



NEWSLETTER

January, 2025

A Note from the President

Happy New Year!

As we welcome 2025, I am filled with optimism and enthusiasm for the opportunities and advancements that lie ahead. Our collective dedication to enhancing mental health care in Maine has propelled us forward, and I am confident that we will accomplish even more together in the coming months.

In this edition, we will spotlight upcoming events and legislative updates. We are also looking for membership input on what is important to you within our community.

Warm regards,
Rob McCarley, MD, DFAPA
President, Maine Association of
Psychiatric Physicians

Congratulations Dr. Winston Chung, MD, FAPA



We are delighted to announce that Dr. Winston Chung has been honored with the title of Psychiatric Fellow. This prestigious recognition celebrates his exceptional contributions, innovative research, and dedication to advancing psychiatric knowledge.

Dr. Chung's work has significantly impacted both academic and practical fields, earning him widespread respect and numerous accolades. Beyond his professional achievements, he is also a valued mentor, guiding and inspiring the next generation of psychiatric scholars.

Please join us in congratulating Dr. Chung on this well-deserved honor. We look forward to his continued success and the positive impact he will make in the future.

Upcoming Events

2025 MAPP Spring Conference Date: May 1, 2025 Location: Harraseeket Inn, Freeport, ME Theme: Red and Yellow Flag Laws Join us for an in-depth exploration of red and yellow flag laws with expert speakers Margaret Groban, Lt. Colleen Adams, and Ben Strick. This event promises to be informative and engaging, providing valuable insights for all attendees.

[Register Here](#)



2024 Legislative Successes!

As the Maine District Branch of the American Psychiatric Association, MAPP wanted to highlight for 2024 the APA has had some key regulatory advocacy successes including:

- Equal pay for tele health and in person care: Care provided via telehealth will now be reimbursed by Medicare at the same rate as in-person care using existing evaluation and management codes for outpatient care.
- Prescribing Controlled Substances via telehealth: The Drug Enforcement Administration and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services issued a third extension of COVID-19 telehealth flexibilities for the prescribing of controlled substances, to be effective through December 31, 2025.
- Supervision via telehealth: The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services extended for another year the ability for residency training programs to supervise residents virtually when all parties are virtual.
- Removal of Barriers to Clozapine: The re-evaluation of the Clozapine REMS program, concluding in a vote of the FDA's advisory committees, to effectively remove barriers to access the highly effective medication.
- Closing MHPAEA Loopholes: The Department of Labor released its final rule, strengthening enforcement of the 2008 Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act by requiring insurers to provide data illustrating that their beneficiaries have access to mental health services.

Stay tuned for APA's Advocacy Action Challenge in 2025!

