## Altha J. Stewart, M.D. Candidate for 2017 APA President-Elect Statement to Indo-American Psychiatric Association

Dear IAPA members:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide members of APA's largest allied organization with information about my priorities if I am elected as APA President. I've worked with several IAPA members over the years, most recently in the APA Faith-Mental Health Partnership. I've spent my career in the public sector, first in community mental health settings and later managing large public behavioral health systems.

I am running for APA President to use my experience and skill to address the challenges facing members of both organizations, including changes in MOC requirements, the impact of policy and regulatory changes on clinical practice, and inadequacy of physician compensation in public and private sectors. Continuing efforts like the previous jointly sponsored educational activities related to culturally congruent mental health services will benefit both organizations. I will work with IAPA and other allied groups to create a culture of inclusion that supports the APA's work on behalf of members and our patients. If elected, you have my commitment to work collaboratively with IAPA to advocate for our shared members and the profession and to increase opportunities for involvement of those members at all levels of the APA.

More information is available at <u>http://psychiatry.org/psychiatrists/awards-leadership-opportunities/leadership-opportunities/elections and www.draltha.com</u>.

Altha J. Stewart, MD APA Secretary December 30, 2017