

Transcript of the MICHIGAN DENTAL
ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL SESSION
DAY 1

Date Taken: 4/28/22

NOVI, MICHIGAN

Reporter:

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MICHIGAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION
2022 HOUSE OF DELEGATES
FIRST MEETING

Annual Session
Thursday, April 28, 2022 - 8:30 a.m.
Legacy III-VIII, Suburban Collection Showplace
Novi, Michigan

PRESENT:

DR. TODD CHRISTY, Speaker of the House
DR. MICHAEL MAIHOFER, President
DR. VINCENT BENIVEGNA, President-Elect
DR. CHRISTOPHER SMILEY, Editor
DR. ERIC KNUDSEN, Secretary/Treasurer
DR. STEPHEN MERAW, MDA Immediate Past President
MS. KAREN BURGESS, Executive Director
MR. DAN SCHULTE, Counsel & Parliamentarian
DR. CESAR SABATES, ADA President
DR. MICHELE TULAK-GORECKI, ADA Ninth District
Trustee

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1 Novi, Michigan
2 Thursday, April 28, 2022
3 8:30 a.m.
4 R E C O R D
5 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Ladies and gentlemen, it is
6 now time to convene the House. Please take your seats
7 at this time.
8 Good morning. I'm Todd Christy, Speaker of
9 the House. If you have not already done so, please
10 verify that your cell phones are in silent or vibrate
11 mode.
12 Please stand for the National Anthem.
13 Dr. John Frey will now lead the group in
14 singing the National Anthem.
15 Dr. Frey.
16 (National Anthem sung.)
17 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Thank you, Dr. Frey.
18 You may be seated.
19 At this time I wish to introduce Dr. Stephen
20 Meraw who will provide the invocation.
21 Dr. Meraw.
22 DR. MERAW: Thank you, Dr. Christy.
23 As members of the MDA House of Delegates, let
24 us take a moment to reflect and pray that we meet the
25 challenges of what brings us here today together,

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1 my far left.
2 Dr. Cesar Sabates, our ADA President
3 Dr. Michele Tulak-Gorecki, our ADA Ninth
4 District Trustee
5 Dr. Eric Knudsen, MDA Secretary/Treasurer
6 Karen Burgess, MDA Executive Director
7 Mr. Dan Schulte MDA legal counsel and
8 Parliamentarian for the House
9 To my immediate right, Dr. Michael Maihofer,
10 MDA President
11 Dr. Vincent Benivegna, MDA President-Elect
12 Dr. Stephen Meraw, MDA Immediate Past
13 President and
14 Dr. Christopher Smiley, MDA Editor.
15 I also have the privilege of recognizing some
16 of the other individuals with us who contribute to the
17 success of our Association.
18 I would like to extend my personal thanks to
19 those individuals who very kindly agreed to help
20 ensure that this House proceeds in an efficient and
21 orderly manner. When I call your name or title please
22 stand and be recognized.
23 Dr. Christine Mason is serving as chief
24 sergeant-at-arms with Drs. Daniel Miller and
25 Matthew Smith serving as sergeant.

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1 service to our members and profession.
2 As leaders, we are called to serve in best
3 addressing the issues of today through our collective
4 efforts and talents.
5 Let us meet our responsibilities in
6 considering all viewpoints in a respectful and
7 professional manner with the integrity and due
8 diligence deserving of our best efforts.
9 May we represent all of our communities,
10 especially those who need us most.
11 May we honor those who have come before us
12 who have done the heavy lifting to get us here today.
13 May our work at this House serve as a
14 blueprint of best practices for those who will be
15 doing this work in years to come.
16 Let each of us turn inwards in this moment to
17 gather those gifts that others have recognized to
18 entrust the responsibility of our service for the
19 great state of Michigan.
20 May God bless you. Now let's get this
21 started. Thank you.
22 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Thank you, Dr. Meraw.
23 I'd like to take the opportunity to introduce
24 some of the distinguished people that are with us this
25 morning, starting with our head table. I'll begin on

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1 Dr. Sherill Behnke is serving as chief
2 teller, with Drs. Kristin Johnson, Andreana Masters
3 and Sarah Masterson serving as section tellers.
4 I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge
5 the considerable assistance we receive throughout the
6 year from our dedicated and hard-working MDA team. We
7 are very fortunate to have an incredible MDA staff.
8 Wherever you are in the House, would you
9 please stand and be recognized?
10 (Applause.)
11 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Thank you.
12 At this time I would like to introduce the
13 current members of the Michigan Dental Association
14 Board of Trustees who are seated on the floor of the
15 House.
16 Board members, it has been a privilege and an
17 honor working with you over the course of the past
18 year and your terms.
19 Would all current members of the MDA Board of
20 Trustees please stand as a group and be recognized.
21 (Applause.)
22 SPEAKER CHRISTY: In consideration of the
23 dedicated work carried out by the Michigan Dental
24 Association committees, would the chairs please stand
25 and be recognized?

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1 (Applause.)
2 SPEAKER CHRISTY: I would like to introduce
3 the MDA members who serve on ADA Councils. Their
4 input from the national level is invaluable to the
5 Michigan Dental Association. Would the ADA Council
6 members from Michigan please stand and be recognized?
7 (Applause.)
8 SPEAKER CHRISTY: The states of Michigan and
9 Wisconsin comprise the Ninth District of the ADA.
10 Joining us today are three distinguished
11 guests from our sister state of Wisconsin. Please
12 hold your applause until all our guests are standing.
13 Dr. Cliff Hartmann, President;
14 Dr. Chris Johnson, President-Elect and
15 Mr. Mark Paget, Executive Director
16 (Applause.)
17 SPEAKER CHRISTY: We enjoy a wonderful
18 working relationship. Thank you for making the trip
19 over for this weekend.
20 Next, I have the privilege of introducing a
21 group of individuals who through their leadership and
22 volunteerism have played a significant role in making
23 this Association what it is today. Will the former
24 Presidents of the MDA please stand as a group and be
25 recognized?

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1 By doing so, we can be certain that our obligations
2 and decision making authority will be discharged in
3 keeping with the profession's fiduciary obligations.
4 We must also be mindful of our responsibility
5 for professionalism and respect for each other in our
6 work and our deliberations.
7 At this time, our agenda calls for the report
8 of the Committee on Credentials, Rules and Order.
9 Please have your voting cards ready.
10 I would like to remind each member of the
11 House to speak slowly, and clearly state your name and
12 component each time you speak at a microphone to
13 assist with the recording of the House proceedings.
14 Microphones will be turned off until that
15 microphone is recognized.
16 Dr. Jameel Aftab is the chair of the
17 Committee on Credentials, Rules and Order with
18 Drs. Sam Daniels and Steven Davis serving as members.
19 Dr. Aftab.
20 DR. AFTAB: Mr. Speaker, a quorum is present.
21 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Thank you, Dr. Aftab.
22 Please continue.
23 DR. AFTAB: As the first item of business,
24 the Committee on Credentials, Rules and Order
25 recommends adoption of the resolution to approve the

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1 (Applause.)
2 SPEAKER CHRISTY: It is now my pleasure to
3 acknowledge first time delegates and alternates to
4 this House as well as our student delegates and
5 alternates. Wherever you are in the room, please
6 rise.
7 (Applause.)
8 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Welcome to the House of
9 Delegates. We hope this is the first of many years of
10 your involvement in the MDA. If there is anything we
11 can do to make this a rewarding experience, please
12 feel free to let us know, and please join me again in
13 welcoming these new members of our House.
14 Finally, on behalf of the Michigan Dental
15 Association, I wish to acknowledge all delegates and
16 alternate delegates for your volunteerism and service
17 to the profession of dentistry. Thank you all.
18 I would like to remind the House of Delegates
19 of its Ethical Statements. The Policy is on the
20 screens and in front of you today at your seats.
21 As members of the House, it is our
22 responsibility to act with integrity and exercise our
23 powers and perform our duties relating to professional
24 matters in a manner consistent with the ADA/MDA
25 Principles of Ethics and Code of Professional Conduct.

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1 agendas for the 2022 Michigan Association House of
2 Delegates, provided to the delegates and alternates in
3 a Delegate Digest. Please see page 6000, Resolution
4 01.
5 Resolved, that the agendas for the 2022
6 Michigan Dental Association House of Delegates be
7 adopted as the official order of business for this
8 session.
9 Mr. Speaker, I move adoption of Resolution
10 01.
11 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Thank you, Dr. Aftab.
12 You have before you Resolution 01. Is there
13 any discussion? Seeing no one to the microphones, it
14 appears you are ready to vote.
15 All of those in favor of Resolution 01,
16 please raise your voting cards. Cards down. Those
17 opposed to Resolution 01, raise your cards.
18 You have passed Resolution 01.
19 Dr. Aftab, please continue.
20 DR. AFTAB: The record of actions taken by
21 the 2021 House of Delegates on April 17th and April
22 18th, 2021 were approved by the House of Delegates via
23 online voting in June 2021.
24 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Please continue.
25 DR. AFTAB: Copies of the Manual of the House

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1 of Delegates were provided to each delegate and
2 alternate. The Committee on Credentials, Rules and
3 Order recommends adoption of the Manual of the House
4 of Delegates, dated April 28, 2022. Please see page
5 6003, Resolution 02.
6 Resolved, that the Manual of the House of
7 Delegates, dated April 28, 2022 be adopted as the
8 statement of conduct and the rules for the operation
9 of the 2022 House of Delegates.
10 Mr. Speaker, I move adoption of Resolution
11 02.
12 SPEAKER CHRISTY: You have before you
13 Resolution 02. Is there any discussion? Seeing none,
14 it appears you are ready to vote.
15 Those in favor of Resolution 02, please raise
16 your voting cards. Cards down. Those opposed to
17 Resolution 02, please raise your voting cards.
18 You have adopted Resolution 02.
19 Thank you, Dr. Aftab.
20 I will now turn the podium over to
21 President Maihofer to present awards and then he will
22 provide his presidential address.
23 DR. MAIHOFER: Thank you, Dr. Christy.
24 I am honored to preside over this year's
25 award presentation. This is the Association's

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1 they can alone.
2 Please stop by the Foundation Booth near the
3 Welcome Center and make a gift. One hundred percent
4 of your gifts will go to the grant and scholarship
5 programs. This gift is also considered a charitable
6 donation which can be tax deductible.
7 As a thank you for stopping by at the
8 Foundation Booth and making a gift, the Foundation has
9 a small gift for you to show that you are part of the
10 MDA Foundation Family and a donor supporting the work
11 we all make possible.
12 All right. The next part of this, one of the
13 great privileges of being President of the Michigan
14 Dental Association, the award recognition. Oh, I'm
15 going to talk about the LEAD program first.
16 The Michigan Dental Association Leadership
17 Exploration and Development program is a program
18 designed to cultivate new volunteers into the
19 components, the MDA and its subsidiary organization
20 leadership pipelines. LEAD addresses the MDA
21 strategic plan goal to ensure sustainable leadership
22 and engage volunteerism throughout the MDA and its
23 components. It models many of the best practices used
24 for similar leadership institutes in other dental
25 associations - with an added emphasis on using

