

MAG Foundation

Special: 01.20

SUBJECT: Annual Report
SUBMITTED BY: Jack M. Chapman Jr., M.D.
REFERRED TO: Not Referred

1 Your MAG Foundation is pleased to present its Annual Report for 2020. Over the past year, we have
2 continued to strive on your behalf to lead philanthropic efforts to create a healthier Georgia.
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4 **‘THINK ABOUT IT’ INITIATIVE**

5 In the past year, the ‘Think About It’ Initiative continues its mission to Collaborate, Advocate and
6 Educate. Efforts in each area of focus have included the following.
7

8 **Collaborate**

9 ‘Think About It’ continues to collaborate with other Physician-led groups as well as stakeholder groups
10 from other healthcare disciplines, education, government and insurance. Physician, dental and select
11 nonclinical stakeholder members of the advisory committee. For the list of advisory committee
12 constituents visit www.mag.org/tai. Through our grant with DBHDD, ‘Think About It’ Advisory
13 Committee member, Pickens “Trey” Patterson, M.D. presented virtually during the Georgia Prescription
14 Drug Abuse Prevention Collaborative in June and September on opioid prescribing, checking the PDMP,
15 co-prescribing Naloxone, alternative therapies, and the patient/physician relationship when treating
16 chronic pain. He received favorable feedback. 2020-2021 marks year five and the final year of our grant
17 with DBHDD.
18

19 ‘Think About It’ is active on the following committees:

- 20 • Georgia Opioid Strategic Plan (Prevention Education Work Group)
- 21 • Substance Abuse Resource Alliance (SARA)
- 22 • Injury Prevention Research Center at Emory (IPRCE)
- 23 • Georgia Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention Collaborative
- 24 • Attorney General Chris Carr Statewide Opioid Task Force
25

26 **Advocate**

27 MAG and ‘Think About It’ continue to work with Georgia DPH to encourage physicians to register for
28 the PDMP. MAG’s communications department provided ongoing promotion with links to DPH which
29 included a registration tutorial.
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31 ‘Think About It’ has worked with Georgia’s Department of Public Health, Attorney General Chris Carr,
32 Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities and Department of Community Health
33 who are leading the effort in collaboration with over 200 stakeholders to provide recommendations as to
34 how Georgia can successfully address the opioid epidemic. Lori Cassity Murphy, MAG Director of
35 Development and Special Projects serves on the Prevention Education work group and Bethany Sherrer,
36 MAG Legal Counsel, serves as co-chair of the PDMP work group.
37

38 **Educate**

39 As a part of the MAG Foundation’s grant from DBHDD, Lori Cassity Murphy participated on a panel for
40 a “Virtual Community Dialogue” for Gwinnett United in Drug Education (GUIDE). We continue to

1 distribute prevention education printed materials for patients and physicians, including WellStar, Emory
2 and DPH. ‘Think About It’ co-chair Susan Blank, M.D. addressed the impact of COVID-19 on people
3 with substance use disorder on Top Docs. AMA Immediate Past President and MAG member Patrice
4 Harris, M.D. was featured on ‘Top Docs’ on the AMA report related to a decrease in opioid prescribing
5 and an increase in registration for the PDMP nationally and in Georgia.

6
7 In addition to the above efforts, ‘Think About It’ offers CME opportunities and other presentations
8 throughout the state of Georgia. Special thanks to MAG’s communications department for streamlining
9 the webpage.

10
11 ‘Think About It’ has utilized and will continue to utilize resources available from SAMHSA, including its
12 Opioid Overdose Prevention Toolkit, and to disseminate and promote the use of the CDC Policy
13 Guidelines for Prescribing Opioids for Chronic Pain.

14
15 ‘Think About It’ in conjunction with MAG will continue to monitor the work of key national
16 stakeholders, such as the AMA, and will promote and distribute additional resources, best practices, and
17 other support tools as they are released.

18 **GEORGIA PHYSICIANS LEADERSHIP ACADEMY**

19 With over 160 alumni, the Georgia Physicians Leadership Academy (GPLA) continues to function as a
20 dynamic and vital resource in the development of new leaders for organized medicine in Georgia.

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22
23 In May 2020, the Academy graduated its 12th Class. Several graduates have served or are currently
24 serving in leadership positions in MAG and/or in their local or specialty societies. Due to COVID-19,
25 GPLA leadership voted to suspend Class XIII until May 2021. The Steering Committee approved the
26 2021-2022 session schedule to continue the one-year program during which students are trained in
27 effective communications techniques, leadership skills, advocacy, health care workforce resilience and
28 conflict resolution. Much more emphasis will be on physician/health care workforce resilience and to
29 promote the work from the Physician Resilience Task Force.

