

# CCMS Executive Director's Message

Be the One-in-a-Million



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Recently, I had the honor to attend my first White Coat Ceremony. WOW! What a moving and powerful experience to witness. Growing up a Yankee fan I always wondered what it would be like to be a NY Yankee. I wanted to know what it felt like the first time a young ballplayer put on those legendary pinstripes and walked through the tunnel for the first time. I remember career day at elementary school when all the parents would come in and tell us how great and interesting their jobs were. We heard from moms and dads who were journalists, a pilot, a banker and a veterinarian as we grappled with, "What did I want to be when I grow up?" For me, believe it or not, I wanted to be a horse-jockey until my grandfather informed me in the 4th grade I was too tall. From then on, I wanted to be the first female Yankee except I was scared of getting hit by the ball (still am).

As I sat in the ballroom for the Touro University White Coat Ceremony, surrounded by so many proud parents, spouses and loved ones - I couldn't help but be in awe of these students. During the ceremony I found myself recollecting about my childhood and how I dreamt of becoming that one-in-a-million kid to become a major league baseball player while these students dreamt of becoming doctors. They dreamt of wearing a white coat and stethoscope like I had dreamt of pinstripes and a navy cap. But the truth is their dream was so much more than mine ever was. To become a doctor is certainly no easy feat but it is also a profession with a most noble trait - its sole purpose is to help others. What greater gift can someone give another than healing and health? I can think of no other.

Do you remember the first time you put on your white coat? Do you remember attending elementary school and attending career day and thinking to your-

self, "I want to be a doctor." Do you remember where you were when you found out you got accepted into medical school? Or your first day as a resident or the first time a patient thanked you helping them feel better. Take a moment and think back to what made you want to become a doctor and let's harness that desire; let's use it to help others and to help the Clark County Medical Society get to the next level.

Simon Sinek once said "Genius is the idea; impact however, comes from action!" Wise words, indeed. As a member of the Clark County Medical Society your engagement and involvement is key to our success. Never underestimate the impact your investment as a member of the CCMS can make in the lives and careers of others and our community. Let's meet, let's chat, join the dialogue and be the voice for CCMS. I invite you to have coffee and we can discuss the opportunities CCMS has for you. Together we can expand the impact of CCMS. Please consider joining one of our committees such as Government Affairs, the Installation Dinner Committee or the Community Health and Public Relations Committee. Don't just sit on the sidelines; help us represent and advocate for all physicians in Clark County. Don't have much free time? Ask your colleague to join and become a member; make a donation to our building fund (we are still selling naming opportunities) or make a tax-deductible donation to our scholarship fund to ensure we meet our collective goal of eradicating the critical shortage of physicians in Clark County and Nevada as a whole.

Want to hit a homerun? Mark your calendar for October 9-19th and sign up for our MiniMed Internship as we partner with the Clark County School District. This meaningful program allows qualified students to shadow a real-live practicing physician for a week who are exploring an education/career in medicine. Your time and talent can help foster bright futures in the medical field for these students.

Tonight, as I kiss my girls goodnight and tuck them in, I wish them sweet dreams and wonder what they will be when they grow up. For many, becoming a doctor is a dream come true. Congratulations and thank you, for all you do.

With much gratitude and respect,  
Alexandra P. Silver  
Executive Director  
Clark County Medical Society