

# Chad Leighty

For ADA President-Elect 2024



Dear Colleagues and Friends:



My passion for the ADA began 24 years ago as a New Dentist. I experienced my first ADA House of Delegates in just my sixth year of practice. I immediately saw how the ADA was the leading voice for advocacy of our profession, and I realized the ADA would protect, challenge and develop me my entire career. I wanted to be a part of the organization that would shape my future. The ADA is my dental family, and I will do everything in my power to grow and protect that family.

Our profession has reached a transformative time. With the right leadership we will achieve our highest potential. The ADA deserves a leader that is relevant, bold, and can inspire innovation while respecting and learning from our past. I am a leader that will challenge those around me while building collaborative bridges among all generations, demographic backgrounds, and practice models.

As we embark on our new strategic forecasting governance model, I will ensure the ADA becomes a more agile and efficient organization so we can better meet your needs and expectations in a timely manner. Our future has never looked brighter and my vision and experience will help raise our profession to heights it has not seen before.

Our current and past leaders should be proud of the association they have worked hard to build. The ADA is the envy of other professional associations. Together let's build on that strong foundation and expand our legacy with respect, inclusion, and innovation. I humbly ask for your support so we can embark on this journey together. I will "Leight the way for the ADA!"

*Chad*





## Advocacy

Organized dentistry must engage policymakers at the federal, state, and local levels to ensure that legislation is passed that is supported by evidence based information. As dentists, we must establish and maintain the ability to operate our businesses and provide quality and affordable care for our patients. Our advocacy must protect the sanctity of the dentist-patient relationship from unnecessary government and third-party interference.



## Dental Insurance Reform

Addressing dental insurance reform is our most important issue. The ADA led the efforts to get McCarran-Ferguson reform passed in Congress and is supporting and assisting state dental associations in getting other dental insurance reforms, like noncovered services and dental medical loss ratio laws, passed in states across the country. We need to continue to make this a priority. We must ensure that dental insurers be held accountable by truly delivering a benefit to their enrollees and by treating dentists fairly in the process.



## Dental Workforce

The ADA must lead the way to address the workforce issues our members are facing. Proactive strategies to address workforce challenges include modernizing education models, incentivizing providers with loan repayment programs, changing scopes of practice where appropriate, and improving license portability. The ADA must lead on these issues at the national level and provide real-time support and assistance to states that choose any of these strategies.



## Engagement

We must be current and stay relevant by engaging all dental communities of interest including: dental education, licensing boards, DSOs, third party payers, and other stakeholders. As we set the course for the future of dentistry, we must maintain our core values of putting patients first, maintaining quality of care and promoting professionalism and dental ethics.



## Inclusion

The ADA must be the voice of ALL dentists. We must be a welcoming organization regardless of race, gender, religion, ethnicity, or practice type. Simply put...We are stronger together!



Chad engaging and consulting with ASDA Leaders: Justina Anigbo, Past National ASDA President; Chase Perkins, ASDA 7<sup>th</sup> District Trustee; Vishnu Vaid, Indiana School of Dentistry ASDA President; Alec Weiss, ASDA 7<sup>th</sup> District Chief of Staff of Service.

# Getting to Know Chad



As an experienced leader in organized dentistry at every level, Chad has a long history of visionary and inclusive leadership that challenges the status quo and pushes for relative innovation. He will use these skills and experiences to push the ADA to achieve its highest potential in helping every member succeed.



As the owner of a private practice for more than two decades and now a member of a Multi-Site Group Practice, Chad understands first-hand the value of both the traditional private dental practice and emerging group practice models. He will work to make sure the ADA is relevant to ALL dentists regardless of practice modality.



As a Medicaid provider and community leader for 30 years, Chad believes we have a duty to improve the health of the communities we serve. He brings this perspective to every decision he makes and will be an inspiring role model for his colleagues to follow. Chad leads by example.



## ADA

- 7th District Trustee • 2020-Present
- Budget Finance & Committee • 2020-Present, Chair 2023-2024
- Pension Committee • 2020-Present
- Task Force on DSO Engagement Chair • 2022-Present
- Council on Dental Practice Liaison • 2023-Present
- New Dentist Committee Liaison • 2022-2023
- ASDA Liaison • 2021-2022
- Council on Dental Education & Licensure • 2021-2022
- Committee on Annual Meetings • 2020-2022, Chair 2021-2022
- Pension Committee • 2016-2019
- Reference Committee on Budget & Administrative Affairs • 2013, Chair 2017
- Council on ADA Sessions Program • 2004-2007, Program Chair 2007



## INDIANA DENTAL ASSOCIATION

- President • 2015-2016
- Leadership Committee Chair • 2018-2020
- Council on Annual Session Chair • 2000-2011
- Council on Communications • 2009-2015
- Council on Government Affairs • 1999-2001
- Indiana Dental PAC Board • 1999-2013
- IDA Rising Star Award • 2001



## LOCAL

- Wabash Valley Dental Society • 1993-2018, Past President
- Grant County Dental Society • 1993-2018, Past President
- North Central Dental Society • 2018-Present



## DENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

- Mission of Mercy, Triage Lead Volunteer • 2015, 2017, 2019
- Dental Lifeline Network/DDS • 2007-Present
- Pierre Fauchard Academy • 2008-Present
- International College of Dentists • 2004-Present



## COMMUNITY

- Grant County Board of Health President • 2020-2022
- Grant County Community Foundation President • 2014-2015
- St. Paul Parish School Board, Past President • 2000-2006
- St. Paul Parish Liturgy Committee • 2000-2016
- Youth Soccer Coach • 2001-2007



## Education

- Doctor of Dental Surgery, Indiana University • 1993
- Bachelor of Arts-Chemistry, Indiana University • 1989



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