

May 1, 2020

Area 3 Council

Dear Area 3 Council Members:

It is with great pleasure that I write to nominate Dr. **Joan Han** for the Area 3 RFM Member Deputy Representative for the Assembly of the American Psychiatric Association (APA). Dr. Han is currently a post-graduate year two (PGY-2) resident at the University of Maryland/Sheppard Pratt psychiatry residency program. I believe that Dr. Han is an exceptional candidate for this position due to her excellent clinical skills, interpersonal qualities, and demonstrated leadership both within our program and in her medical school.

Dr. Han received her B.A. degree in Psychology with a Minor in Management Science from the University of California, San Diego in 2011, where she graduated with Provost Honors. She earned her D.O. degree from Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine in 2018. She joined the University of Maryland/Sheppard Pratt Psychiatry Residency Program in July 2018. Since joining our program, she has been an outstanding resident.

Dr. Han is an outstanding, mature, poised, compassionate, hardworking and professional clinician with superb patient care skills. She has done well in all her rotations. She has excellent diagnostic and management abilities which far exceed her time of training. Perhaps most exceptionally, she can establish rapport with a wide range of patients, many of which have severe psychopathology. She has shown herself to be a strong advocate for her patients, a further indication of her admirable and unrelenting commitment to those she is treating.

Despite only being a PGY2 resident, several of her faculty supervisors have commented that they would very much like to see her join the faculty upon completion of her residency.

What makes Dr. Han particularly suited to be the area three RFM Deputy representative are her strong leadership and advocacy skills. As a medical student she was the founder and chair of her medical school's medical student mental health committee. This committee was dedicated to advocating for medical student mental health. As part of her work, she developed an annual mental wellness screening for the student body. She organized educational seminars and the survey and seminars that she created are now a standard part of the medical school curriculum. In addition, she was the mentoring chair for the Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine peer mentors program.

In recognition of her exemplary work as a peer mentor she received the MSUCOM Peer Mentor of the Year Award. She also received the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine outstanding achievement in medical education award for her work establishing the medical student mental health committee.

Since joining our residency program, Dr. Han has continued to provide leadership and advocacy for the residency group. She has been her class's representative to our program evaluation committee. In addition, she was instrumental in advocating for appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) at one of our participating sites. This site was slow to adjust to the presence of the coronavirus pandemic, but through

Dr. Han's persistent yet diplomatic efforts, the site ultimately provided appropriate PPE for the residents and adjustments were made to their on-call activities to reduce their potential exposure to the virus.

It is not uncommon for residents to complain about certain aspects of their training, but it is unusual to have a resident so early in her career to recognize issues and then to set about solving the problem. Another example of Dr. Han doing this has to do with our short call schedule. She recognized a better way for the residents to be organized doing short call, received our permission to pilot her proposal, and then submitted it for adoption by the residency program, which we quickly did.

As her program director, I will make sure that she has the time available to attend to all committee meetings.

In summary, Dr. Han is the ultimate team player and problem solver. She has an outstanding record of leadership and advocacy. She will be an excellent area three RFM representative. I give Dr. Han my highest recommendation.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark J. Ehrenreich". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

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