

The Control Coultern Marylana Dental Society





The COUNTY Published by the Southern Maryland Dental Society

"ORACLE

Save the Dates

Dec 8
GMM Live Webinar

2026

Jan 21-Mar 25 DA Xray Course

Feb 18
Dentist Day Annapolis

Mar 2 GMM In- Person

Mar 22-24 ADA Lobby Day

Apr 6 GMM Live Webinar



President's Message

Dear Colleagues- Especially "New" dentists who have graduated within the last 10 years,

If no one has said it lately — I SEE YOU.

I see you managing family life, patient care, student loan debt, and the pressure to build the career you envision. I see you trying to find your footing in a profession that's shifting quickly — shaped by new technology, changing insurance models, and the expanding presence of DSOs. And for those interested in ownership, I see how it can feel both exciting and increasingly out of reach. The "ands" feel endless.

Many of us entered dentistry with a purpose — to serve, to heal, and to make a meaningful impact. Yet the realities new dentists face today are heavy:

student loan debt often exceeding \$300,000, cautious lenders, competitive DSO offers, rising overhead costs, and the ongoing challenge of securing and retaining great staff. For anyone seeking stability or ownership, the hurdles can feel overwhelming.

Even so, I believe our generation is uniquely positioned to reimagine what dentistry can be. We are creative, tech-forward, wellness-minded, and unafraid to innovate. We are ready to lead in sustainable practice models and community-centered care that elevates dentistry beyond the chair. And together, we can push back against the predatory behaviors of insurance companies and advocate for a system that respects both patients and providers.

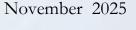
But shaping that future requires us to show up — for our families, our teams, our communities, and our profession. One of the most powerful ways to do that is through organized dentistry.

My mentor recently reminded me of this when asked, "Why should I join organized dentistry?"

His response:

"To make it your organization — to make it what you want it to be."

Continued on pg. 2







That truth matters. Change happens when we participate — when we show up to meetings, engage in the conversations that matter, and help set the direction of our profession. So, the question becomes:

What do we want organized dentistry to look like for us?

Well, what do we want dentistry as a profession to look like for us? How can organized dentistry help us get there? By participating and gaining membership, we can influence outcomes that are better aligned with the realities we face — from insurance reform, to student debt relief, to fair ownership pathways.

None of those changes will come from the sidelines. We must lean on each other.

In the coming new year, MSDA will be preparing for **Dentist Day**, I encourage you to participate. Lawmakers need to hear what it feels like to graduate under significant debt, care for patients in a system that undervalues prevention, and build a career in an increasingly corporate landscape. **Your voice has power,** and it belongs in those rooms. *Plus, it's fun!*

Here in Southern Maryland, our dental society is committed to mentorship, continuing education, advocacy, and leadership development. Whether you're in year one or year ten, you belong in this community. Your voice, your perspective, and your ideas matter.

Let's take ownership not just of our practices, but of our profession. Invite a non-member to get involved.

Let's continue to build a profession that reflects who we are — and who we aspire to become.

With gratitude and optimism,

Dr. Kristen Millender

President, Southern Maryland Dental Society

Stay Current on all Continuing Education
Trainings via our website!

SMDSDentists.Org



Southern Maryland Dental Society

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The SMDS will publish signed articles relating to all phases of dentistry (space permitting), but assumes no responsibility for opinions expressed by the contributors.

Acceptance of advertising in no way constitutes professional approval or endorsement.

Deadlines for all materials is the 1st of the month preceding the issue. Publishing dates are August, September, October, November, January, February, March, May

Editor's Letter

Greetings Colleagues,

Welcome to the November edition of the Oracle. I am thankful for your ongoing support is the heartbeat of our dental community.

Meet & Connect: Take a moment

to connect with colleagues across the state including events from our fellow colleagues at the Fredereick County Dental Society. Additionally don't miss out on the upcoming Dentist Day, Lobby Day & MSDA Retreat. Encourage colleagues to join our dynamic community and reap the rewards of membership.

Diabetes Awareness: November is National Diabetes Month. Nearly half (46%) of all adults aged 30 years or older show signs of gum disease; about 2 in 3 (68%) adults aged 65 years or older have gum disease. We play a pivotal role in managing oral health related to diabetes and educating our patients about the oral-systemic connection. Check out the Center for Disease Control's Oral Health Home website for more data and resources.

