



## MSD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



### Andrea C. DeSimone, DO



Joined MSD: September 23, 2021



**SPECIALTY:** Psychiatry

**LOCATION:** Bayhealth, Kent Campus

*Chair, Department of Psychiatry*

**What prompted you to decide to join MSD?**

Physician organizations such as MSD play a crucial role in policy making, legislation, and advocacy as well as provide an avenue for physicians to network, share ideas, and learn from each other.

**What is your hometown?**

River Vale, NJ.

**What made you come to Delaware?**

Having grown up in New Jersey and completed medical training in Philadelphia and Boston, I was looking to be near my family members who now reside near the Delaware beaches. Bayhealth offered a unique opportunity to create a hospital psychiatric consultation service from the ground up and exponentially increase access to psychiatric services in central and southern Delaware.

**When did you decide to go into medicine and why?**

During college, I was drawn to classes that explored both human nature and the mind-body connection such as anthropology, neuroscience, literature, and religious studies. I spent one summer as an intern at a drug and alcohol treatment program to better understand how these fields interacted. I was struck by the concurrent medical, psychiatric, and existential suffering the patients experienced and I began to appreciate that proper treatment addressed both mind and body. I decided that summer that the right path for me was medicine with a specialty in psychiatry.

**What do you like to do in your spare time?**

One of the great things about Delaware is that I have easy access to beautiful beaches as well as two large metropolitan areas. In my spare time you can find me reading a book on my deck, cooking, or enjoying the ocean, beach, or pool.

**What would you like to see MSD work on?**

I am passionate about the interplay between mind and body and I strive for my patients to gain a deeper understanding of psychiatry's role in both physical and mental health. As such, it is important that we are able to use our collective voice to advocate for not only increased psychiatry and mental health services in Delaware but also attract top-notch physicians in all specialties to better serve Delawareans.

**Where do you see yourself in 10 years?**

I envision continuing in a clinical, leadership, administrative, and educational roles to serve the unique needs of those with medically complex illnesses.