



Exciting Changes Within WMS Foster Statewide Physician Growth and Connection

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Louis Leo Holtz once said, “In this world you’re either growing or you’re dying so get in motion and grow,” and the Wyoming Medical Society (WMS) is doing some serious growing. Yes, WMS remains first and foremost the voice of medicine at the State Capitol and in meeting rooms across the state advocating for physicians and their patients. But we are so much more than that, and we can’t wait to share what the future holds for Wyoming physicians.

As was announced in an earlier publication of this magazine, WMS was awarded a generous grant from The Physicians Foundation to launch a physician leadership academy. Physicians are already leaders, and with the Wyoming Leaders in Medicine Physician Leadership Academy (WLM), WMS can play a critical role in connecting our physician leaders.

Through the program physicians will be given tools and support to grow in their own leadership styles with an aim of ultimately growing a statewide team of physician leaders poised to guide the future of healthcare delivery in Wyoming.

Several years ago, a physician whom I will forever consider a friend introduced me to the books of Patrick Lencioni. Many of you may know him for his cleverly titled books on leadership and management, one of my favorites being *The Five Dysfunctions of a Team*. Lencioni is credited with saying that, “If you could get all the people in [an] organization rowing in the same direction, you could dominate any industry, in any market, against any competition, at any time.” WLM is aimed to not only build better individual leaders, but to be an important player in getting physician leaders in the boat together and rowing in the same direction.

The first leadership session of the 2017-2018 class kicked off in October with the help of West Park Hospital and several incredible Cody physicians along with the expert guidance and leadership of FutureSYNC, Int. It immediately became evident that the WMS leadership program will be so much more than delivery of curriculum and imparting wisdom on the science of leadership.

While content focused on communication, emotional intelligence and more will provide the foundation for the program,

the new relationships, strengthening of friendships and expanding of networks may prove to be the true win for Wyoming and our physicians. Getting in the boat together and rowing in the same direction is easier when the boat is filled with familiar faces and people you consider friends.

WMS is making sure that we do our part in facilitating the statewide physician team by building relationships across the vast Wyoming miles and enabling and encouraging medicine to row together when the time calls.


Wyoming Medicine readers can learn more about the program in this edition of our magazine in the article by FutureSYNC, International’s President and Founder Wendy Samson. She shares exciting details about the 2017 year, the vision of the program, and some of the important aspects of leadership

development and its ties to mitigating against the risks of physician burnout, improving professional satisfaction, and increasing physician retention.

The leadership academy is just one aspect of WMS’s newly renewed focus on initiating physician connections and building relationships within medicine across the state. I’d be remiss to not mention our

upcoming annual meeting scheduled for January 19-21, 2018, at Snow King Resort in Jackson Hole.

In keeping with our dedication to strengthening the fabric of Wyoming’s physician community, this meeting will explore a new model with limited CME and increased opportunities for socializing and spending quality time with family—whether that’s on a sled or skiing the slopes. If you haven’t already, check out the WMS annual meeting site at www.wmsannualmeeting.com to see the 2018 speaker lineup, information on discounted ski passes to Jackson Hole Resort and reduced room rates at the newly-renovated Snow King Resort.

Whether it’s our new leadership academy, the advocacy we provide serving as the sole voice of medicine at the legislature, or the social events the county and state societies provide throughout the year, WMS and our component county societies have something for everyone. We couldn’t do what we do without our members, listed in the back of this magazine, to whom we owe a great deal of gratitude. Thank you. 

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LOUIS LEO HOLTZ