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1 opportunity to express it's appreciation and, indeed,
2 the appreciation of the entire dental profession. I
3 am proud to honor the singular accomplishments of
4 members and non-dentists who have made contributions
5 to advance dental health. Background information on
6 all of the 2022 award recipients is contained in the
7 Speaker Announcements in front of you and on the MDA
8 website and I encourage everyone to read the
9 information as it is both inspiring and uplifting.
10 In 2021, the MDA Foundation provided 17
11 student scholarships for dentistry, dental hygiene,
12 dental assisting totaling \$16,000. The names of the
13 recipients are now on the screen.
14 In 2021, the MDA Foundation provided grants
15 to 10 organizations for access to care and education
16 totaling \$76,350. The names of those recipients are
17 now on the screen.
18 The MDA Foundation held its annual reception
19 last evening. During that event, the Foundation
20 demonstrated how its gifts help Michigan's underserved
21 receive dental education and care and asked for
22 support to continue the impact the Foundation is
23 making through your generation (sic) and passion for
24 care.
25 Together our gifts help so many more than

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1 immersion experiences to cultivate the desire to
2 volunteer. This 12-month long program includes
3 exposure to and participation in leadership activities
4 at the MDA, the ADA and local dental society levels.
5 Would the 2020-2021 LEAD participants who are
6 present here today please stand? Thank you.
7 (Applause.)
8 DR. MAIHOFER: Thank you. I'd also like to
9 introduce the 2022 LEAD participants who began the
10 program in January of this year.
11 Would the 2022 LEAD participants who are
12 present today please stand and be recognized?
13 (Applause.)
14 DR. MAIHOFER: I would also like to introduce
15 all LEAD participants. Would anybody who has
16 participated in the LEAD program please stand and be
17 recognized?
18 (Applause.)
19 DR. MAIHOFER: Thank you. The MDA Public
20 Service Award recognizes exceptional contributions to
21 the public and the dental profession in the field of
22 dental health and related activities.
23 Cassie Caple is the recipient of this year's
24 MDA Public Service Award. An active member of the
25 Kent County Oral Health Coalition and the Area Agency

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1 on Aging of West Michigan, she has done an outstanding
2 job of increasing her community's oral health
3 literacy.
4 She is a passionate advocate for dental care
5 for seniors in her community through her tireless
6 efforts in support of Senior Dental Day, the Kent
7 County Senior Millage, the Demand Medicare Dental
8 Movement, and other programs.
9 Unfortunately, Ms. Caple could not be here
10 today, but I'd like you to put your hands together and
11 congratulate her.
12 (Applause.)
13 DR. MAIHOFER: The MDA has two awards this
14 year recognizing a dentist volunteer and a dental
15 laboratory volunteer participating in the
16 Michigan Donated Dental Services program who have been
17 exceptionally giving of their time and resources to
18 help improve the quality of the life of the program's
19 patients.
20 On your table is a pin recognizing the
21 program's recent achievement of \$25,000,000 in donated
22 care since 1995. Thank you to those of you who are
23 current volunteers. Thank you also the program's
24 coordinators, Domonique Brace and Karn Cornell. If
25 you are not already a volunteer, and I was a volunteer

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1 receive the award, but I'm also very proud to be a
2 part of a group of 800 dentists who do provide,
3 including Dr. Maihofer. It is rewarding, it's needed,
4 and I'd like to offer a challenge to any dentist who
5 doesn't or hasn't had the opportunity to provide this
6 care. As I said, it's rewarding, it's needed, it's
7 fun, and thank you very much.
8 (Applause.)
9 DR. MAIHOFER: Would Ms. Sharon McCoy and
10 Adam Davis please approach the podium?
11 Cornerstone Dental Studio is the recipient of
12 the Michigan DDS Volunteer Dental Lab Award.
13 Cornerstone Dental Studio is a small crown and bridge
14 lab that has volunteered with the Donated Dental
15 Services program since 1997, assisting with more than
16 45 cases. Owners Sharon and Joe McCoy are always
17 willing to help with cases regardless of whether the
18 volunteer dentist typically does business with their
19 lab, or whether it's a simple or complex case. Sharon
20 and Joe are huge supporters and ambassadors for the
21 Michigan DDS program, and share its commitment to
22 assisting vulnerable populations.
23 Congratulations to Ms. McCoy and Mr. Adams
24 (sic).
25 (Applause.)

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1 for many years, it's a great program, please be sure
2 to visit the Donated Dental Services booth in the
3 exhibit hall to learn more.
4 Before the presentation of the awards, I
5 would like to take a moment and play a short video on
6 the 2020-2021 accomplishments of the Michigan Donated
7 Dental Services.
8 (Video playing.)
9 DR. MAIHOFER: Would Dr. Howard Graef please
10 approach the podium?
11 Dr. Howard Graef is the recipient of the
12 Michigan Donated Dental Services Volunteer Dentist
13 Award. He is a general dentist who has been a DDS
14 program volunteer since 1996. Dr. Graef and his team
15 have consistently treated some of the most vulnerable
16 DDS patients; consequently, treatment has often been
17 prolonged due to medical issues and other precautions.
18 His spirit of commitment to the vulnerable populations
19 is gratefully recognized by the DDS patients he treats
20 with extraordinary care and kindness.
21 Congratulations, Dr. Graef.
22 (Applause.)
23 DR. GRAEF: Thank you very much. I'd like to
24 thank Karn and the rest of the staff and the Board for
25 presenting me and recognizing me. I'm proud to

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1 MR. DAVIS: Thank you. My name is Adam. I'm
2 not the owner, but on behalf of Cornerstone, I'm the
3 son-in-law/employee of Joe and Sharon. It's an honor
4 and privilege to be here. We also just want to thank
5 you for this acknowledgement. Joe firmly believes
6 Cornerstone Dental Studio was God's will for him and
7 has done his best to run it in an honorable way. It's
8 a gift from God has given us and it's been a blessing
9 to be able to serve Him and others in any way we can.
10 Thank you very much.
11 (Applause.)
12 DR. MAIHOFER: The Matt Uday New Dentist
13 Leadership Award recognizes a new dentist that has
14 demonstrated leadership qualities of such a
15 substantial nature that they serve as a model for
16 other new dentists.
17 Would Dr. Rachel Sinicola please approach the
18 podium? Like the late Matt Uday, Dr. Sinicola is an
19 outstanding new dentist, and the MDA is proud to award
20 her with this year's New Dentist Leadership Award.
21 Dr. Sinicola is an MDA LEAD program graduate, an
22 adjunct clinical assistant professor at the University
23 of Michigan School of Dentistry and a three-time
24 award-winning editor of the Bulletin of the West
25 Michigan Dental Society. In addition, she has lent

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1 her time, talents and expertise to numerous other
2 posts in her local dental society and at the MDA with
3 much more to come.
4 Congratulations, Dr. Sinacola.
5 (Applause.)
6 DR. SINACOLA: Good morning, everyone.
7 I'm humbled to be recognized by the
8 Michigan Dental Association. Like all of you here
9 today, I feel that serving our profession is an honor
10 and a responsibility because this profession gives us
11 so much in return.
12 Being involved in organized dentistry
13 provides representation, education and perhaps what I
14 found the most vital is collegiality and camaraderie
15 with other professionals.
16 When I moved to West Michigan I only knew a
17 handful of providers, but encouragement from mentors
18 in West Michigan like Drs. Margaret Gingrich,
19 Deb Peters, Sarah Masterson, Katie Swan,
20 Kevin Rebhan, Erick Rupprecht and Elaine Fleming made
21 that community feel like home very quickly. At the
22 MDA level, leaders like Drs. Todd Christy,
23 Chris Smiley, Steve Meraw, Lauryne Vanderhoof and
24 Angie Kanazeh, Brandy Ryan, Dave Foe,
25 Michelle Nichols-Cruz, Karen Burgess and many more

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1 experience, and research in teaching how to best care,
2 teaching students how to best care for their patients
3 have combined to make him an outstanding educator. He
4 has compiled a remarkable record of service to both
5 the School of Dentistry and the greater community.
6 The MDA is proud to honor him.
7 Congratulations, Dr. Pacheco.
8 (Applause.)
9 DR. PACHECO: Good morning everyone. Thank
10 you for the opportunity. I didn't prepare anything
11 specifically for the speech, but I thought talking
12 from the heart would be more honest.
13 So, I wanted to thank first the MDA for this
14 honor. I am humbled by receiving this award.
15 I would like to thank my institution, the
16 University of Detroit Mercy, for giving me the
17 opportunity to grow and the opportunity to be working
18 here all these years.
19 I'd like to thank my family, my girlfriend
20 that actually came all the way from Brazil to come
21 here and receive this award with me. My friends, my
22 family, everyone that helped me be here. So thank you
23 so much for this. I appreciate it.
24 (Applause.)
25 DR. MAIHOFER: Would Dr. Diane Hoelscher

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1 have helped me grow as a clinician and as a colleague
2 while we work together towards common goals in our
3 profession.
4 The amount of time I spend serving will
5 always pale in comparison to what I gain from being a
6 part of this organization and gain from knowing all of
7 you. Thank you for your recognition and for your
8 service to the House of Delegates.
9 (Applause.)
10 DR. MAIHOFER: The MDA Dental Faculty Award
11 recognizes two dentist members actively involved in
12 the education of dental or graduate dental students,
13 one from the Detroit Mercy School of Dentistry and one
14 from the University of Michigan School of Dentistry,
15 who have demonstrated outstanding commitments to
16 organized dentistry.
17 Would Dr. Rafael Pacheco please approach the
18 podium?
19 Dr. Rafael Pacheco is the recipient of this
20 year's MDA Dental Faculty Award from the University of
21 Detroit Mercy. A full-time faculty member at the
22 University of Detroit Mercy School of Dentistry since
23 2015, Dr. Pacheco is a dedicated clinician and
24 educator for both dental and dental hygiene students.
25 His clinical knowledge, years of private practice

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1 please approach the podium?
2 The MDA is proud to honor Dr. Diane Hoelscher
3 with this year's MDA University of Michigan Dental
4 Faculty Award. Diane has dedicated 26 years of her
5 career to students, patients and organized dentistry
6 in southeast Michigan, teaching more than 45 courses
7 between the University of Michigan and the University
8 of Detroit. Her dedication and support of organized
9 dentistry are demonstrated through numerous awards and
10 participation in work groups and councils. All will
11 agree she is an outstanding educator and an
12 outstanding role model for both students and
13 colleagues.
14 Congratulations, Dr. Hoelscher.
15 (Applause.)
16 DR. HOELSCHER: I'd like to thank Dean
17 Laurie McCauley and my colleagues at U of M for
18 nominating me, and thank you to the Board of Trustees
19 for this award.
20 I've been involved with dental education for
21 over 30 years and fortunate to have been a faculty
22 member at both of the excellent dental schools here in
23 Michigan and also to have led professional development
24 activities at the American Dental Education
25 Association. What great experiences I've had.