Your Voice Matters: Your feedback is invaluable. Share your insights to enhance our newsletter.

As we enter the holiday season remember to check in on your loved ones, our veterans, those afflicted by natural disasters and stay safe for all of those traveling!

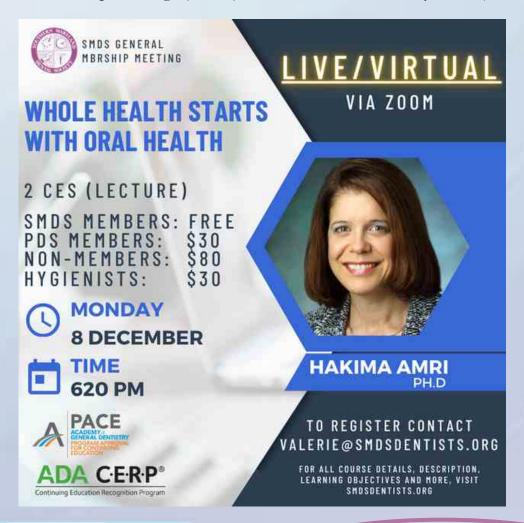
As always, remember to stay connected to at <u>smdsdentists.org</u>.

Warm regards, Dawn Clarke, DDS smds.newsletter@gmail.com



Upcoming Meetings

Please mark your calendars and save the date for these upcoming meetings and events below. Note: General membership meetings (GMM) dates are in **bold** and may be subject to changes.



REMINDER

General Membership Meetings are FREE to SMDS members who register in advance.

Failure to register at least one week in advance will result in a \$25.00 late charge.

To register <u>Please call</u> 301.345.4196 or <u>Email</u> valerie@smdsdentists.org

2025

Dec 8- GMM Live Webinar Dr. Hakima Amri

2026

Feb 18 Dentist Day

Mar 2 GMM In- Person

Apr 6 GMM Live Webinar

Event Highlight

Thank you to everyone who attended our last GMM where Dr. Vivek Thumbigere Math lectured on Medication Related Osteonecrosis of the Jaw. A special thank you to our vendors and SMDS staff for working hard to help organize and facilitate another successful meeting.

















DONATIONS NEEDED

FOR JAMAICA RELIEF EFFORT

Organized by Dr. Maurice Miles

WHERE TO SEND DONATIONS

Miles of Smiles 14300 Gallant Fox Ln #106 Bowie, MD 20715 (301) 262-6696

The office will handle all shipping to Jamaica

Clothing

- Socks, shirts, underwear, shoes
- Baby clothes, lightweight blankets

General Supplies

- Flashlights, batteries, solar chargers
- Towels, toys
- · School supplies, backpacks
- · First aid items



REOUESTED DONATION TEMS

- Toothpaste, moutrinse, toothbrushes, floss
- Soap, shampoo, lotion, deodorant
- Baby wipes, diapers, puil-ups

Cleaning Supplies

- Laundry detergent
- Dish soap
- Garbage bags

Your support will make a meaningful difference. Thank you for helping us bring comfort, dignity, and hope to families in Jamaica. Subject: Exclusive Leadership Opportunity for MSDA Members Dear Valued Member, We're excited to announce that the ADA has extended its Leadership Academy, powered by Dale Carnegie, application period and is now accepting more applicants! The new deadline is December 3rd, 2025.

This program is designed to strengthen your leadership, communication, and personal development skills while connecting you with a cohort of MSDA peers equally committed to growing as leaders in dentistry.

> **Register Today!** tinyurl.com/adaleadershipacademy

What You'll Receive:

30 Hours of Dale Carnegie Leadership Training

Self-paced program with on-demand and live instructor-led sessions
Focus areas include communication and leadership
One full year from enrollment to complete the program
EarnacertificateofcompletionanddigitalbadgesforLinkedIn,yourwebsite, or C
\$5.000 value fully covered by the ADA for participating members

Dale Carnegie Leadership Academy Curriculum All topics below are delivered as Live Online Sessions

Professional Essentials

- Disagree Agreeably
- Build Better Relationships by Remembering Names Present with Impact
- Communicate Effectively
- · Communicate with Personality Styles
- Analyze Problems & Make Decisions
- Manage Workplace Stress
- SMARTER Goal Setting
- Managing Up
- Collaborate with Others

