



President's Message

March 20, 2022

A few weeks ago I planned this Spring 2022 newsletter to be themed with renewal and reemergence after another round of Covid-19 uncertainty and gray skies. Thank goodness we can still look forward to those positive changes but the pall of the devastation in Ukraine is omnipresent. So, what can we do about it?

To address this and other humanitarian crises around the globe please consider donating resources to the organizations listed at [this link](#). They have been vetted by the American Society of Association Executives™ (ASAE) and are aiding and providing some relief to people in Ukraine and beyond. Time and talent, finances, and food, all is needed.

We can also reach out to our AIAS and Emerging Professional members and facilitate dialogue that focuses on a common mission of safe, equitable and – in this case – emergency shelter. I have heard from academic leaders and adoptive parents who are guiding our younger peers through mixed emotions of shock, embarrassment, and even guilt over their country of origin. We've seen this before during tragic events of international crises and racial injustices. We cannot design away tragedy but we *can* channel angst and anger into meaningful solutions to stabilize and secure the lives of millions of displaced refugees. Let's think about this a bit more. I look forward to your ideas.

While it has been a challenging month in many ways, I am happy to share that here in Michigan we made great progress on several advocacy fronts. Our Legislative Day was a success, several chapters provided input to LARA Bureau of Construction Code regarding the Energy Code, and we saw updates to administrative rules to clarify and simplify language and reciprocity, among other topics. The complete rules can be downloaded from the State of Michigan's Department of Licensing and Regularity Affairs website. Here is a direct Link to the PDF [MI Administrative Code](#). Thank you Patrick Barry for putting together the update shared in Monday Minutes! How lucky we are to have such open, candid dialogue with our leaders, and to have our great Government Affairs Committee and members that stepped up to champion these efforts.

I look forward to seeing many of you in person at our [AIA Michigan - Health Facilities Planning Seminar](#) on April 7th-8th and hearing your good news as well!

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cindy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "C" and a long, sweeping tail.

Cindy Pozolo, FAIA
AIA Michigan President