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1 I have loved working with students and
2 faculty, and I am so grateful for the many wonderful
3 things that they have taught me.
4 Anything I have accomplished was made
5 possible by the generosity and friendships of these
6 many colleagues. And thank you to all of you for your
7 engagement and leadership in organized dentistry.
8 It doesn't take spending much time at all
9 working with students to realize dentistry's future is
10 very bright.
11 I hope you will indulge me with two brief
12 pieces of advice, one for those of you who are
13 teaching and one for those of you who should teach.
14 I have worked in the area of teaching and
15 learning for years and have found that the emphasis
16 should be placed on learning, not on teaching. My
17 advice to you who are teaching now is to teach less
18 and listen more. That's exactly how we know our
19 students are learning.
20 For those of you that don't teach yet or
21 maybe who have taught in the past, please seriously
22 consider joining the University of Detroit Mercy or
23 the University of Michigan as an adjunct faculty
24 member. Getting to know our future colleagues and
25 helping to educate them is fulfilling work indeed.

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1 who have been a support system to me on my journey in
2 the field of dentistry. I am honored to have been
3 nominated and to receive it.
4 Coming from the UP from a family of nine, my
5 father was a self-employed veterinarian, my mother was
6 his main assistant in addition to raising the seven
7 children. Access to care, dentistry, medical care, it
8 was unheard of unless it was an emergency. That was
9 what I grew up with.
10 As a young 20 year old, I was privileged to
11 get a job with Indian Health Services on a federally
12 qualified health care center up in the eastern UP and
13 that opened the world to me for the field of
14 dentistry. I loved that job. The dentist that I
15 worked for was paying back a National Health Service
16 Corps loan for him to have gone to dental school, and
17 he encouraged me to look into dental hygiene. That
18 started my career path in the field of dentistry.
19 I've never looked back. I have loved every moment of
20 it, but it also opened my eyes to the need for care
21 and the lack of access for care.
22 So, on my journey here today for this award,
23 I have worked with people that have been wonderful
24 mentors to me such as Dr. Margaret Gingrich,
25 Dr. Steven Hall, Dr. Scott Hodges on several different

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1 Again, thank you very much.
2 (Applause.)
3 DR. MAIHOFER: The MDA Allied Dental
4 Professional Award recognizes an allied dental
5 professional educator, employed by a CODA-approved
6 institution, who has demonstrated outstanding
7 commitment to the advancement of oral health.
8 Would Ms. Catherine Archer please approach
9 the podium?
10 Catherine Archer is this year's MDA Allied
11 Dental Professional Educator Award recipient. A
12 dental hygienist with a long time -- a dental
13 hygienist and a long-time assistant professor in the
14 hygiene department at Ferris State University, she's
15 also been an advisor for the Student Chapter of the
16 American Dental Hygiene Association since 2015. Her
17 dedication to the profession and service to her
18 students exemplifies the mission of this award. She
19 is an outstanding educator both within the classroom
20 and without, leading by example and coordinating many
21 volunteer admission programs.
22 Congratulations to Ms. Archer.
23 (Applause.)
24 MS. ARCHER: Good morning everybody. Thank
25 you so much for this award. Thank you to the people

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1 mission trips to Guyana as well as several different
2 Mission of Mercy events in the state of Michigan, and
3 I am honored and privileged to have the job that I do
4 working for Ferris State University in the dental
5 hygiene program as an assistant professor.
6 My goal, my charge with that program is with
7 the community outreach part of the program, community
8 dentistry, and I love every aspect of it. I love
9 opening the student's eyes to all of the need that is
10 out there with the various populations that are all
11 over the world.
12 So I thank you so much for this award. Thank
13 you for having me. I appreciate it very much.
14 (Applause.)
15 DR. MAIHOFER: The Emmett C. Bolden Dentist
16 Citizen of the Year Award provides public recognition
17 to a member of the Michigan Dental Association who has
18 demonstrated outstanding or unusual contributions or
19 service to the community, state or country.
20 Dr. Emmett Bolden, an African American
21 dentist in Grand Rapids, displayed bravery and
22 leadership in the fight to desegregate Michigan movie
23 theaters in the 1920s. Dr. John Monticello, this
24 year's recipient of the Emmett C. Bolden Dentist
25 Citizen of the Year Award, is another West Michigan

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1 dentist with a long history of leadership and
2 involvement. His service includes many, many
3 leadership roles in organized dentistry, service in
4 the U.S. Air Force and the Air Force Reserve, as well
5 as with his church and community. He has a true
6 passion for his community, his profession and his
7 country.
8 Unfortunately, Dr. Monticello had a family
9 emergency and can't be here today, but I'd like you to
10 put your hands together in congratulations.
11 (Applause.)
12 DR. MAIHOFER: The John G. Nolen Meritorious
13 Award recognizes excellent contributions and
14 activities to the advancement of the art and science
15 of dentistry, and for other contributions and
16 activities, which bring great credit to our
17 profession. This is our Association's highest honor.
18 Would Dr. Connie Verhagen please approach the
19 podium?
20 (Applause.)
21 DR. MAIHOFER: The John G. Nolen Meritorious
22 Award, named after the MDA's long-time former
23 executive director, is the MDA's highest honor. And
24 who better to receive this year's award than
25 Dr. Connie Verhagen, who has spent her entire

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1 to Washington, D.C. and spending some time with him on
2 legislative meetings there. Special thanks to my dear
3 friend Barb Kolling for giving me this nomination.
4 Special thanks to the Board for awarding this to me.
5 I have a roomful of mentors, friends and colleagues
6 who have just been support for me, who have helped me
7 all along the way and encouraged me, and I don't want
8 to talk in the past tense because it sounds like I'm
9 old and dying or something but, wow, it has been a lot
10 of fun things to do and I'm still doing it, I'm still
11 involved and that I'm thrilled about.
12 Special thank you to Michael in the back
13 there. Mike, thank you for just giving me the space
14 to really pursue this passion and to do what I love to
15 do. I used to always say Mike was the wind beneath my
16 wings but, you know, he is more than that. He was a
17 person who held my hand and walked along the path with
18 me and encouraged me along the way and yes, Michael,
19 you are still the trophy husband. Thank you.
20 (Applause.)
21 DR. MAIHOFER: Congratulations to all the
22 award recipients. Have you exit the stage to the left
23 for a group photo.
24 So, I've had the opportunity to travel around
25 the state this year and do a lot of presentations at a

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1 professional life serving dentistry. At the MDA she
2 has served as chair of the Committee on Dental
3 Education, as chair of the Special Committee on Health
4 and Hazard Regulations, as co-author of the MDA'S HHR
5 Handbook and MDA Regulatory Compliance Manual, as a
6 member of the MDA Board of Trustees, as MDA Treasurer,
7 and, of course, MDA President. She was a guiding
8 force behind the MDA Foundation Mission of Mercy. At
9 the ADA, Connie has served as a delegate to the ADA
10 House of Delegates, as a Reference Committee member,
11 as a member of the ADA Council on Dental Education,
12 and as a member of the Commission on Dental
13 Accreditation. Retired from practicing clinical
14 dentistry, she is now the executive director of the
15 Muskegon District Dental Society, redirecting her
16 personal focus towards helping patients and people,
17 especially those who are underserved on a much broader
18 scale in West Michigan. She continues to represent
19 organized dentistry at its finest.
20 It is my pleasure to present this to
21 Connie Verhagen.
22 (Standing ovation.)
23 DR. VERHAGEN: Thank you all. I am so
24 humbled and honored to receive this award, but special
25 to me is I remember John Nolen, and I remember going

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1 number of component meetings. At the end of one of
2 those meetings, a young dentist in the back of the
3 room raised his hand and said, You know, Dr. Maihofer,
4 I want to tell you something. I'm on social media
5 with a lot of other dentists. We do a lot of
6 tweeting, we do a lot of tweeting, and I think it's
7 important for you to know that we've all come to the
8 conclusion now that the MDA is no longer relevant
9 because the MDA doesn't stand for anything.
10 And I thought wow! I've just spent the last
11 25 minutes doing a presentation talking about all the
12 initiatives we've been working on, some of our
13 accomplishments and some of the other things, not just
14 as members of the Michigan Dental Association but for
15 the entire profession.
16 But I get it. I mean, I've been a dental
17 editor for many, many years and I realize that
18 sometimes no matter how well you craft the message, no
19 matter how many ways you put the message out,
20 sometimes some people just don't get it or don't want
21 to get it or whatever.
22 So what I thought I'd do is take a couple
23 minutes of your time this morning and tell you why I
24 believe the Michigan Dental Association, our Michigan
25 Dental Association, the same Michigan Dental

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1 Association that established the Dental Practice Act
2 in Michigan, the same Michigan Dental Association that
3 founded the University of Michigan School of
4 Dentistry, the same Michigan Dental Association that
5 lobbied years and years ago successfully that
6 mandatory continuing education be our prerequisite for
7 re-licensure, the same Michigan Dental Association
8 that was the biggest advocate for the fluoridation of
9 Michigan's water supply, why I think that Michigan
10 Dental Association is still relevant today.
11 Just four points and I'm going to read them,
12 so bear with me.
13 Number one, the MDA is committed to the
14 ethical practice of dentistry and holds its members to
15 high ethical standards. Please remember that in
16 signing the application for membership you agreed to
17 abide by our Code of Ethics. No other dental
18 organization, not the AGD, not the ACD, not the ICD,
19 no other dental organization does this. And no other
20 dental organization has any type of legitimate peer
21 review process in place to enforce that ethical
22 commitment. And I can tell you from my many years of
23 experience with peer review that it does work and it
24 does make a difference. I think and I hope that you
25 all think that that's relevant and that it stands for

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1 behalf of the entire profession in Michigan. This
2 year, the MDA organized component-legislature
3 get-togethers with local dentists meeting local
4 legislators throughout the state in order to gain
5 support for our upcoming legislative initiatives.
6 Like for example, the legislation we're ready to
7 introduce on creating transparency in dental network
8 leasing. Or we can talk about the lobbying we've been
9 engaged in with the Michigan Department of Public
10 Health on increasing funding for general anesthesia
11 and better access to ambulatory surgical centers for
12 special needs dental patients.
13 We could talk about how we've been at the
14 table offering our input as the state puts the
15 regulatory framework together for teledentistry so
16 that it favors the conventional dentist-patient
17 relationship that the MDA has always favored.
18 Speaking of preserving the dentist-patient
19 relationship, and advocating for the dentist-patient,
20 remember how we rejected and vigorously opposed dental
21 therapy? Well, some of you might say, well, big deal
22 we lost, that legislation passed. But did we really
23 lose? We refused to back down. We refused to cave in
24 even when it was a done deal, even when we knew that
25 they had the votes to pass that legislation, I

