

BENEFITS OF SCMS MEMBERSHIP



123 Years of Caring for Saginaw County Residents

Joan M. Cramer, SCMS Executive Director

The Saginaw County Medical Society (SCMS) is the professional association of physicians in Saginaw County.

I have been asked many times by both members and non-members "Why should I belong to the SCMS?" "What do you do for me?" Some have responded they "don't use their membership because they don't attend SCMS meetings." SCMS membership is so much more than membership meetings. We are not only support for you, but for your office staff as well. I'm hoping the information below will help members who are on the fence about paying their dues decide to remain members, and also convince non-members why they should belong. We represent physicians in all specialties and in all types of practices – solo, group, employed, etc. Active membership is open to MDs and DOs.

- Active physician dues are \$300 per year. **One hundred percent of SCMS dues are tax deductible as a business expense.**
- The SCMS offers a discount for first year physicians.
- Resident and medical student memberships are also available at deeply discounted rates.

What We Offer SCMS Members and Their Staff:

- Four **Membership Meetings** per year where our members have an opportunity to network and enjoy the camaraderie of fellow physicians who love the practice of medicine and want to see progress made in the Saginaw medical community. In addition, our meetings include interesting speakers and an opportunity to earn **FREE CME credit**. Examples of CME-accredited programs we have offered:
 - Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE's)
 - Ethics
 - Implicit Bias
 - The Importance of Psychological Assessment in Diagnosing Children with Attention Deficits
 - Physician Compassion Fatigue/Burnout
 - Traumatic Brain Injuries
 - Understanding Aging: The Gray Areas of Medicine
 - When Dreams Leave the Night - Sleep Disorders
 - What to do if a Complaint has Been Filed Against You
- **Representation** of physicians in all specialties and in all types of practices—solo, group, employed, etc.

- **Communication** and camaraderie with physicians of other specialties in a neutral setting.
- **Liaison** for assistance on practice issues, billing and coding, health information technology, legal alerts, legislative issues, insurance and much more.
- **An independent voice** for physicians on issues they face at the hospitals.
- **The Bulletin** with articles and information pertinent to SCMS members and their staff.
- **Free CME** on a variety of topics.
- **Website** which is full of useful information and resources www.SaginawCountyMS.com.
- **Referrals** to patients seeking a physician.
- **Contact with local, state and federal legislators** regarding issues of importance to our members and the practice of medicine. The SCMS maintains contact with local legislators to provide issue education and help them understand the impact of healthcare legislation.
- **A unified voice** on medical issues to our legislators, our area hospitals, insurance companies, etc.
- **Loans and scholarships** to local medical students, residents and nursing students.
- **Community service** to actively and tangibly give back to the community where you live and work through SCMS sponsored projects, such as our Health Expo, suicide education and awareness and cardiovascular health
- An active **Peer Review Mediation Committee** to provide a forum for patient complaints to be heard. Peer Review reduces the number of malpractice lawsuits.
- An active **Peer Review Ethics Committee** for physician to physician issues.
- **Confidential assistance** for members with substance abuse or personal issues affecting their practice of medicine.
- And more!

WHY PAY DUES?

- **Because all physicians need to "fund their voice."**
- National polls show physicians as one of the most **respected professions**. Sadly, they don't use their clout often enough to preserve their profession and protect their patients.
- There is strength in numbers. Together we are stronger.

If you or your office staff need assistance on an issue of any kind, please feel free to contact me at jmcramer@saginawcountymys.com or (989) 284-8884 (cell) and I will work with you to come up with a resolution for your problem through a variety of resources available to you as a SCMS member.

SERVING ALL SPECIALTIES AND SOLO, GROUP AND HOSPITAL EMPLOYED PHYSICIANS SINCE 1902
Visit www.SaginawCountyMS.com for a Membership Application under the "Membership" tab