



## **Add Spouses' Voice and Strength to Challenges Ahead**

As you experience each day, physicians and their families are standing at a crossroad between the health care system we have and the tough reforms we know are required...between the increasing demands on physicians in practice and the struggle to find and maintain work/life balance in a medical marriage.

The AMA Alliance is prepared for the challenges that we face as members of the family of medicine in 2009. We are a vibrant organization of women *and* men, of *all* ages, with an increasing number of us from coast to coast, enriching each other's lives in the family of medicine with our diverse backgrounds and ideas, lending our talents and adding our voices to health promotion, legislative advocacy and fundraising for the future of medicine.

The Alliance and its members, physician spouses throughout the country, do good work in our communities, with and for our medical societies and medical schools and for our own families. Although we have careers and families to manage, we work hard to support medicine's goals and create new opportunities for physicians to provide the care that is needed. We raise funds for scholarships and free clinics, we talk to legislators and their staff, we share health information in our grade schools, local businesses and community centers. We support each other at every stage in our medical family life.

As members of the Alliance, we are 25,000 voices in a nationwide health advocacy network, whether we participate individually via the Alliance Web site at [www.amaalliance.org](http://www.amaalliance.org) or team up with each other to promote health in our communities, whether we have a leadership role at the state, county or national level or whether we simply prefer to support the family of medicine with a \$40 membership check every year.

The Alliance at every level has unity of purpose in our efforts to support all physicians. In 2009, we seek greater representation within the family of medicine, a year that offers bright hope for a critical turning point in our country's history and its health care.

The time for putting off personal involvement has passed. We applaud the physicians and their families in Maine. We welcome all physician spouses who want to roll up their sleeves virtually or literally, and join this wonderful network of people, resources and opportunity. Belong, make a difference, and grow with the AMA Alliance in 2009. It matters to medicine's future; it can make a difference for you and your family.

*The mission of the American Medical Association Alliance, Inc. is to partner with physicians to promote the good health of America and to support the family of medicine.*



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[sandi.frost@ama-assn.org](mailto:sandi.frost@ama-assn.org) to ask any question

[www.amaalliance.org](http://www.amaalliance.org) to join

[www.screenout.org](http://www.screenout.org) to sample an Alliance project