Indiana Chapter of the American College of Cardiology
Donald R. Westerhausen, Jr., MD, FACC, Governor
Emily Keltner, MA, CV Team State Chapter Representative
Gwen J. Goldfarb, Chapter Executive Director

2021 State of the State Report

TOP ACCOMPLISHMENT

Advocacy

- The Indiana-ACC took an extremely proactive approach to lobbying the Indiana General Assembly for an increase in the tobacco tax in advance of the 2021 Legislative Session. This involved action alerts to our membership, participating in virtual meetings with key legislators -- including at a Teachers Union's Third House meeting where legislators and voters communicate in an open forum -- local legislative updates sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, and direct meetings with individual legislators. These efforts continued throughout the Legislative Session and were coordinated with other advocacy groups, including the American Heart Association, American Lung Association, and Raise It For Health. While our efforts to increase the tobacco tax were unsuccessful, our state legislators began to recognize the Indiana-ACC and its members for our meaningful healthcare advocacy on behalf of patients.
- Advocacy efforts expanded to support mask and vaccine mandates during special legislative sessions in the summer and winter.
- Testified against legislation (HB 1001) prior to the 2022 legislative session that would discourage local governments, school districts, and private companies from instituting vaccine mandates and passports. Action alert to membership followed.
- Dr. Westerhausen was the recipient of the 2021 ACC Legislative Conference Dee Mooty Grassroots Award for his work to improve public health.

INCREASE RELEVANCE AS THE CV PROFESSIONAL HOME

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- The Indiana-ACC Women in Cardiology (WIC) Section continues its activity with excellent leadership from Dr. Pantila Bateman and Dr. Kathleen Morris. The group met in Indianapolis on August 31, to hear author and attorney Susan Hunter speak on the topic of Busting the Generational Barriers.
- The Indiana-ACC Women in Cardiology (WIC) participated in #SheLooksLikeACardiologist: Developing Pathways for High School Girls to Pursue a Career in Cardiology as part of the Midwest Alliance WIC project, funded by ACC. It brought together more than 300 high school girls from across the Midwest. The program was virtual and included sessions about cardiology specialties and mentorship. Several of our Indiana-ACC WIC members delivered talks on their respective subspecialties and networked with the participating high school students.
- The Indiana-ACC WIC also participated in the 4th Annual Midwest Women in Cardiology (WIC) Virtual Symposium hosted by the Iowa-ACC. Our own Subha Raman, MD, FACC, was the keynote speaker.
- Emily Keltner leads the CV Team Council with the goal of engaging cardiovascular team members across the state. Ms. Keltner sent out a CV team eNewsletter to keep members apprised of activities.
- The Chapter cardio-oncology section interacted on the Chapter's Basecamp and participated in the ICON virtual meetings.

OPPORTUNITIES

- Roll out a discussion on compassion fatigue.
- Continue to promote CV Team members as collaborative associates, especially in the areas of chronic disease management and wellness-prevention.

GENERATE AND DELIVER ACTIONABLE KNOWLEDGE

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- 25TH Annual Meeting of the Indiana-ACC was held virtually on Saturday, October 9. It touched on: What Is Impacting CV Clinicians in 2021, Heart Failure, and Prevention. With attendees from Indiana and all over the world, it was a great interactive success with nearly 100 participants, 23 networking discussions, and 94 community board messages. The FIT/CV Team/Internal Medicine Resident poster competition showcased 11 abstracts. In addition, there was an oral competition. Winners of the poster competition and oral competition were selected by a panel of poster judges.
- Developed a webinar addressing OpenNotes with faculty participation from across the state. It examined Best Practices, Cures Act/Information Blocking/OpenNotes, A short synopsis of the legislation with potential implications for day-to-day clinical practice, How are hospital systems implementing OpenNotes in Indiana? Do I have to change how I document notes? What does it mean for workflows? What does it mean legally? What are the EHR implications? What will be different for the patient? What are the downstream effects on clinicians? The meeting is archived at https://www.inacc.org/opennotes-discussion-of-best-practices-3/
- Held three additional virtual educational meetings:
  3/18/21 *Managing Elevated LDL-C: New Guidelines and New Agents* with 73 participants.
  11/9/21 *Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension and Post-Capillary Pulmonary Hypertension Related to Left Heart Disease* with 31 participants.
  12/7/21 *Improving Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Outcomes: Early Diagnosis, Management, and Targeted Agents on the Horizon* with 50 participants.
- Collaborated with Cardiovascular & Diabetes Coalition of Indiana (CADI) on a February Heart Month program entitled Helping Patients Know Diabetes by Heart.
- Promoted educational opportunities offered by ACC.

OPPORTUNITIES

- Continue to offer members education in a virtual and hopefully in-person settings.

ADVANCE QUALITY, EQUITY, AND VALUE OF CV CARE

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Indiana-ACC Virtual Legislative Day held on January 22 with 16 members who met with State Legislators. Each component of the care team was represented including physicians, FITS, CV Team members, and administrators. We supported: Increasing the tobacco tax, taxing electronic products in parity with other cigarette products, and supporting maternal and infant health.
- Continued promotion of ACCPAC membership. The Indiana-ACC continues to rank high in ACCPAC contributions.
- Participated in the Indiana State Medical Association (ISMA) Specialty Society Leadership Conference to discuss and prioritize upcoming state legislation.
- Aligned with American Heart Association, Raise It for Health, and American Lung Association to address and support common advocacy issues with the State Legislature.

OPPORTUNITIES

- Continue to highlight topical issues through letters to the editor and other media outlets.

ENSURE ORGANIZATIONAL GROWTH AND SUSTAINABILITY

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Indiana-ACC has stable membership with 1037 members as of December 2021 vs. 971 at the beginning of 2021.
- Targeted growth in CV Team membership with 356 CV team members as of December vs 325 at the beginning of 2021.
- Held council elections. Targeted leadership pipeline with State Board of Directors. Current council includes physicians along with our current and past CV Team liaisons, four FITS, and one CV administrator.
- Continued focused investment strategy to capture greater returns for a portion of the Chapter assets. Healthy Chapter finances and profitable virtual Chapter Meeting this year with 8 sponsors who interacted with our membership virtually.
- Continued participation from Internal Medicine Residents in the Annual Meeting's Abstract Competition.

OPPORTUNITIES

- Foster early career and pre-early career involvement.