Each track earns a digital badge

Blended format: Live Online + Self-Directed

Presentations Essentials

- Successful Public Speaking
- Present Complex Information
- · Present to Persuade
- The Art of Storytelling
- · How to Present Online
- Virtual Meetings that Engage

On-Demand Course:

How to Win Friends & Influence People: Secrets of Success Includes 36 videos + downloadable guidebook

Why This Program Is Worth Your Time:

Dr. Amir Kazim, Member, ADA Council on Communications, shares it best:

"When patients feel heard, they return.

When teams feel supported, they stay.

And when leaders lead with empathy, the entire profession rises.

This program has been a game-changer for me, both personally and professionally.

I strongly encourage my peers to take advantage of it. The impact lasts far beyond the final session."

Next Steps:

Enrollment is on a first-come, first-served basis. To participate, please respond by December 3rd to reserve your spot. Once confirmed, you will receive your enrollment information and the ADA Leadership Academy.

Please register here: https://ncv7db9sg2a.typeform.com/to/vGOzkDrN

Warm regards,

MSDA, Leadership Committee & ADA Leadership Academy Team



BULLETIN

Maryland State Board of Dental Examiners

Change in Continuing Education Requirements for Dentists and Dental Hygienists

THIS BULLETIN AMENDS THE PREVIOUS BULLETIN AND NOW INCLUDES THOSE WHO ARE SCHEDULED TO RENEW THEIR DENTAL OR DENTAL HYGEINE LICENSE IN 2027

These Frequently Asked Questions are intended to provide dentists and dental hygienists with a brief summary of the significant changes to the continuing education regulations that took effect on March 3, 2025. This document is not a comprehensive review of the regulations. You are strongly encouraged to read the attached regulations titled Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) 10:44.22 Continuing Education in their entirety. References are to the attached regulations.

What are the New Infection Control Course Requirements?

The required number of hours for the infection control course has increased from 2 to 3 hours. The infection control course must be taken as a condition of license renewal (.04M). The course must be a single 3-hour Board-approved course (.04BB). All courses must be Board-approved (.04A). The required number of continuing education bours remains at 30 (.04B).

What is the Time Frame for Completing Continuing Education?

Prior to the recent changes, the 2-year time to complete your continuing education ended on December 31st of the year preceding the year of your license renewal. The present period will coincide directly with the renewal period. Therefore, the new timeframe for completing continuing education extends for 2 years from July 1 through June 30 of the second year following the effective date of your renewal (.05).



10.44.22.05

.05 Time Frame for Completing Continuing Education.

A. The period for completing continuing education requirements extends for a 2-year period from July 1 through June 30 of the second year following the effective date of the license.

B. The 2-year period in which the continuing education shall be completed ends on June 30 of the year in which the license is due for renewal.

C. For the renewal period beginning on June 1, 2025, only, the period for completing continuing education requirements extends for the period January 1, 2023, through June 30, 2025.

Upcoming Requirements: Reporting Noncontrolled Prescription Drug Dispenses

Dear Drug Dispensing Permit Holders,

We are writing to let you know about upcoming reporting requirements for noncontrolled prescription drugs (non-CDS) dispensed in Maryland. Maryland law (Health General Article §19-145) requires licensed dispensers, including dentists with dispensing permits, to electronically submit non-CDS dispense information to CRISP. Dispensers must begin reporting non-CDS dispense information to CRISP by September 1, 2025.

Dispenser Manual

The final Noncontrolled Prescription Drugs Dispenser Data Submission Manual is available here and aligns closely, to the extent possible, with the Maryland PDMP Data Submitter Guide. A multi-stakeholder approach guided iterative development of the manual, which offers dispensers technical guidance for submitting non-CDS information to CRISP.

Waiver Requests

COMAR 10.25.18.13F allows dispensers that meet certain conditions to request a time-limited waiver from non-CDS reporting. A waiver request form is available here and includes more information on who can request a wavier and how to submit a wavier request for MHCC's consideration.

For more information on non-CDS reporting, please visit MHCC's dedicated <u>webpage</u>. Questions can be directed to <u>mhcc.noncds@maryland.gov</u>.

