

MSSNYPAC REPORT TO THE MSSNY COUNCIL

Thomas Lee, MD, Co-Chair & Rose Berkun, MD, Co-Chair
Michael Brisman, MD, Co-Vice Chair & Inderpal Chhabra, MD, Co-Vice Chair

June 23, 2022

This report reflects the financial status of MSSNYPAC during the 2022 fiscal year period of 1/1/22 through 6/22/22. We have collected \$96,170.75 from 306 individual supporters. Each dollar contributed to MSSNYPAC is split between operating expenses and contributions to candidates in a ratio of 2:8. For comparison, prior year collections for the same time period are as follows:

2021: \$78,704.14 from 240 supporters.
2020: \$59,109.49 from 204 supporters.
2019: \$140,043.52 from 423 supporters.
2018: \$148,749.46 from 480 supporters.

House of Delegates. MSSNYPAC wishes to express its deep appreciation for the leadership of MSSNY for holding an in-person House of Delegates once again and providing the opportunity for us to gather together with our colleagues. More than \$84K in pledges of support were received and the various delegations worked diligently over a brief period of time to get 100% participation in MSSNYPAC. Thank you to all the counties that sent delegates and donated to MSSNYPAC. Please continue to inform your local colleagues about our efforts to build relationships with elected leaders in the NYS Legislature and state-wide officeholders. This is a critical election year and MSSNYPAC will continue to be called upon to support many election campaigns. We want to be able to answer that call with a donation and a physician attendee at local campaign events. If you wish to attend an event, please visit www.mssnypac.org/calendar to view upcoming opportunities.

Fundraiser for Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart Cousins, Friday June 24th. Tomorrow, Friday, June 24th, MSSNYPAC is co-hosting a physician-only fundraiser in support of the NYS Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart Cousins in Westchester. Please contact Dr. Thomas Lee for additional information or to attend in person. All donations towards this effort are important and appreciated please contribute [online](#) or mail a check payable to **Friends of Andrea Stewart-Cousins 341A East 76th Street #302, New York, NY 10021.** Note “6/24/22 physician event” in the memo. See attached email invitation for details.

Election Resources Available to Physicians. MSSNY’s Governmental Affairs staff have developed several resources to assist physicians with their political action and advocacy efforts. A Candidate Questionnaire, Legislator Scorecard and End of Session Legislative Summary are being finalized and will be made available soon. If you become aware of physicians in your area fundraising for state-level or state-wide candidates, let them know that we may be able to assist with their efforts and direct them to contact any member of MSSNYPAC leadership or the MSSNY Albany office. By partnering with MSSNYPAC, individual efforts are augmented and result in greater political impact.

MSSNYPAC subscription options are below and donations of any amount are accepted at www.mssnypac.org.

MSSNYPAC Subscription *	Yearly	Quarterly	Monthly
<i>President's Circle</i>	\$2,500	\$625	\$210
<i>Councilor's Club</i>	\$1,000	\$250	\$85
<i>Sponsor</i>	\$750	\$190	\$65
<i>Patron</i>	\$500	\$125	\$45
<i>Benefactor</i>	\$300	\$75	\$25
<i>Physician</i>	\$175	\$45	\$15
<i>Alliance & Spouse</i>	\$100	\$25	
<i>Resident</i>	\$50		
<i>Student</i>	\$10		

* Subscription is active until you cancel.
* You can pause payment or modify amount and frequency at any time by calling 518-465-8085 or email request to mssnypac@mssny.org.

Please continue to include MSSNYPAC in all your publications and invite us to have a presence at your county and hospital medical staff meetings. Thank you.

6/24/22

Dr. Thomas Lee, MSSNYPAC Chair, and Dr. Michael Brisman, MSSNYPAC Vice Chair, ask physicians to support the campaign of NYS Senate Majority Leader, Andrea Stewart-Cousins in conjunction with a physician only event being held this Friday, June 24th. All levels of support are welcome to contribute to the Senator's campaign using this [link](#) or by check (address below). **If you would like to attend the event in person, please see the event details below and contact Dr. Lee directly at 914-263-8894, otherwise your financial support is much appreciated.** Please reply to let us know that you've donated! Thank you.

Event Details:

You are invited to support a physician only dinner reception being hosted with Senate Majority Leader Stewart-Cousins the evening of Friday, June 24th at [Ruth's Chris Steakhouse](#) in the Tarrytown Marriott, 670 White Plains Road, in Tarrytown beginning at 6PM.

Contributions from individual physicians for \$1,500 should be made online: <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/andrea2022> or by check payable to **Friends of Andrea Stewart-Cousins** and can be brought to the event or mailed to:

Friends of Andrea Stewart-Cousins
341A East 76th Street #302, New York, NY 10021.
Note "6/24/22 physician event" in the memo.

Please further note that during fundraisers, no specific legislation can be discussed or any projects before the Senator's Office.

Political and Legislative Background:

As leader of the Senate Democratic Conference, Senator Stewart-Cousins oversees the management of the Senate and a Conference that has a 2-1 D-R majority. Their conference has been supportive of many issues raised by the physician community working together with patient advocacy groups that passed this year. The NYS Senate passed legislation to help reduce excessive hassles our patients experience in seeking to obtain needed health care treatment and prescription medications. These include bills that: eliminate health insurer-imposed "fail first" requirements for medications to treat patient mental health conditions; ensure patients can realize the full benefit of discount programs to meet their out of pocket maximum insurance requirements; reduce to 45 the age when health insurers must cover recommended essential colorectal cancer screening tests; and ensure that health insurers may not deny needed patient care unless the treatment is reviewed by a physician trained in the same or similar specialty as the physician providing patient care (long a MSSNY policy goal). Moreover, as part of this year's Budget, the Senate helped enact MSSNY-backed legislation to enact telehealth payment parity and significantly increasing funding for physician student loan repayment programs, as well as rejecting huge new costs that could have been imposed on physicians enrolled in the Excess Medical Malpractice. Importantly, their health care policy staff regularly seeks the perspective of MSSNY on numerous legislative proposals that impact health care delivery.

Their record is of course not perfect. Several objectionable items also passed the State Legislature this year over the objection of MSSNY and the allies MSSNY worked with on each of these issues, for which MSSNY is requesting vetoes. However, it is anticipated that Democrats will once again have a sizable majority in the NYS Senate in the 2023 Legislative Session, and that Senator Stewart-Cousins will continue to be the leader of the Senate. Therefore, it is imperative that the physician community work to enhance the relationship with her and other Senate Democratic leaders.

Campaign Finance Regulations:

Political donations from Individuals, Partnership and PACs to the Senator's campaign are limited to \$11,800 towards the General Election and an additional \$7500 towards a Primary Election. Corporation, LLC and LLP contributions are limited to \$5000 aggregate annually to races in NYS. All [LLC/PLLC](#) contributions must identify the members and percentage of ownership interests. Partnerships that make an aggregate contribution exceeding \$2500 will be required to identify each partner who is responsible for the contribution and the amount to be allocated to the partner(s). Attributions will count towards the owner/partner individual contribution limit. Political contributions are not tax deductible.

Thank you.