



A MESSAGE TO OUR FELLOWS AND MEMBERS

The world is living in a new reality. As COVID-19 becomes part of our everyday vocabulary, health care professionals are in a perpetual change mode. While our Public Health colleagues have warned of a calamitous pandemic, we were comforted by the feeling that we could respond swiftly to meet the challenges. As of March 26th only one country had no reported cases. The world's confidence is shaken, while medically advanced countries have realized that their responses are insufficient to meet the public's needs.

Thank you to our colleagues, fellows, and members who continue to step up and meet the challenges that we all face. It is with heartfelt gratitude that our community leaders have been thoughtful and reflective to ensure equity for all. As you will see from the list of resources in the COVID-19 section, we are eager to provide easy access to resources that meet the needs of health professionals and the public. There is an opportunity to focus on us and we during this time.

As we unite with you to ensure the health and wellbeing of health professionals, the IOMC continues to move forward on several fronts. Thank you to the PORTES FOUNDATION and THE MICHAEL REESE RESEARCH AND EDUCATION FOUNDATION for the initial funds towards evaluating the landscape of coalitions/alliances, data analytics and the organized ways to improve the wellbeing for more people in our area. IOMC continues to forge ahead on meaningful relationships with both old and new partners. Albeit, while the pandemic has put a damper on our efforts, we continue to make progress in new membership and program diversity. We continue to work with the Chicago Police Department and Midwest Business Group on Health on changing the tide for mental health care for our workforce.

As you are aware, IOMC adjusted our leadership breakfast during the onset of this pandemic and will be considering how best to use this year for fellowship and convening. If you have any suggestions, please let us know. We are excited that this time will be used to refine our webinars and on-line conferencing to enhance our Fellows and Members' experience for this new world.

Pandemic or not, IOMC is reflective of the future needs of our community. The world changes, and so do we. Like many organizations, we continue to be flexible to meet the ever-changing environment around us.

Again, thank you to all our colleagues whose efforts are making meaningful differences and contributions to keep populations healthy and safe, where possible!

Best regards,

Mark Grach

President, IOMC