**2017 CAPA Presidential Address**

I have some big shoes to fill as I step in as President of the Capital Area Pharmacists Association (CAPA) for 2017. Last year’s President & 2017 Chairman of the Board, Julie Terenzi, has done a wonderful job leading the Association and expanding on CAPA’s key initiatives. It is my hope that this progress will continue over the next year.

One of the things I’ve learned to appreciate most about our local Association is the willingness to try things differently. During my term on the CAPA Executive Board, I have seen a wide variety of ideas tried to improve upon some of our key focus areas: charity, fundraising, social gatherings and, of course, membership recruitment. With several fresh faces on the Board in 2017, I’m looking forward to seeing what exciting new opportunities the Association will engage in during the coming year.

It’s early in 2017, and CAPA has already been hard at work. With January being Human Trafficking Awareness Month, CAPA has partnered with the House of Promise and Central Pharmacy to raise awareness regarding this important issue and raise funds to establish a shelter for victims of human trafficking in the Lansing area. In the next few months, the Board hopes to provide an opportunity for the pharmacists in our area to meet with our legislators and discuss the key issues that are important to improving care for our patients.

These are just a few of the opportunities we’ve been discussing for the coming year. We’ll also be looking forward to our regular live continuing education programs and dinners which provide members an opportunity to network while working towards fulfilling their licensure requirements. Additionally, we’ll be continuing community outreach activities related to poison prevention and American Pharmacist’s Month.

None of this could be possible without the support of our members. Thank you to all of you who volunteer your time and resources to support our initiatives. I’m honored to serve as your President this year, and look forward to the coming year.

Sincerely,

Eric Roath, Pharm.D.

CAPA President, 2017