Immediate Past president’s report

It is always a distinct honor and privilege to serve APPNA. I have been fortunate to be involved in completion of one of the projects which began in 2017 and is very dear to my heart. I am happy to bring you some more updates about the:

Mobile Clinics in USA:

In 2017 a large portion of meeting revenues and sponsorship monies was earmarked to purchase four Mobile Health units for USA. These mobile clinic units are fitted with state-of-the-art medical equipment and are meant to be used as free health clinic on a regular basis, while they can be used for disaster relief work in times of need anywhere a calamity strikes in USA. It is planned to station them in northeast, Midwest, Houston and Florida at this time. ICNA Relief has helped in getting them manufactured and maintenance. At this time 2 units are fully equipped and functional.

The first two mobile units in collaboration of ICNA Relief started functioning as a health clinic in Dallas and our own Dr. Dawood Nasir and Mehmooda Nasir volunteered their services to see uninsured patients. Second unit was used for health fair lead by Dr. Babar Rao in New York.

One of the unit is currently stationed in the Parking lot of Hilton Anatole Hotel where we hope that our APPNA members especially Council can observe its potential first hand. We hope that it will inspire community physician leaders to dedicate their time in service of local communities in providing healthcare to the indigent and uninsured. The 3rd and 4th unit will be ready soon and will be deployed as well.

I am so proud of the work that goes on in APPNA. The Cleft Lip-Palate Repair project “Muskan”, Corneal transplant project, USA National Food Pantry Program have been continuing this year as well. I have heard good things about the mobile units in Pakistan and I think that it is a great initiative as well. I hope that all of these and other projects will continue for years to come and become a beacon of light to attract those physicians in joining APPNA, who feel that APPNA hasn’t done enough.

I deeply appreciate support from the Executive Committee, especially President Iqbal Zafar Hamid and President Elect Dr. Naseem Shekhani.

On a more solemn note, like you I am also concerned that APPNA seems to be at cross roads again and inner conflicts among its worthy members have disappointed the APPNA membership.

Unfortunately, the financial ramifications of the legal dispute between a past candidate and present and past officers have resulted in a loss of significant amount of money and resources for APPNA. This money could have been put to a more productive use in humanitarian causes.

In the spirit of resolving the legal issues, President Elect Dr. Naseem Shekhani and I have tried to mediate a resolution so that APPNA can be absolved of its legal battle, but it is work in progress. I wish and pray that APPNA EC and board of trustees will be successful in reaching at a reasonable conclusion to end this legal turmoil in near future. I sincerely hope that an amicable solution will be achieved by the summer meeting. In the meantime APPNA council and board of trustees should work on developing a fool proof conflict resolution process which will avoid any drawn out dispute and discord amongst APPNA members. Transparency within the organization and a well thought out reconciliatory process should help in fostering a mutual trust and confidence in each other. Let us all work together for a united APPNA.

After all, we all wish nothing but best for our beloved organization.

Sajid Chaudhary, MD.

Immediate Past President APPNA, 2018