

### Sherri Baker, MD



When Sherri Baker, MD, counts her lucky stars, the one that shines brightest is having had wise and wonderful mentors at every step of her journey in medicine.

On her second day in medical school at the University of Oklahoma, her future mentors encouraged her to join county and state medical associations, as well as the American Medical Association, and to not be just a joiner, but to become an active participant. Taking their advice to heart, she presented the first-ever Oklahoma resolution to the AMA-MSS on presumed consent for organ donation. Although it was not adopted, she was not discouraged and, in fact, was energized by the experience.

A residency in pediatrics at Kapi'olani Hospital for Women and Children in Hawaii and a fellowship in pediatric cardiology at Duke University School of Medicine gave Sherri a chance to experience and learn about the range of practice in American medicine. However, an opportunity to practice pediatric cardiology at her alma mater lured her back to the Sooner State where she resumed her involvement in organized medicine.

Six months into her practice, she was elected to the Oklahoma delegation to the AMA and has been an active participant ever since. Her work in the organization led to other involvement in the Oklahoma State Medical Association where she served as speaker and later as the youngest-ever elected president. It was during her presidency that the nurse practitioners launched a campaign before the state legislature to gain independent practice. Sherri led Oklahoma physicians in successfully defeating that misguided attempt and in providing legislators with an alternative path to addressing the physician shortage in their state.

At her day job, Sherri devotes her time to a busy clinical practice and the OU College of Medicine administrative duties. Over the past 13 years as dean of admissions, she has led a team in revising the school's admissions process with a focus on a quantitative, evidence-based system. This system focuses not only on academic preparedness but on personal traits, such as resilience and reliability, that are critically important in our profession. Now, Sherri would like to bring her years of experience in daily practice and in medical education to the work of the AMA Council on Medical Education.

Despite a full schedule, fall Saturdays find Sherri cheering on her beloved Oklahoma Sooners football team or outside enjoying a game of golf with friends.

The Oklahoma State Medical Association is joined by the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American College of Cardiology, the American Society of Anesthesiologists, the Heart Rhythm Society, Heart of America Caucus and the Oklahoma County Medical Society in asking for your vote to elect Sherri Baker, MD, to the AMA Council on Medical Education.

#### **Personal statement:**

*"Medical education is a journey. Sometimes we are the learner and sometimes we are the teacher. Sometimes we are both. Always, we are changed."*