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1 something.
2 Number two: The MDA is committed to the idea
3 that dental professionals must remain continuous
4 students, that our profession is continuously
5 evolving, and that our members must keep pace with
6 that evolution. That's why we lobbied years ago that
7 continuing education be mandatory for relicensure.
8 And why our Association offers a huge variety of
9 continuing education options, many times with an eye
10 to assisting our members meet the state's CE
11 requirements. To that end, this year we offered
12 numerous state-required courses in CPR, ethics, pain
13 management and implicit bias in multiple locations
14 throughout the state, as well as numerous courses on
15 clinical dentistry and practice management all at
16 reasonable prices in order to help our members
17 succeed. I think that's relevant.
18 Number three: The MDA is committed to being
19 the voice of our profession in Michigan. We
20 accomplish this through our legislative and regulatory
21 advocacy. Our MDA governmental staff as well as our
22 lobbyists meet one on one with Michigan's legislators
23 on an almost weekly basis. Legislators acknowledge
24 and recognize our representatives as speaking on
25 behalf of the profession, not just MDA members, but on

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1 remember that we were asked if we might want to soften
2 the blow and work in helping to formulate the enabling
3 legislation. Instead, our MDA said hell no because we
4 don't believe in two tiers of care, one provided by
5 dental professionals for one part of the population
6 and another part provided by low level providers with
7 minimal education for another part of the population.
8 How ethical would that be? I don't know about you,
9 but I think that stands for something.
10 Maybe you might remember how we advocated to
11 have the state tax on the sale of dental prosthetics
12 repealed, or perhaps you might remember how we went to
13 bat for those Michigan dentists who practiced one of
14 the five newly recognized dental ADA dental
15 specialities but weren't legally recognized by the
16 State of Michigan and how we successfully brought
17 forth legislation so they could now be legally
18 licensed. I don't know about you, but I think that
19 stuff is pretty relevant.
20 Number four: Finally, our MDA is committed
21 to remaining relevant to the changing needs of its
22 professional members. We know dentistry, how it is
23 delivered and even the professionals who practice it
24 are going through a transformation. We know that many
25 of today's practitioners don't look or act like the

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1 practitioners of my day and their needs are different.
2 That's why the MDA has listened and responded with
3 many new member benefits like developing an MDA phone
4 app so all of us can communicate through phone.
5 It's why we push out communications through
6 e-mail and a variety of social media. It's why we
7 moved our public relations program from television and
8 radio to digital and social media to meet today's
9 family decision makers where they spend most of their
10 time now. Or why you receive the MDA Journal each
11 month packed full of relevant information to run your
12 practice in both your mailbox and on line. But it's
13 also why we re-evaluated our strategic plan to address
14 the diversity we see not only in the population we
15 serve but in the profession who serves them. We
16 explored and implemented a policy on diversity, equity
17 and inclusion, not because it was a trendy,
18 politically correct thing to do but because it was
19 necessary now as a means of facing the reality of our
20 ever changing and diverse dental workforce. Not
21 because we wanted to marginalize or exclude any member
22 segment, but rather because we wanted to become more
23 inclusive and welcoming of all members, no matter what
24 their race, gender, ethnicity, physical status or
25 dental practice model, and that's what diversity

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1 your participation to help make a better MDA and a
2 better profession for all of us.
3 Now, before I leave this podium today, there
4 are many people that I need to thank. As I said last
5 year, none of us can do this alone, we all have to
6 have help and we all have to work together.
7 First off, I want to thank my predecessor,
8 Dr. Steve Meraw, for lighting the way and helping me
9 find the path forward. Steve had a tough go last year
10 with everything being virtual, but he led with dignity
11 and honor and thank you, Steve.
12 I also want to thank our President-Elect,
13 Dr. Vince Benivegna. Right? That's an inside joke.
14 I never pronounce his name right. For all he's done
15 and continued to do in our profession, I have a ton of
16 confidence in Vince and look forward to his
17 leadership.
18 I also want to thank our Board of Trustees.
19 I believe we did some really good things this year to
20 promote a very engaged and cohesive Board. I think
21 just being back in person and sitting around the table
22 had a lot to do with that. I think all the members of
23 the Board will agree that we engaged in some very
24 pertinent discussion and accomplished a good deal.
25 For example, we took a long overdue look at our policy

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1 means. Because we believe the time has come for our
2 entire profession, including our membership, as well
3 as our leadership, to reflect the diversity of
4 Michigan's population. It echoes our belief that our
5 MDA can no longer credibly claim to represent
6 Michigan's dental profession if its membership doesn't
7 truly reflect that profession. I think that's really
8 relevant, and I think that stands for something.
9 So, what I might say to that young dentist
10 that I didn't say kind of diplomatically then would be
11 something like this:
12 It's easy to tweet, tweet, tweet all day long
13 about what you don't like about organized dentistry
14 and the MDA, but if you really care about your
15 profession and where it's headed, try getting up and
16 working to add your ideas, suggestions, your
17 criticisms and your voice to ours to help create a
18 better profession.
19 My parting message probably to you today
20 would be something like our MDA, your MDA doesn't
21 belong to the officers or the Board or the staff up in
22 Okemos, it belongs to all of us. All of us working
23 together can accomplish so much more than any of us
24 working alone. So please share your concerns. We are
25 listening. But, more importantly, we want and need

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1 on clinical dental licensure examinations, and after
2 several comprehensive discussions with all
3 professional stakeholders, and let me underline all
4 professional stakeholders were there, we adopted not
5 only a policy in support of the elimination of the
6 single encounter, live patient, procedure-based
7 clinical dental licensure examination, but also
8 further policy supporting the elimination of all
9 procedure-based clinical licensure examinations.
10 Now some of you might say, yeah, that sounds
11 pretty radical, and it is, but it's relevant to
12 today's licensure environment and reflects the lack of
13 an evidence base for the current testing as well as
14 the ethical and moral questions associated with that
15 and you know what, I think that stands for something.
16 Additionally, our Board in concert with the
17 our delegation to the ADA House, brought forth
18 resolutions favoring the voice of our profession's new
19 dentists and the creating of a searchable digital
20 archive for component and state dental publications,
21 so that these historical records of our profession
22 never be lost. As a past dental editor, I think
23 that's pretty significant.
24 I additionally want to thank each and every
25 member volunteer who served on every MDA committee,

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1 task force, MDA Foundation or our for-profit
2 subsidiary, as well as every member serving in some
3 leadership capacity in their respective component.
4 I especially want to thank the world famous
5 Macomb Dental Society for all their encouragement and
6 support over the past 43 years.
7 I need to publicly acknowledge and thank the
8 late Drs. Charles Defever and David Borlas, two men
9 who were an incredible inspiration to myself and many
10 others, and I would not be standing here today without
11 them.
12 Next, I'd like to thank the MDA staff.
13 They've been fantastic. This sounds like something
14 every MDA president has to do. After they get up
15 here, they have to thank the MDA staff and talk about
16 how great they are, but the MDA staff is pretty great.
17 Of course, I was told repeatedly not to single out any
18 MDA staff in my remarks. But, you know, I've been
19 around the MDA a long time. I've been hanging around
20 this Association for 25, 26 years in one capacity or
21 another, and I've gotten to know a lot of them, so
22 that's kind of a hard directive for me to follow. So,
23 without singling anyone out, I want to thank Karen,
24 Bill, Michelle, Andrea, David, Angie, April, Rich,
25 Don, Craig, Jennifer and Brandy. But I also want to

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1 away from your family and your practice this weekend
2 to help shape the direction of our profession. It's
3 only through the work of committed volunteers like
4 yourselves that we can move the profession forward.
5 I want to thank all of you for granting me
6 the privilege to be your spokesperson this year. I
7 have enjoyed every single minute of it. It's truly
8 been one of the highlights of my life. Thank you very
9 much.
10 (Standing ovation.)
11 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Thank you Dr. Maihofer.
12 I have the pleasure of introducing the
13 Secretary/Treasurer of the MDA, Dr. Eric Knudsen, to
14 provide the House with a brief report on the financial
15 status of the MDA.
16 Dr. Knudsen.
17 DR. KNUDSEN: He stressed brief. Thank you,
18 Speaker Christy. Good morning House members and
19 distinguished guests. Thank you for allowing me some
20 time today. I will be available during the rest of
21 this meeting and in any of the caucuses if you'd like
22 me to speak towards anything. Please just call or
23 text me. My contact information is on the MDA
24 website.
25 Today we're going to cover four topics.

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1 thank Ginger and Chris and Kesha and Jackie and Jeff
2 and Sophie, Jason and Shawn and Jody. They are
3 incredible and they've been a big help. But most
4 importantly, they've all successfully fulfilled their
5 other most important job which is to make me look a
6 lot smarter than I really am. So thank you very much
7 for that.
8 Sometimes I do this exercise where I try to
9 stand outside of myself and attempt to see myself as
10 others - how I speak, how I act through other's eyes.
11 And it's difficult, but sometimes when I am successful
12 doing it what I see is kind of frightening, and I
13 always ask myself why would anyone ever put up with
14 me? How does anybody ever tolerate me? I am not sure
15 that I could live and tolerate myself. But there is
16 someone here who for the past 39 years has been
17 putting up with my ups and downs and listening and
18 sharing in my hopes and my dreams and she is sitting
19 in the back, and I would hope that my wife, Denise,
20 would stand so I can publicly thank her for all of her
21 love and support.
22 (Applause.)
23 DR. MAIHOFER: Thank you, Denise.
24 Finally, I want to thank you, the House of
25 Delegates, for making the sacrifice, taking the time

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1 We're going to start with our 2021 results. We'll go
2 to membership trends, financial performance and then
3 cover the 2022 outlook.
4 The accountants at Plante Moran have just
5 wrapped up their audit and the Finance Committee will
6 be reviewing it this Friday. Today's numbers we are
7 showing are the audited numbers. 2021 was a good year
8 for the MDA. MDA operations overall showed \$1,683,278
9 to the positive. As you can see on the slide here,
10 the biggest gains were budgeted operations and
11 investments. We were just slightly over with the
12 special assessment, but this we purposely did because
13 we were under in 2020 so we could do this.
14 The 2021 actual revenue was very good. You
15 can see \$8,148,596. Let's see how this was broken
16 down. Remember in 2021 that we shifted the dues
17 structure. We increased dues and decreased the
18 special assessment, and you can see that number
19 reflected here on the numbers. Dues were up over
20 \$2,000,000. The Annual Session was virtual in 2021
21 and the good thing to look at is educational
22 seminars. We had a \$300,000 increase compared to
23 2020, again getting back to in-person.
24 Non-dues revenue history. The MDA IFG Health
25 Plan and Endorsements are a big help. They support

