

By Chirag Patel, MD

# Longer Days, Stronger Voices: A Season for Advocacy and Connection



One of my favorite months of the year is March—the days finally turn longer and the weather starts to warm up for fun springtime activities!

The spring gives me a chance to be outdoors, and one of my favorite places to be is the White Water Center. There's no better way to enjoy the sun other than white water rafting, rock climbing, or hitting the ropes course (pictured below). We at MCMS are excited to involve you in some of our spring programming that will focus on comradery and advocacy.



I recently re-connected with Chip Baggett, President of the North Carolina Medical Society here in Charlotte. He and NCMS have been instrumental in advocating for us at the state level. The legislative cabinet has focused on issues that I know many of you are concerned about, such as scope of practice, Medicaid reimbursement, and prior authorization.

MCMS will be partnering with NCMS during their White Coat Wednesday on April 30th. This is a great chance for us to meet with legislators in Raleigh to have our voices heard! We will have our own MCMS town hall with our legislators in the summer, so be on the lookout for more information soon about this incredible opportunity!

I think what makes MCMS special is the people and mentorship. Despite being so early in my career, I feel well-supported by the senior members. I remember attending my first MCMS social at Suffolk Punch and immediately found mentorship outside of my training program. Good mentors can open doors for you in areas you never considered, so always consider leaning into your mentors for support or mentoring younger physicians who are looking to learn more about what it means to be a doctor outside of the walls of a hospital. Come join us at our next social; we are working hard to plan one for the spring!

### **SAVE THE DATES**

PA Day at the Legislature day - March 19

Retired Physicians - Welton Society Luncheon - April 10

White Coat Wednesday - April 30

Safe Alliance Walk a Mile - May 17

Gala - Friday, October 3

