



September 30, 2015

Dear Presidents and Presidents-Elect,

It was a pleasure speaking with many of you at our ECD Fall Conference this month. If I didn't get the chance to visit with you, I apologize. If time had permitted I would have enjoyed sitting down at each table and getting to know everyone a little better! I'd like to thank Covenant HealthCare once again for the excellent job they did as our co-hosts. And I'd like to thank each of you who attended the Conference. Most of you filled out the Conference Evaluation Form and I very much appreciate that. We take your comments and ideas very seriously and will keep in mind your suggestions as we plan for the future.

Next on the agenda is the MAHA Fall Conference at Crystal Mountain. I'm hoping that many of you will be able to attend. This year the vendors will be present for 2 days rather than 1 so there will be ample opportunity to visit them and glean ideas for your future fundraisers. Networking sessions are planned for you, as well as several speakers who will share timely information on topics of interest. Please remember to **bring a gift basket** from your volunteer/auxiliary group for the giveaway. It's always fun to go home with a present you didn't expect! I'd also like to remind you that we are once again participating in Harvest Gathering which will benefit those less fortunate in the northern Michigan area. We'll be accepting non-perishable foodstuffs as well as paper goods, cleaning supplies, etc. as we help to meet those needs. Lastly, we're also going to have a **"white elephant" gift exchange**, so bring a wrapped "surprise" and join in the fun!

The date has been set for the **2016 Healthcare Advocacy Day** in Lansing (see below). Please set mark your calendars and plan to participate, as you will receive the latest legislative updates and be given the opportunity to share your concerns and opinions with your legislators at that time.

Our President-Elect, Sheryllynn Russo, would like to thank you for the articles you submitted for the fall 2015 edition of the ECD Chronicle. As your year progresses, I would encourage you to jot down anything that comes to mind that you would like to share with our district. Then, when Sheryl contacts you for articles for the spring 2016 Chronicle, you'll already be prepared!

During the next few months I will be contacting each of the volunteer/auxiliary groups in our East Central District. I would like to learn more about your organizations and your hospitals. I also would be honored to install your new officers and spend some time visiting with you at your yearly luncheons. If there is anything that I can do for you, please let me know!

I do hope that you enjoy the fall colors and have some cider and sugar doughnuts during this beautiful season in Michigan! Soon enough, the snow will be flying and we'll be trying to stay warm! Until next time...

*Carol Crane*

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<b>OCTOBER 12-14, 2015</b>	<b>MAHA FALL CONFERENCE</b>	<b>CRYSTAL MOUNTAIN, THOMPSONVILLE</b>
<b>APRIL 19, 2016</b>	<b>HEALTHCARE ADVOCACY DAY</b>	<b>LANSING, MICHIGAN</b>
<b>MAY 25, 2016</b>	<b>ECD SPRING MEETING</b>	<b>HORIZON CENTER, SAGINAW</b>
<b>JUNE 7-9, 2016</b>	<b>MAHA ANNUAL MEETING</b>	<b>GRAND HOTEL, MACKINAC ISLAND</b>