

ICA-MALTBY*continued from page 4*

Obviously the numbers overwhelmingly support the chiropractic model. No surprise to us, but a big surprise to those who will be making the decisions concerning the future of health care in the US. ICA feels that it is imperative to let our legislators know the facts. That is why the focus of our April 24 legislative event in Washington, DC will be focused on the future of chiropractic care in the Medicare system.

Working with others

ICA is also working closely with other national associations to defend and advance the cause of chiropractic on a collective basis. ICA is an active partner in a working group comprised of a number of key chiropractic organizations and will be participating in the annual political action day sponsored by the American Chiropractic Association (ACA) in Washington, DC in February. Representatives of the ACA have agreed to participate in our event in April. This cooperative effort is long overdue and I am proud to be a part of it.

As with any legislative effort, the key is to mobilize our grass roots; in our case, the patients. ICA is currently implementing a mechanism which will have the ability to mobilize chiropractic patients from all over the US with the push of a button. We will have the ability to target any piece of legislation and communicate with any legislator at the speed of light.

We currently have in excess of 14,000 patients in the State of California who have agreed to be part of this effort. It is our goal to have in excess of 100,000 patients in the data base prior to the election of 2008. It is often said there

is safety in numbers. In the upcoming political struggles, this will certainly be true, and there will be safety because there is power in numbers too.

In order for these efforts to be successful, it requires a commitment on the part of each and every chiropractor, both physically and financially. Physically, signing up your patients to be an advocate for chiropractic. Financially, support the ICA through membership and the ICA Political Action Committee (ICA-PAC.) Funding the ICA-PAC is dependent upon your giving over and above the normal dues. We need to give now more than ever. We need to get our fellow DCs to join and contribute to the process. You can join by filling in the application form on page 4 and faxing or mailing it to ICA. You can also join online at www.chiropractic.org

As you will see our lead article in this issue is about the great victory for chiropractic in Italy in which legal recognition, after a struggle of many decades was achieved. That didn't just happen. It came about through the heroic efforts and giving of committed chiropractors, and the ICA is proud to have been a small but committed supporter of their efforts.

Now I call on all chiropractors in the US to come together and make a commitment, over and above anything you have done in the past. To get where we need to go, we need to research, mobilize, cooperate and above all, act. In this process ICA is a determined participant, made all the stronger with each individual doctor of chiropractic who joins us as a member. The time for us 'to boldly go where chiropractic has never gone before' is NOW. The alternative is simply to be left behind.

MEDICARE CONFERENCE*continued from page 3*

collective effort, to secure for chiropractic the role it deserves in caring for our senior citizens."

Additional details and registration information is available on ICA's website at www.chiropractic.org. The April 24th event will be held at the Washington Court Hotel, conveniently located near Capitol Hill at 525 New Jersey Avenue, NW Washington, DC. For hotel information/reservations call 202-628-2100 or visit their website at <http://www.washingtoncourthotel.com/>.

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