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1 our non-dues revenue. You can see here we had a nice
2 rebound after COVID year. We were up to 56.7 percent.
3 We'd like to get it closer to 60. You can see
4 previous years. We are heading in that direction.
5 When you consider that the overall member numbers
6 declined, it is important for us to pursue new sources
7 of non-dues revenue.
8 Expenses were obviously much lower because we
9 were nicely in the black at \$6,560,559. Let's see how
10 that was spent now.
11 The largest expenditure was central office
12 which was up slightly from the year before. Note that
13 the Board of Trustees and ADA delegation were up as we
14 were back to in-person, obviously costs a lot more.
15 Special assessment expenditures were down as we had
16 additional revenues to spend.
17 Next we look at the reserves. The MDA has a
18 target of reserves of 75 percent. We have three
19 different funds that we do, an emergency fund,
20 strategic fund and unrestricted fund. These funds are
21 managed by Merrill Lynch and BlackRock. 2021 was a
22 great year for the stock market, so we have some good
23 news.
24 I'm happy to report that the total reserves
25 were at 132 percent at year end, 57 percent above

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1 on the previous slide.
2 Let's look at the 2022 budget. As you can
3 see, this is kind of we're getting back to normal dues
4 structures on here. Dues revenue would be \$1.9
5 million and the special assessment will be roughly
6 \$1,000,000. Another thing you can note, as we return
7 to our personal annual session, everybody here today,
8 we expect a healthy revenue increase off that.
9 We have again put forth a balanced budget for
10 2022 with total revenues of \$7,146,704, you can see
11 that on the top.
12 As we are balanced, our total expenses are
13 \$7,146,408. Again, a key is annual session is in
14 person so you see that number rises up on the right.
15 It is so nice to return to some degree of normalcy,
16 and this 2022 budget reflects that.
17 We remain a little gun shy coming out of the
18 pandemic. That was a tough time, tough two years, but
19 we do have some good news we received earlier this
20 year, that our PPP loan of \$471,700 was forgiven.
21 Like most of us in private practice, that was very
22 welcomed.
23 This has been a challenging two years. I'd
24 like to express my appreciation to our CFO Don Winn.
25 He started at the start of the pandemic with a

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1 target, up \$828,000 for the year. This's very good.
2 That's a return of 15.2 percent, so we're happy with
3 that.
4 MDA dues history. This is a good slide that
5 shows what I was just talking about earlier where we
6 adjusted the special assessment and raised dues and
7 dropped down special assessment. The total amount was
8 the same but it was altered and so we discussed that
9 earlier, but this shows that we were back to normal
10 for 2022.
11 Market share is good. This is a nice trend
12 on there. Our market is up to 76.2 percent and we're
13 near the top when you consider compared to
14 associations in similar size states. 2022 is looking
15 good as well. The ADA has a much lower percentage.
16 Note a little steeper slope as we come down the last
17 couple years, but feel we are doing a good job but
18 there is always room for improvement.
19 One thing to take note on this slide, despite
20 a decrease in the number of members, you can see
21 2,244, but we did see an increase in dollars. Again,
22 that goes back to how we restructured the dues
23 assessment, the special assessment and the dues. We
24 will see a decrease in dollar amounts for 2022 as we
25 return back to those normal distributions that we saw

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1 shorthanded finance department. Now we sit with
2 healthy reserves, a nice surplus for 2021 and a smooth
3 running finance department. Great job, Don!
4 I'd like to thank Karen and the staff of the
5 MDA. Their professionalism and hard work got us
6 through this pandemic and I'd like to say thank you.
7 Thank you to our Finance Committee,
8 Drs. Gorecki, Algenio, Rupprecht and Newman. Thank
9 you for your support with the committee, I really
10 appreciate it.
11 Lastly, if I can put my secretary hat on for
12 a minute, I'd like to give a shout out to
13 Michelle Nichols-Cruz. This year was a document
14 review year. All manuals need to be reviewed and
15 Michelle was so helpful. She does so much with
16 governance and she did a great job coordinating the
17 review with the department head directors, committee
18 chairs, Karen and myself. Michelle, thank you.
19 Thank you for your time and, as I said
20 earlier, just call or text me if you have any
21 questions or need more information. These slides will
22 be available on the website as well. Thank you,
23 Mr. Speaker.
24 (Applause.)
25 SPEAKER CHRISTY: I have the pleasure of

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1 introducing the MDA's Executive Director,
2 Karen Burgess, to provide the House with a brief
3 report on the MDA.
4 Ms. Burgess.
5 MS. BURGESS: Thank you, Dr. Christy.
6 Well, we have had a lot of great news this
7 morning, so I very much appreciated Dr. Knudsen's
8 remarks and I teared up a little bit, Mike, while you
9 were talking, so thank you.
10 And welcome to all of you back to our
11 in-person House of Delegates. I cannot say how much
12 more exciting and satisfying it is to interact with
13 you all, and you can hardly walk down the hallway
14 without running into someone that you haven't seen in
15 person for two years, so this has been awesome.
16 As you know, the last three years have been a
17 surreal experience and, while we're not out of the
18 woods yet with COVID-19, I think that organized
19 dentistry has come back stronger than ever. Our
20 membership is strong, our finances are strong, our
21 leadership is strong and very, very forward focused.
22 And, you know, the dental profession as a
23 whole here in Michigan has made a good comeback as
24 well, although we are not quite at a hundred percent
25 and, believe me, we've heard the concerns and the

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1 a difference.
2 When it came to vaccinations, dentists and
3 dental team members would have had a lower priority
4 for COVID-19 vaccination. With MDA's advocacy, as you
5 might recall, dentists were in priority group 1A.
6 Dentists would not have received any PPE
7 through donations. Instead, thanks to MDA, ADA and
8 your local dental society, hundreds of thousands of
9 pieces of PPE were distributed to Michigan dentists.
10 And finally, I think there's no doubt about
11 it and I think our staff would agree that there would
12 be major confusion in this upside down alternate
13 universe. The MDA really helped our members cut
14 through the confusion and know what the truth was and
15 what rules and regulations they needed to live up to.
16 Without the Michigan Dental Association, I don't know
17 where the thousands and thousands of phone calls would
18 have gone. So a huge COVID impact in the alternate
19 universe.
20 We would have also seen a lot of harmful
21 regulations would have been passed. Dentists would
22 still be paying thousands of dollars in consulting
23 help to get through the bureaucratic certificate of
24 need process just to buy a dental CT. What did the
25 MDA do? They fought to get an exemption and won.

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1 challenges that all the dentists in practice are
2 facing. Your MDA has been working hard to provide
3 members with practical resources to help you care for
4 your patients and ensure a practice success. But
5 perhaps even more critical is MDA advocacy on behalf
6 of the dental profession and the public we serve.
7 I was looking back over the advocacy
8 initiatives for the time that I have been Executive
9 Director, which is really starting to add up at this
10 point, and I realized something. Without MDA
11 advocacy, dentistry in Michigan would really look
12 very, very different. So you know what's popular
13 these days is the fictional alternate universes,
14 right? You know, the metaverse and The Upside Down
15 world in Stranger Things, et cetera. So, let's think
16 about that alternate universe where there is no
17 Michigan Dental Association, and I think there's five
18 big things that would be extremely different.
19 Trying to figure out -- there. That's our
20 world. First, COVID's impact on dentistry would have
21 truly been huge, even more than it was. Dental
22 practices would not have reopened when other essential
23 health care did without the MDA. And the rules and
24 the regulations for reopening would have been very,
25 very impractical. Without a doubt, MDA advocacy made

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1 Similarly, dentists would still be paying
2 thousands of dollars each and every year in sales tax
3 on dental prosthetics. MDA got that tax eliminated.
4 Dentists not only didn't have to pay, but those who
5 had paid during the interim got their money back.
6 Wow! That's pretty amazing.
7 In other news, on-the-job dental assistants
8 would not have been able to take radiographs unless
9 they were specifically licensed to do so, and dentists
10 and dental team members would not be able to use
11 hand-held x-rays in a bill that didn't go anywhere
12 because the MDA stopped that bill.
13 And finally, dentists would have had to
14 comply with onerous administrative requirements that
15 don't really relate to dentistry in this upside down
16 world due to Michigan's surprised billing law, but we
17 were able to get dentistry exempted from that bill.
18 So second note, harmful regulations didn't happen
19 thanks to the MDA.
20 But what about the flipside of that?
21 Necessary regulations. Would all the necessary
22 regulations have passed without the Michigan Dental
23 Association? I'm going to tell you no, they would not
24 have. More Michigan communities would be fluoride
25 free without the MDA. MDA grassroots advocacy fought

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1 for community water fluoridation all across the state
2 and won.
3 Mobile dental operations would not be
4 required to follow the same rules as regular dental
5 offices, but the Michigan Dental Association got that
6 law passed.
7 Hygienists would have prescription writing
8 authority independent of dentists. MDA stopped that
9 effort.
10 And finally, dental therapists, if and when
11 we get some in Michigan, would have had less training,
12 less supervision and the ability to do more invasive
13 procedures. The MDA was able to tighten up those
14 regulations to ensure patient safety.
15 Technology. It's wonderful.
16 Looking ahead, we'd also see fewer dollars
17 for dentistry, and there's just a couple of excellent
18 examples here. Without the Michigan Dental
19 Association, Healthy Kids Dental and Donated Dental
20 Services would not be fully funded in the Michigan
21 budget. With MDA advocacy, it has remained strong and
22 we're even looking at expansion of the successful
23 Healthy Dental Care model to adults with the 2023
24 budget, so fingers crossed.
25 Dentists would not be able to bill for

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1 continue to monitor and seek legislation if new dental
2 specialties are recognized at the national level, and
3 we have made that commitment.
4 Dr. Maihofer also mentioned network leasing.
5 This is something that has been going on and has been
6 very confusing for dentists and dental patients alike,
7 very confusing, very frustrating because insurance
8 companies have been without notification leasing their
9 networks to other insurance companies. The MDA is
10 currently working with legislators to bring forward a
11 law to require transparency in network leasing.
12 Vulnerable Michiganders would continue to
13 have little access to dental care in hospital and
14 ambulatory care surgical centers due to low
15 reimbursement rates to the facilities and the
16 anesthesia providers. The MDA is strongly advocating
17 for Medicaid reimbursement increases to solve the
18 problem and daily we get updates on where the Michigan
19 budget is, and so far that's looking pretty good.
20 Finally, teledentistry would be the wild west
21 with few regulations to ensure patient safety and
22 maintain the appropriate standard of care. The MDA is
23 advocating for legislation and regulations that
24 enhance access to care safely and fairly.
25 Finally, the 2023 State of Michigan budget

