefited in the past 150 years as a result of the Medical Society's efforts. Join us as we celebrate 150 years of SSVMS at events and celebrations throughout 2018. ~awetzel@ssvms.org



# CELEBRATING 150 YEARS

SIERRA SACRAMENTO VALLEY MEDICAL SOCIETY



Plaque honoring doctors from the cholera epidemic, Old City Cemetery, Sacramento



Frederick Hatch, MD  
Medical Society President,  
1868-1873



Before pagers, voicemail and cell phones, there was the Medical Society Exchange, 1950



The Sacramento Society for Medical Improvement Board of Directors, 1971



"The Bulletin", now known as SSV Medicine, debuted in 1950



The Medical Society founded the Sacramento Blood Bank in 1948, now known as BloodSource



The Medical Society immunized 400,000 Sacramento residents against polio in 1962

**1868**  
**2018**

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**Thank you Family of Paul J. Rosenberg, MD, for a very generous donation to the SSVMS Medical Student Scholarship Fund.**

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