Note: dispensers who do not already submit dispense data to the Maryland PDMP must register with RxGov here in order to submit data. Prior to submitting any non-CDS data, CRISP requires all submitters have a data agreement in place. This may be either a Participation Agreement, which allows for data submission and clinical access, or a Connection Agreement, which allows for data submission only. Contact the CRISP Technical User Support team by phone at 1.877.952.7477 or email at support@crisphealth.org for questions and to access an agreement. Pharmacies should include "Pharmacy Onboarding for Non-CDS – [Agreement Name of your choosing]" in the subject of the email.

Maryland State Board of Dental Examiners

Spring Grove Hospital Campus The Benjamin Rush Building 55 Wade Ave/Tulip Drive Catonsville, MD 21228

visit tinyurl.com/drugdispensing for more details

Save the Date for Upcoming MSDA & ADA & Fellow FCDS Events!







2026 MSDA Dentist Day

February 18, 2026

Governor Calvert Inn, Annapolis, MD 2026 MSDA Member Perks Retreat

March 6-8, 2026

Wisp Resort, McHenry, MD

2025 ADA Dentist and Student Lobby Day

March 22-24, 2026

Marriott Marquis, Washington DC

Save the Dates for Upcoming FCDS Continuing Education Seminars & Social Events:

Thursday, November 13, 2025

Sasan Jafari, DDS, MS

Cone Beam Computed Tomography (CBCT) in Modern Dental Practice

Thursday, March 19, 2026

India Chance, RDH

Learn Today, Prevent Tomorrow! Infection Control for Dental Professional

Tuesday, May 12, 2026

Topic & Speaker Forthcoming!

Regular CE meetings will be held at Dutch's Daughter Restaurant in Frederick. Additional meetings may be added.



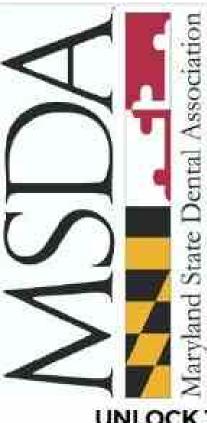


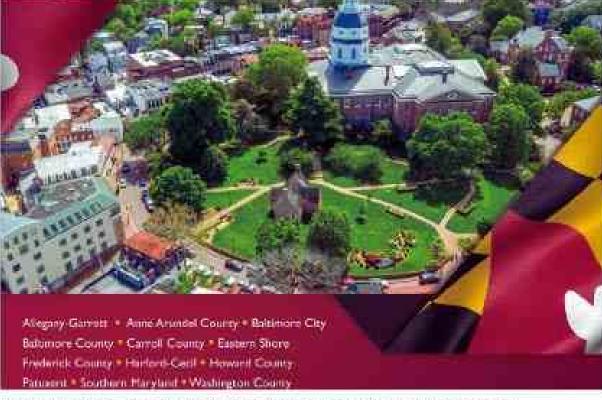
Visit

dentalmuseum.com/msdamembers

or scan the QR Code below for a **1-year FREE membership** to the National Museum of Dentistry.







UNLOCK THE POWER OF MEMBERSHIP WITH MSDA: YOUR GATEWAY TO EXCEPTIONAL BENEFITS!

WHY CHOOSE THE MSDA?

As a member of the Maryland State Dental Association, you are part of a dynamic community that's dedicated to advancing the dental profession. Explore the incredible benefits that come with your MSDA membership:



CAREER ADVANCEMENT

- Propel your career with guidance and support from MSDA Career Center.
- Join committees and engage in leadership opportunities.
- Access tooks to help you succeed in the derital field



STAY INFORMED

- Stay up-to-date on the latest industry news and trends.
- Advocate for derital healthcare at local and national levels.
- Receive exclusive updates on legislative matters affecting your practice.



EXCLUSIVE DISCOUNTS

- Enjoy member-only discounts on products and services through MSDA Member Perks.
- Access special rates for MSDA events and conferences.



PROFESSIONAL GROWTH

- Access to cutting-edge dental education and CE opportunities.
- Stay ahead with industry-leading seminars and workshops.
- Receive valuable resources and publications to enhance your practice.



NETWORKING

- Build lasting connections with fellow dental. professionals.
- Connect at exclusive MSDA events and conferences.
- Collaborate and share insights with peers who understand your journey.