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31 In November 2019, the then current grant from Physicians Foundation expired. A new grant application
32 was submitted but has been set aside by Physicians Foundation due to the suspension of the current class.

33
34 Fundraising continues to be an important focus to maintain the program for the long-term and to
35 demonstrate the Academy’s ability to be self-sustaining. The 2020-2021 GPLA Mission Advancement
36 Campaign has raised over \$70,000 in pledges and donations. Please consider making a commitment,
37 which can be paid over a three-year period. The pandemic has severely impacted fundraising. Donations
38 are tax deductible and are gratefully accepted, www.mag.org/magfdonate. The MAG Foundation is an
39 approved Amazon Smile charitable organization. Purchasers using Amazon Smile,
40 www.smile.amazon.com, can designate the Foundation as their charitable organization of choice and a
41 portion of every purchase made from Amazon Smile will be paid to the Foundation. All proceeds
42 received from these purchases will be utilized for the GPLA.

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44 The MAG Foundation Board of Trustees thanks the members of the GPLA Steering Committee for their
45 tireless efforts and diligence in directing the Academy. Steering Committee members include:

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47 Stephen Jarrard, M.D. – Chair (Class V)
48 Michelle Zeanah, M.D. – Vice Chair (Class V)
49 S. William Clark III, M.D. – Advisor
50 Andrew Reisman, M.D., MAG President (Class I)

- 1 Lisa Perry-Gilkes, M.D., – MAG President-elect (Class II)
- 2 Jack M. Chapman Jr., M.D. – MAG Foundation President
- 3 W. Scott Bohlke, M.D. – MAG Chairman of Legislation (Class I)
- 4 Donald J. Palmisano Jr. – MAG CEO
- 5 Manoj H. Shah, M.D. – Class I
- 6 Albert Johary, M.D. Class III Representative
- 7 Snehal Dalal, M.D., Class IV Representative
- 8 John Sy, D.O., Class VI Representative
- 9 James L. Smith Jr., M.D., Class VII Representative
- 10 Rani Reddy, M.D., Class VIII Representative
- 11 Jeff Stone, M.D., Class IX Representative
- 12 Anna Skold, M.D., Class X Representative
- 13 Rod Duraski, M.D., Class XI Representative
- 14 Waldon Garris, M.D., Class XII Representative
- 15 Zach Lopater, M.D., Young Physician Section Chair, Class X

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17 **W.R. DANCY, M.D. STUDENT LOAN FUND/MAG SCHOLARSHIP**

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19 The Medical Association Georgia (MAG) Foundation funded its first \$10,000 scholarship for a fourth-
20 year medical student at the Medical College of Georgia (MCG) at Augusta University who goes into a
21 primary care specialty in Georgia – including pediatrics, family medicine, internal medicine, OB-GYN,
22 general surgery, and emergency medicine. This year’s scholarship donation was the first of a 5-year
23 commitment extending through 2024. MCG will select the recipients of the scholarship using criteria that
24 it develops. The MAG Foundation is also considering funding similar scholarships at other medical
25 schools in the state.

26

27 The MAG Foundation has supported and administered the W.R. Dancy, M.D. Student Loan Fund for
28 medical students for 49 years. The Dancy Fund is available to help Georgia residents realize their dreams
29 of attending medical school by granting them affordable loans. To date, the Foundation has supported 53
30 medical students in their pursuit of becoming a physician.

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32 As of now, the Dancy Fund has no outstanding loans.

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34 Funds currently available for loans and scholarships over and above the remaining \$40,000 committed to
35 MCG total \$196,384.

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37 **DISTRESSED PHYSICIANS FUND**

38 The Fund was created to assist physicians and their spouses who experience financial hardship caused by
39 natural disasters or other circumstances beyond their control. Current funds available are \$48,461.

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41 **CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY PLAN**

42 The Foundation continues to work with PG Calc, an industry leader in administration of charitable gift
43 annuity plans and ACG Wealth as investment advisor. The investment strategy for the plan’s assets
44 continues to be to maximize earnings within acceptable risk margins.

45

46 The Board of Trustees would like to especially thank our staff for their dedication and service:
47 Mr. Donald Palmisano Jr., MAG Executive Director/CEO and MAG Foundation Executive Director/CEO
48 Mr. Fred Jones, Director of Operations for MAG Subsidiaries
49 Ms. Lori Cassity Murphy, MAG Director of Development & Special Projects

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51 Respectfully submitted,

- 1 Jack M. Chapman Jr., M.D., President, MAG Foundation, Inc.
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- 3 MAG Foundation Board of Trustees:
- 4 Jack M. Chapman Jr., M.D. President
- 5 John S. Antalis, M.D., Vice President
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- 7 W. Scott Bohlke, M.D.
- 8 Thomas E. Emerson, M.D. MAG Treasurer
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