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1 nitrous oxide analgesia, analgesia, sorry, hard word,
2 under Healthy Kids. MDA successfully advocated to
3 preserve this fee.
4 Let's go on to the fifth item and kind of
5 look down the road. In the alternate universe without
6 the Michigan Dental Association, there would be no
7 comprehensive voice for dentistry on all these key
8 issues you see on the slide before you. Dental
9 students and new dentists would have confusing and
10 conflicting information on managing student debt.
11 Now, the American Dental Association tells us that the
12 class of 2021 graduated with an average \$300,000 in
13 student debt. The MDA curates only the correct and
14 up-to-date information on our Student Debt Resource
15 Center on michigandental.org to help our young
16 practitioners and some of our more established
17 practitioners that still have debt manage all that.
18 Without the MDA, specialists could not claim
19 their specialty. You heard Dr. Maihofer mention the
20 legislation that was passed to recognize five new
21 specialties in our state, oral medicine, oral facial
22 pain, dental public health, dental radiology and
23 dental anesthesiology. I can tell you that due to the
24 way that Michigan law is structured, it's going to be
25 imperative for the Michigan Dental Association to

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1 just might not include increased funding for dentistry
2 and dental Medicaid. These are critical dollars for
3 enhancing access to care and fair reimbursement for
4 services provided.
5 I think, you know, just as Dr. Maihofer has
6 said what we stand for, I think it's pretty clear that
7 Michigan without the MDA would be a very different
8 place. Our advocacy initiatives make a real
9 difference every day for patients and for dentists.
10 As I reflect back over the past few years,
11 I'm grateful to our MDA Board of Trustees, our
12 Committee on Governmental and Insurance Affairs,
13 advocacy staff and lobbyists, to all the components
14 that schedule legislative events, and especially to
15 members who take the time to respond to our
16 Phone-to-Action Alerts, attend in-district meetings,
17 meet by Zoom all throughout the pandemic with
18 legislators and stakeholders and all of you who
19 contribute so well to our Dental PAC. Thanks to you
20 for all you do. Thank you.
21 (Applause.)
22 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Thank you, Ms. Burgess.
23 I have the pleasure of introducing the ADA
24 President, Dr. Cesar Sabates, to provide a report on
25 ADA activities. Dr. Sabates is a general dentist in

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1 Coral Gables, Florida and served as the president of
2 the Florida Dental Association and South Florida
3 District Dental Society from 2016 to 2020.
4 Dr. Sabates served as the Seventeenth District Trustee
5 to the ADA Board of Trustees and was a delegate in the
6 House of Delegates from 2000 to 2016.
7 Dr. Sabates.
8 DR. SABATES: Good morning Michigan. I have
9 to tell you I'm going to give a few prepared remarks
10 and then I'm just going to speak from my heart. I
11 think it works that way. I promise you that I will
12 send you my Power Point presentation and the speech
13 that goes with it because it's a very beautiful
14 speech. But sometimes it's just better to speak from
15 the heart. This presentation was put together about a
16 month ago. So I'm going to get started, then I'm just
17 going to deviate a little bit. It goes like this.
18 Good morning. On behalf of the leadership
19 professional team and your 161,000 colleagues at the
20 American Dental Association, thank you for your
21 service to our profession. In keeping with the theme
22 of this year's Annual Session, I always appreciate a
23 chance for us to come together as friends and fellow
24 leaders in our profession. I want to thank you for
25 your kind invitation.

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1 behalf of the ADA for the trouble that it has caused.
2 You know, your team members here in putting together
3 this meeting because we rely heavily on software to
4 make things work, and your team members and the
5 experience that they have have allowed you to have
6 this meeting and register each and everyone of you and
7 work together. So I applaud the MDA leadership and
8 your team members.
9 You'll hear me many times talking about team
10 members, and one of the things that I am trying to
11 change at the ADA is basically the culture of the ADA.
12 And one of the things that I started was I don't call
13 our staff our staff anymore. Staff to me is an
14 infection, and our staff is not infectious, even
15 though sometimes their enthusiasm is infectious, but
16 to me they are members of our team and very valued
17 members of our team. I am having issues because our
18 team members continue to call themselves staff and
19 it's driving me nuts.
20 I have to tell you that yesterday we had a
21 brilliant presentation by our Speaker, Dr. Todd
22 Christy. I enjoyed his parliamentary talk that he
23 gave all of you as members of the House of Delegates
24 yesterday. The only thing that I didn't like about
25 his presentation is, you know, during his

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1 Today I open with a simple message, the ADA
2 has your back. As clinicians, researchers, educators
3 and leaders, you are living embodiments of the ADA's
4 mission and vision to advance public health and
5 achieve optimum oral health for all.
6 In the two years since the start of the
7 COVID-19 pandemic you have been at the heart of
8 dentistry's recovery. Dentistry has always been
9 agents of healing and connection, and the pandemic has
10 shown us that what we do matters, the work we do is
11 essential and we are resilient. Our collective
12 commitment will be a guiding star on the road ahead.
13 Know that as we emerge into much brighter days, the
14 ADA continues to stand with you and for you on what
15 matters the most.
16 Now here's a brief update on what has been
17 happening at your Association. I can tell you what's
18 been happening at our Association has been a complete
19 nightmare. You may have read news articles that the
20 ADA has been attacked by one of these cyber terrorists
21 and has completely caused havoc on our systems. As I
22 am speaking now and as I've been sitting at the dais,
23 I've received at least maybe 100, 150 text messages
24 from our ADA team members about what's going on and
25 what we're doing to bring us back. I apologize on

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1 parliamentary procedures we don't have fun. And being
2 a member of the House of Delegates, you have to have
3 fun because if not it's not worth it.
4 At the Board of Trustees I have a
5 parliamentarian that sits right next to me and kind of
6 always looks at me, and I have invented something
7 called Cesar's Rules of Order, and he looks at me and
8 just nods his head and says, okay, go ahead and do
9 that. But sometimes the rules interfere with the way
10 that we can conduct business, and if we have to spend
11 15 minutes to just get a yes answer, I try to bypass
12 all that stuff and move forward. But what I'm trying
13 to create at the ADA is a culture of love and
14 understanding and compassion for each other and for
15 our profession.
16 I'm going to tell you a couple of stories so
17 that you get to know me a little bit better and you
18 understand where I'm coming from. I came to this
19 country when I was seven years old. I came from Cuba.
20 My father was an oral maxillofacial surgeon in Cuba,
21 and we came here with basically the clothes on our
22 backs and we had to re-establish ourselves. But we
23 came to the greatest country in the world and that
24 offers great opportunities, and my father was able to
25 go back to dental school, even in spite of having no

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1 money and having five kids. I was the oldest of five.
2 He also was able to attend residency in oral
3 maxillofacial surgery here at Henry Ford Hospital. So
4 I had the privilege of living in Michigan until I was
5 13 years old, and I hadn't come back since then
6 because when I was 13 we moved to Miami, and it felt
7 good coming back here even though I saw absolutely
8 nothing from the airport to here. I didn't see the
9 city. I didn't even see a cow. I didn't see anything
10 at all. And I probably won't see anything on the way
11 out either, but that's okay. But what I did see and
12 it warmed my heart was that I got here and I felt as
13 part of the MDA family, and that is what I love, and
14 that's what the ADA is all about and that is what I go
15 around the country telling people that each of us, we
16 are family, we are all connected in one way or
17 another.
18 Another reason I mentioned to you that I was
19 Cuban is when we first moved here we lived in
20 Kansas City. I was seven years old, and when I would
21 get home the kids on the block used to throw mud balls
22 at our house and they would write on the side of the
23 wall "go home". And that was my home, and I didn't
24 understand that. Later on in life I realized that I
25 guess they didn't want any Cubans in their

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1 had an inspiration and that inspiration for me, and he
2 doesn't know it, but it was Ray Gist, because Ray Gist
3 was elected as the first African American president of
4 the American Dental Association. When he was elected,
5 I felt so proud because I said finally, finally, the
6 ADA has opened its heart to someone who looks
7 different, and I thought maybe I may have a chance.
8 So, I don't know if Ray is here, but Ray if you're
9 here, thank you for opening up the doors for people
10 like me. I love you, Ray. Thank you so much.
11 (Applause.)
12 DR. SABATES: One of the things you'll find
13 out about me, I'm a very emotional guy. When I speak
14 to that Florida House of Delegates they do something
15 called over and under bets to see how many times I'll
16 cry during my presentation. Anyway, that's enough.
17 I want to take a moment to thank Dr. Frey for
18 that rendition of the National Anthem. It was
19 extremely touching and I want to thank him for that.
20 I also want to thank you for sending me
21 Michele Tulak-Gorecki to the Board. She is just a
22 breath of fresh air and it's wonderful to have her
23 voice there.
24 I will tell you a quick story. This past
25 Board meeting, I'm not really a formal guy. Like I

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1 neighborhood because I guess they didn't think that we
2 were good enough.
3 The reason I bring that up is because many,
4 many years down the road when I became an ADA delegate
5 I was the proudest person in the world. I was so
6 proud to be an ADA member. I was so proud to be a
7 part of the ADA House because I thought that was the
8 elite. I thought that was the greatest place, and I
9 was very happy. And one of my mentors took me from my
10 district, which at that time was the fifth district,
11 and introduced me to another member of another
12 district which will remain nameless. But as I turned
13 away, and both of these were older individuals, one
14 individual said to another, it's amazing you were able
15 to find an intelligent spic because we have never been
16 able to find one. That was my welcome to the
17 American Dental Association. And I vowed that I would
18 change that. And what I want is for everyone to feel
19 welcomed.
20 I never thought that I would be able to
21 become president of the ADA. First of all, because I
22 was Hispanic. Second of all, because there had never
23 been a president from the state of Florida. And third
24 of all, because all the people that were running
25 against me were telling me you will never win. But I

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1 say, I like family, and we had something called
2 Whirlyball, and you probably don't know what this is.
3 It's kind of a game that is played in bumper cars,
4 those electric cars that we used to have, and you play
5 basketball with a net and stuff like that and you
6 throw and try to make a basket, and her daughter Lydia
7 came and Lydia is really cool, I got a chance to meet
8 her. At first I was kind of nice to her and we were
9 playing on the same team. And then another time we
10 played against each other and she swatted me with that
11 racket a couple times, and Lydia is a pretty tough
12 competitor so I try to stay away from her.
13 But anyway, I also want to thank Gary Jeffers
14 and his wife Nancy for what they -- they always held
15 me as friends on the Board.
16 I want to tell you, as I mentioned, that I
17 tried to change the culture of the Board, and the
18 Board is working extremely well together. We are
19 working as a family, and things work much better when
20 we work as family.
21 I talk a lot about diversity and inclusion
22 because it is very near and dear to my heart. But
23 diversity, it has nothing to do with the color of your
24 skin or what you look like. It has to do with our
25 opinions, and each of us have different vantage points