ADVOCACY

- Be part of a unified voice for dentistry in Maryland.
- Influence policy decisions that impact your profession. Participate in advocacy efforts for the betterment
- of oral healthcare.

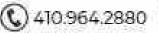
ELEVATE YOUR DENTAL CAREER, EXPERIENCE EXTRAORDINARY BENEFITS AND MORE.

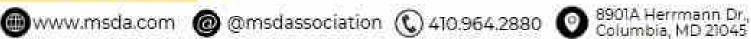
STRENGTHEN YOUR CONNECTION TO THE DENTAL COMMUNITY!

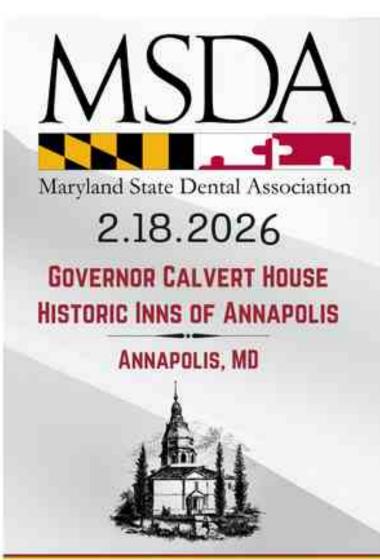
CONTACT US



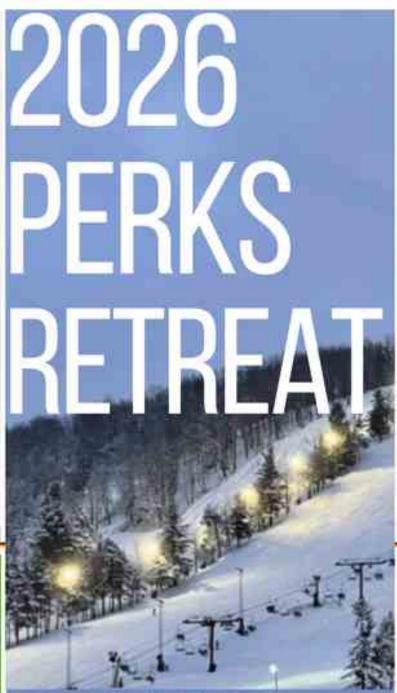












APRES SKI AND CE

3.5.26 - 3.8.26

Earn up to 8 CE credits while enjoying the scenic Western MD mountains. Bring your office staff, family members, and spouses to join in the fun. Registration will open soon.



GET FREE

MEMBERSHIP

FOR THE REST

OF THE YEAR

Join now with our 15 for 12 offer – pay nothing for the rest of 2025 when you commit

to auto-renew for 2026





- √ Full access to member-only resources
- ✓ Continuing education & licensing support
- √ National & state Legislative advocacy
- √ Networking with top dental professionals
- ✓ Discounts on events, products, & services



OFFER AVAILABLE NOW!

Secure your **2026 membership** today and enjoy benefitsnow through **December 2026**

Questions? Call Membership at 410-964-4325 or email Membership@MSDA.com

JOIN HERE

*This offer allows you to join membership for 2026 at the 2025 national, state and local dues rate. A credit card and commitment to auto-renew is a requirement of this offer. This offer is non-transferable. Details about this offer and the auto-renew program are available in the application.

SOUTHERN MARYLAND DENTAL SOCIETY

AN ADA CERP RECOGNIZED PROVIDER 4920 Niagara Road, Suite 306, College Park, MD 20740

Tele:301-345-4196 Web site: www.smdsdentists.org. E-mail: Janice@smdsdentists.org

DENTAL ASSISTING RADIOLOGY AND BASIC ANATOMY - UPDATE

11 classes - 8 held in our classroom & 3 Virtual January 21, - March 25, 2026

This course prepares the dental assistantwho is employed in a dental office to sit for the Dental Assisting National Board Exam in Radiation Health & Safety Certification. All clinical practice takes place at the student's place of employment (including bringing in x-rays). A total of 11 classes which are 33 hours of class time. If you have any questions, please call 301-345-4196. Course requirements: 18 years of age, high school grad or equivalency, 3 months experience and the signature of employing dentist on the application verifying employment & commitment of clinical supervision. *Fluency in English is required*.