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1 of where they came from and where they are at in their
2 lives, and these opinions are very important. So, we
3 need to kind of listen to each other in a very
4 respectful manner and then come up with decisions that
5 benefits all of us, and sometimes we have to make
6 compromises, but that's part of being leaders.
7 One of the things that was mentioned by
8 Dr. Maihofer and, by the way, I've known him for many
9 years. I've had the privilege of working with him in
10 CAP and several committees, and he is a wonderful
11 human being. He's got a wonderful heart, and it has
12 been a privilege for me to work with him over the
13 years, and I know that he has done a fantastic job for
14 the MDA. So, I want to thank you, Mike, for the work
15 that you do. And I have to tell you I cried during
16 your speech as well. I always cry when I talk about
17 my wife.
18 I did also learn that it is very important
19 that I pronounce Benivegna correctly. If not, he will
20 get very mad at me. So I have to say that I've been
21 working on that.
22 Getting back to the message. Besides the
23 cyber attack, I want to tell you it's been very
24 impactful for the American Dental Association, but I
25 want to tell you that the ADA is strong. At the last

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1 of the professors who won an award mention about
2 getting involved at the schools. I encourage each of
3 you to get involved in the schools, and if you don't
4 want to get involved in the schools, at least
5 volunteer your time to try to mentor some of the
6 younger members or actually they are non-members, but
7 try to mentor them and guide them and teach them.
8 Show them the love that we have for our profession,
9 the passion we have for helping people.
10 I also have to tell you another story which
11 kind of exemplifies what the American Dental
12 Association is all about, what the MDA is all about.
13 I've had cancer four times. The first time as most of
14 you have done, you have your disability insurance, you
15 have your insurances, you have your savings for a
16 rainy day, and you go through a life altering crisis
17 and you have the funds to cover it. But a year later
18 I got it again, and I was out for another three
19 months, and I had no reserves because I had used it
20 during my first problem. And so I was at the point
21 where I could have lost my practice, I could have lost
22 my home, I could have lost everything that I worked
23 for, but the people that are sitting around this room
24 in Florida for me came to my aide. They came to my
25 aide economically, they treated my patients so that I

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1 Board of Trustees meeting we had approved already a
2 change in our software system. So we're going to
3 improve all of that, and this opportunity, we're going
4 to make, I don't know the expression well, but we're
5 going to make lemonade out of lemons. I'm not sure
6 how that works, but we're going to turn this very
7 difficult situation into a very positive situation
8 because we're going to work together as a team, we're
9 going to work with our states. We already have the
10 new vendors for our software, and it's going to be
11 much better.
12 I don't know if you had the opportunity to
13 meet our new executive director, Raymond Cohlma. He
14 is a dynamo. He moves at 500 miles an hour. And we
15 work very well together because I am also a little bit
16 hyper, but we hope that by this ADA House of Delegates
17 that we will have an app, we will have an ADA app to
18 present to all of our members. We have to become, you
19 know, relevant. Even though we do a tremendous amount
20 of work, and without the MDA, without the ADA without
21 the Florida Dental Association, without all of our
22 team members, this world would be a much different
23 place.
24 Each of us has an opportunity and also an
25 obligation to move the profession forward. We had one

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1 could heal, and I tell you this story because this is
2 what belonging to organized dentistry is all about.
3 It is about a love for our profession. It is about a
4 love for each other. It's about helping each other
5 out. So, if any of you need help, please reach out to
6 your colleagues. You are never alone when you are a
7 member of the American Dental Association. You are
8 never alone because you have 162 (sic) colleagues that
9 care about you, and that is the message that I want to
10 put out there for each and everyone of you.
11 I am alive today because of the grace of God
12 because theoretically I am not supposed to be alive.
13 Right before I ran for president I got cancer again,
14 and I went through some very extensive experimental
15 treatment, immunotherapy, and I'm here in front of you
16 today because of the prayers of so many dentists, so
17 many friends who prayed for me and God spared my life
18 because he wanted me to do something, and I believe
19 what he wanted me to do is this. He wanted me to
20 carry his message of love and peace and passion and
21 compassion for each other. So please continue
22 volunteering for Donated Dental Services, keep
23 volunteering your time to help those less fortunate.
24 I thank you for this opportunity to speak
25 with you today. I know that I probably have not

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1 covered the things that you want to hear, but I
2 promise you I will send you my Power Point.
3 I forgot one very important thing. There is
4 something called an ADA Champion's Program. We are
5 looking for volunteers to champion diversity and
6 inclusion. If any of you want to be a champion, if
7 any of you want to get involved in this and be further
8 educated in this and how you can help promote this
9 throughout the state of Michigan and throughout the
10 United States, please reach out to me. When I send
11 you my Power Point you'll see the address of where you
12 need to contact in order to volunteer, but I encourage
13 you to volunteer for that. It's going to be a
14 wonderful program and we're going to spread the
15 passion that we have for our profession and for each
16 other throughout the United States.
17 May God bless each and everyone of you and
18 your families. Thank you for the opportunity to speak
19 to you today.
20 (Standing ovation.)
21 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Thank you Dr. Sabates.
22 I now call upon Dr. Stephen Meraw, Immediate
23 Past President of the MDA, who will pay tribute to
24 those MDA members who have passed away in the last
25 year.

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1 GENESEE DISTRICT
2 Dr. John Fowler Johnson Dr. Blair Gregory Munns
3 JACKSON DISTRICT
4 Dr. Donald Edgar Granzow Dr. James P. Utess
5 KALAMAZOO VALLEY DISTRICT
6 Dr. Warren Edwin Louis Dr. Richard Lionel Purdy
7 Dr. Thomas J. Saewert Dr. Glen A. Shugars
8 LAKELAND VALLEY DISTRICT
9 Dr. Alfred Dell Hanson
10 LIVINGSTON DISTRICT
11 Dr. David A. Farlow
12 MACOMB DISTRICT
13 Dr. William M. Collins Dr. Robert Anthony Kobylarz
14 Dr. Arthur H. Molitor Dr. Michael J. Ramos
15 Dr. Howard Anthony Scheer Dr. Donald E. Stroud
16 Dr. John N. Wooton Dr. Robert James Zobl
17 MANISTEE-MASON DISTRICT
18 Dr. Stanley J. Hendricks
19 MUSKEGON DISTRICT
20 Dr. Ronald John Komarek Dr. Paul R. Voss
21 OAKLAND COUNTY DISTRICT
22 Dr. Gerald Jeffery Bloom Dr. Frank Raymond Cain
23 Dr. Sylvan M. Failer Dr. Patrick J. Flynn
24 Dr. Roy H. Hoke Dr. Ronald John Jenkins
25 Dr. Harry Kems Dr. Gerald D. Michael

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1 Dr. Meraw.
2 DR. MERAW: Thank you. We respectfully pay
3 tribute to those members who have gone before us. We
4 appreciate their collective contributions to organized
5 dentistry, which has created the foundation upon which
6 we now stand.
7 It is with deep gratitude that we thank them;
8 they will be missed.
9 * * *
10 CENTRAL DISTRICT
11 Dr. Clinton Candy Dr. Willard John Hershey
12 Dr. John F. Marschner Dr. Michael S. Nasif
13 Dr. Fred John Tenbusch
14 COPPER COUNTRY DISTRICT
15 Dr. Oliver Frederick Manzini
16 DETROIT DISTRICT
17 Dr. Seymour D. Berman Dr. George Leonidas Bletsas
18 Dr. Lionel D. Caron Dr. Julius Frank Chikos
19 Dr. Joseph R. Dunlap Dr. Suresh R. Gadgil
20 Dr. David Jacob Goodman Dr. Gerald Francis Kelly
21 Dr. Harold Martin Kominars Dr. Edward Lawrence Kozlow
22 Dr. John Walter Kuras Dr. Lawrence Albert Lark
23 Dr. Jerome Lechner Dr. Raffie A. Mackie
24 Dr. Gerald Buckley McAadoo Dr. Manuel Roy Spezia
25 Dr. Walter Dakota Webb

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1 Dr. Lawrence Saul Morton Dr. Donald K. Nanney
2 Dr. John Allan Ohlsson Dr. Frank William Piscopink
3 Dr. Robert O. Unsworth Dr. Elroy R. Woolf
4 RESORT DISTRICT
5 Dr. Edward Ira Brown
6 SAGINAW VALLEY DISTRICT
7 Dr. Howard Neal Clinthorne Dr. Russell Lester Johnson
8 Dr. Gerald J. Schloff
9 SAULT SAINTE MARIE DISTRICT
10 Dr. Louis T. Kurtis Dr. Thomas C. Lehman
11 SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT
12 Dr. Charles H. Palumbo
13 THUMB DISTRICT
14 Dr. Thomas Dirk Jackson
15 WASHTENAW DISTRICT
16 Dr. John Clifford Cameron Dr. Donald John Davies
17 Dr. Daniel P. Gilliland Dr. Sondra J. Gunn
18 Dr. Richard Anders Johnson Dr. Lee W. Jones
19 WEST MICHIGAN
20 Dr. Robert W. Browne Dr. Richard A. Nezwek
21 Dr. Glenn E. Petroelje
22 * * *
23 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Dr. Stephen Meraw, chair of
24 the Nominating Committee will now provide a brief
25 report and formally nominate the candidates for

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1 office.
2 Dr. Meraw.
3 DR. MERAW: Thank you, Dr. Christy.
4 According to the Bylaws, the purpose of the
5 Nominating Committee is to carefully review the
6 credentials of each potential candidate, seek out the
7 most qualified candidates for each position and
8 ensure, to the greatest degree possible, that the
9 slate offered reflects the diversity of the
10 Association membership.
11 The Nominating Committee met three times to
12 engage in dialogue and debate regarding the merits of
13 potential candidates.
14 After interviewing and vetting the
15 applicants, the committee selected the slate of
16 candidates for your consideration.
17 I would like to remind regions that the name
18 of their Nom Com representative for next year is due
19 to the MDA by June 15th. Keep in mind it is critical
20 that your representative is available to attend all
21 meetings of the Committee. The dates are August 9th,
22 November 8th, and January 10th of the following year.
23 The offices open for nomination are
24 president-elect, editor, secretary/treasurer, three
25 trustee positions for a three-year term, three ADA