TUITION: Member/Staff \$585. or Non-Member \$645., Fee Includes Book Pkg. DATES: Jan: 21,28,Feb.4,11,18,25,Mar.4,11,18,25 Wed. & 3Virtual Fridays TBA. TIME: 6:00p.m.—9:00p.m., LOCATION: College Park Classroom & Virtual Dates TBA REFRESHER HOURS: During regular classes. Members Staff \$175. & Non-members \$195.

APPLICATION – Please Print Clearly

COURSE TITLE:		 DATE	
LEGAL NAME:		AMOUNT ENCLOSED	
HOME ADDRESS:		AMOUNT ENCEOSED	
PHONE/CELL:	EMAIL		
DENTIST'S NAME:		PHONE	
OFFICE ADDRESS:		FAX	
I agree to evaluate the a	e to provide clinical experience und applicants' performance. Once the coerform these duties until the require	ourse is completed the assistant	
certification received. Nov. 2025	Dentist's Signature	Date	

Call 301-345-4196 to inquire about next training

NOTICE TO APPLICANTS

The provisions of this publication are not to be regarded as a contract between the student and the Southern Maryland Dental Society (SMDS). The SMDS reserves the right to change any provision or Requirements when such action will serve the interests of the SMDS and other applicants. The SMDS Further reserves the right to ask a student to withdraw when it considers such action in the best interest Of the SMDS. Class size is limited. FLUENCY IN ENGLISH IS REQUIRED.

SMDS is committed to a policy of equal opportunity for all persons to the end that no person, on the Grounds of sex, race, age, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status or status as a qualified individual with a disability shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity of the SMDS

TO REGISTER - Complete the information on the application and return it at least 10 days prior to the starting date along with payment to: Southern Maryland Dental Society, 4920 Niagara Road, Suite 306, College Park, Maryland 20740. **REFUNDS** can only be given if you withdraw 10 days prior to the first class. A \$30.00 administration fee will be charged for your refund or transfer. **BOOKS** can be picked Up during regular office hours once registration and payment is complete. Classes are held in Suite 300 At this same address unless otherwise indicated. **CHECKS** or Money Orders are to be made payable to the Southern Maryland Dental Society (SMDS). We do not take credit or debit cards. **Late Registration** Is possible based on availability. For additional information contact Janice Farber at 301-345-4196.

Other Location: Maryland State Dental Association, Columbia, MD., 410-964-2880.

MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS APPROVED PATHWAYS FOR CERTIFIED RADIATION TECHNICIAN ALL PATHWAYS REQUIRE A BOARD APPROVED RADIATION COURSE (SOURCE MSDA)

Pathway I

- * 18 years of age
- * 3 months (300 hours full time in clinical setting in a dental office
- * Basic oral anatomy course
- * Must be working in a dental office for direct clinical supervision

Pathway II

- * 18 years of age
- * Pre-test for acceptance into radiology course (basic oral anatomy and dental terminology)
- * If student fails pre-test, must take basic dental assisting course
- * Must be working in a dental office for direct supervision
- Pathway III
- * Basic Dental Assisting Course prior to Board approved Radiology Course (18 years of age for Radiology)

 Not taken concurrently.
- * Must be working in dental office for direct clinical supervision, unless classroom facility offers hands on clinical.

Students are required to have the appropriate non-returnable books, workbook & handouts for each course.



The Classifieds

DENTAL OPERATORY FOR SUB-LEASE!!

Great option for retired Dentists who want to practice 1 or 2 days per week OR new graduates looking for opportunity to future

buy-in/full purchase of an established community general family practice.

Available: 2 large fully equipped Ops with assets valued \$250,000. in spacious 3000 square feet of 6 Ops; 21st Century digital private

practice. Prime location downtown Silver Spring, MD. 20910; 2nd Floor with parkview; at 1300 Spring St. off busy street - Georgia Ave;

Please make contact by email: DentalAppt4U@Hotmail.com

SPACE FOR RENT 2-3 DAYS/WEEK

A 4-operatory office space in Silver Spring Maryland is available for rent 2-3 days a week. If interested, please send a text to 301-275-5752.



Volunteer/donate today: linktr.ee/msdafoundation