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1 first year and when I was elected it was to a
2 four-year term which allowed for this additional year
3 that I was not going to take.
4 Finding an Editor has been challenging, and
5 so, I am sticking around. Some may applaud that, some
6 may not, but, nonetheless, we are going to try to
7 maintain the quality of the Journal for a place holder
8 for our next Editor, and I encourage anybody who is
9 interested in this position to please contact me
10 because we want to work to mentor and to develop and
11 preserve the strength of our publication.
12 We don't seek awards. We don't seek
13 accolades. But the greatest recognition that we get
14 is that our members value the Journal of the Michigan
15 Dental Association as the top benefit they get from
16 membership. I am humbled by that. I am humbled by
17 the contributions of our team including Dave Foe,
18 Jackie Hammond, Jeff Mertens and others, and I think
19 that they are people you'd like to work with too. So
20 let me know if you are interested. We certainly would
21 like to bring you aboard. Thank you.
22 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Are there any other
23 nominations for Editor?
24 Hearing none, I declare that nominations be
25 closed and that a unanimous ballot for

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1 delegate positions and eight ADA alternate positions.
2 The Nominating Committee nominates Dr. Eric
3 Knudsen for President-Elect of the Michigan Dental
4 Association.
5 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Are there any other
6 nominations for President-Elect?
7 Hearing none, I declare that nominations be
8 closed and that a unanimous ballot be cast for
9 Dr. Eric Knudsen as President-Elect of the Michigan
10 Dental Association.
11 (Applause.)
12 DR. MERAW: The Nominating Committee
13 nominates Dr. Christopher Smiley for Editor of the
14 Michigan Dental Association.
15 While the Editor position is a three-year
16 term, Dr. Smiley has agreed to serve for one
17 additional year to allow the Nominating Committee to
18 recruit applicants for this position.
19 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Dr. Smiley has asked for a
20 point of privilege. Dr. Smiley.
21 DR. SMILEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am
22 humbled to stand before you, and when I took this
23 position three years ago, it was with the intention to
24 serve only for three years, and I announced that to
25 the House last year. Bylaws were changed after my

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1 Dr. Christopher Smiley as Editor of the Michigan
2 Dental Association.
3 (Applause.)
4 DR. MERAW: The Nominating Committee
5 nominates Dr. Christopher Gorecki for
6 Secretary/Treasurer of the Michigan Dental
7 Association.
8 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Are there any other
9 nominations?
10 Hearing none, I declare that nominations be
11 closed and that a unanimous ballot be cast for
12 Dr. Christopher Gorecki as Secretary/Treasurer of the
13 Michigan Dental Association.
14 (Applause.)
15 DR. MERAW: The Nominating Committee
16 nominates the following individuals for a three-year
17 term as Trustee of the Michigan Dental Association:
18 Dr. Elisa Ghezzi
19 Dr. John Hall
20 Dr. Vincent Lizzio
21 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Are there any other
22 nominations? Microphone two. The Chair recognizes
23 microphone two for the purposes of making a
24 nomination.
25 DR. SHAH: Good morning. My name is

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1 Darshika Shah and I am a general dentist from Troy,
2 Michigan and I am from Oakland County and I am
3 self-nominating myself for the position for the
4 Trustee for Michigan Dental Association.
5 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Thank you, Dr. Shah.
6 Are there any other nominations?
7 The name of Dr. Shah will be included on the
8 ballot and the election will take place on Saturday.
9 DR. MERAW: The MDA has budgeted for 26 ADA
10 delegation positions, 18 delegates and eight
11 alternates.
12 According to the bylaws, officers of the
13 Association are required to serve as delegates and
14 trustees have the option to serve as delegates. The
15 Nominating Committee contacted all trustee candidates
16 and, if elected, they have agreed to serve as ADA
17 delegates. The officers and trustees will comprise 15
18 of the 18 delegate positions. Therefore, the House of
19 Delegates will elect three delegate and eight
20 alternate positions from the list of candidates.
21 The Nominating Committee nominates the
22 following individuals for the ADA delegation:
23 Dr. Deborah Brown
24 Dr. Lisa Christy
25 Dr. Naila Farooq

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1 The next item on the agenda is new business.
2 This is the last time that new business can be
3 introduced, except by unanimous consent.
4 Does any delegate have new business to
5 introduce?
6 The chair recognizes microphone two.
7 DR. MANDUZZI: Pardon me while I pull up the
8 information. As the legislative and --
9 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Excuse me, your name and
10 component.
11 DR. MANDUZZI: Excuse me,
12 Christopher Manduzzi, president of the Macomb Dental
13 Society.
14 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Thank you.
15 DR. MANDUZZI: So, the background for this is
16 Resolution Number 17. As the legislative and
17 governing body of the ADA, the House of Delegates is
18 the supreme authority guiding the American Dental
19 Association. It speaks for our 161,000 dentist
20 members and for the dental profession throughout the
21 U.S. Members of the House of Delegates are chosen by
22 the 53 constituent societies, the five federal dental
23 services and the American Student Dental Association.
24 Because the pandemic has halted leadership development
25 at both the state and local levels, it's one reason

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1 Dr. Inge Ford
2 Dr. Margaret Gingrich
3 Dr. Graham Greenland
4 Dr. Gabriel Holdwick
5 Dr. Mark Johnston
6 Dr. Elizabeth Knudsen
7 Dr. Jason Mashni
8 Dr. Daniel Miller
9 Dr. Deb Peters
10 Dr. Sarah Tomaka
11 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Are there any other
12 nominations?
13 Hearing none, nominations are closed. Voting
14 will take place on Saturday.
15 DR. MERAW: I would like to thank the members
16 of the Nominating Committee for their hard work and
17 diligence in vetting this year's candidates. Would
18 you please stand? They worked very hard. There is
19 not one stone unturned in the state for anyone who is
20 qualified and willing to run. So, I thank you again
21 for the hard work this year.
22 (Applause.)
23 DR. MERAW: That completes nominations for
24 elective positions in the Michigan Dental Association.
25 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Thank you, Dr. Meraw.

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1 why we should expand the utilization of the ADA HOD as
2 a breeding ground for new leaders.
3 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Dr. Manduzzi?
4 DR. MANDUZZI: Yes.
5 SPEAKER CHRISTY: Could do me a favor? I
6 know you have the Resolution that you submitted to me,
7 to our House. Could you read the resolving clauses,
8 and I know that for the House that we review these and
9 you all will be receiving these by e-mail as well
10 before the reference committee. If you give me the
11 two resolving clauses that you want for your
12 Resolution 17.
13 DR. MANDUZZI: Resolved, that the MDA House
14 of Delegates urges the MDA Board of Trustees to fund
15 an additional two alternate delegates to the 2022 ADA
16 delegation;
17 And be it further
18 Resolved, that the MDA Board of Trustees
19 conduct an annual review to determine the number of
20 ADA delegates submitted to the ADA.
21 SPEAKER CHRISTY: This is being submitted by
22 Christopher Manduzzi, Macomb delegates. It is in
23 order. Thank you, Dr. Manduzzi.
24 So this will be before the reference
25 committee here later on morning, afternoon, depends on

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1 when you all get done.
2 Are there any other resolutions? Thank you.
3 That will all be presented to the reference committee.
4 Before we adjourn, there are a few
5 announcements.
6 I have made an effort to make communications
7 with the House more user-friendly by utilizing videos
8 and being mindful of the content and frequency of the
9 communications.
10 I am able to determine the percentage of
11 House members that open the Delegate Digest and the
12 percentage of those who actually click through to the
13 website.
14 Now, 67.5 percent of the House of Delegates
15 opened the March 15th Delegate Digest. Of that 67.5
16 percent, only 31.8 percent actually clicked through to
17 the website. Now, these Digests are sent to the House
18 members so you can be fully informed of the activities
19 of the MDA and its Board of Trustees. As elected
20 leaders, it is important to read all of the
21 information that is provided.
22 The metrics will continue to be reviewed as
23 we have been doing this for a while following every
24 Delegate Digest. It is my hope that members of the
25 House of Delegates will do their due diligence and

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1 d'oeuvres along with a cash bar while touring the MDA
2 Exhibit Hall featuring over 100 exhibitors. The
3 exhibitors help support the MDA Annual Session and
4 appreciate your business.
5 The MDA Dental PAC is again doing the PAC
6 competition. Your House of Delegate regions will be
7 competing for the most money raised and highest
8 percentage per region. The winning regions will be
9 announced on Saturday and recognized in the MDA
10 Journal. Also, all donors will be entered into a
11 drawing to win an Apple product based on the amount
12 donated.
13 Make sure you make your donation at the PAC
14 booth before Saturday. There is a PAC booth today at
15 the House floor entrance and one in the exhibit hall
16 as well.
17 Everyone is invited to visit the Welcome
18 Center located just inside the Event Center, Exhibit
19 Hall. There you can relax, have a cup of coffee,
20 visit with MDA team, check out the latest MDA products
21 and services and get all your questions answered.
22 It's a great way to make sure you take full advantage
23 of all that membership in the MDA has to offer.
24 The Candidate Forum for the Trustee positions
25 will be held five minutes following adjournment of

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1 read the information provided.
2 Anti-trust law is a collection of federal and
3 state government laws that regulate the conduct and
4 organization of business corporations, generally to
5 promote fair competition for the benefit of consumers.
6 The MDA has a policy on anti-trust and a hard copy is
7 in front of you today.
8 As your Speaker, I will be alert and stop any
9 discussions that I believe cross the line; MDA legal
10 counsel will assist me.
11 Appreciation is extended to the Michigan
12 Dental Association Insurance and MDA Services for
13 sponsoring a portion of today's meeting.
14 Annual Session is the perfect time to explore
15 what's available from MDA Insurance, MDA Services and
16 our ever-expanding dental supplies program. Please
17 make time to visit the MDA-endorsed vendor aisle in
18 the exhibit hall to discover new ways to help you and
19 your practice succeed.
20 Visit The Dentist Supply Company, a
21 comprehensive dental supply program, at Booth 302 for
22 savings on major brand dental supplies.
23 Everyone is invited to the MDA Welcome
24 Reception today from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the Event
25 Hall, Event Center. Enjoy complimentary hors

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1 this meeting.
2 Lunch will be provided following the
3 Candidate Forum. Following the lunch, the reference
4 committee hearing will take place.
5 Reference committee reports will be
6 distributed to the caucus rooms on Saturday, April
7 30th at 7:00 a.m. The packets will have instructions
8 on how to e-mail proposed amendments to House staff on
9 Saturday morning.
10 We will be using electronic keypads for
11 voting on Saturday to include elections. It is my
12 intention to use the keypads judiciously. Not every
13 vote will be taken with the keypads in the essence of
14 saving time. However, House members will be able to
15 vote for candidates for office using the electronic
16 system. There will be instructions at your seat for
17 Saturday's House session.
18 The electronic keypads will be distributed to
19 delegates on Saturday when your badge is scanned, and
20 I believe they will be scanned for entrance to the
21 floor of the House. Please allow for additional time
22 for the keypads to be distributed.
23 Microphone four.
24 DR. ERPARDO: I move that the 2022 House of
25 Delegates be adjourned.

