Florida Society of Medical Assistants, Inc.

To: Patricia Allen, CMA (AAMA)-FSMA President
And all Executive Board Members:

From: Treasure Coast Chapter of Medical Assistants

Re: Winter Report

Date: October 26, 2014

The Treasure Coast Chapter of Medical Assistants covers Indian River, St. Lucie, and Okeechobee Counties. The leadership board meets several times throughout the year. During these meetings, topics such as seminars, community service projects, and chapter needs are discussed. The Treasure Coast Chapter of Medical Assistants continue to hold various events to its members. We held an All Day Fall Seminar on October 4, 2014 which was well received by those in attendance. This seminar offered 5.5 CEUs to its members and covered all areas of Medical Assisting (clinical, general, and administration). Topics included: Coding Modifiers, Employment Strategies, and Outpatient Surgeries. We also have a variety of vendors who offered to speak at future seminars, so it was extremely beneficial to all those involved.

We also recently joined forces with a local x-ray school in the city who will promote the profession and will offer continued educational credits to both Medical Assistants and X-ray techs. We are looking forward to this new venture as the continued educational credit offering can be the link to gaining new member involvement. It will also serve those medical assistants who hold a basic x-ray license.

Our chapter has gain recognition with local employers in the area and now the employers are only hiring credentialed medical assistants (CMAs and RMAs). We have gained recognition over the past few months and contribute much of this recognition to Meaningful Use. With this new relationship being established, the employer went from 61% of their employers who were not to 30% who are not certified. The different in numbers is because the employer sent 50% of them to school to gain their CMA (AAMA) credentials. The other 50% will be attending school in the spring to gain their credentials and be certified. This is a huge success that the employer wants 100% of their medical assistants to be CMAs. With other choices in the community, the employer did choose the only CAAHEP accredited school for their employers.

Our chapter is active in community service events. During the month of October, we raised over $450 for Breast Cancer Awareness and several members participated in the St. Lucie County Breast Cancer Walk on October 25. Currently we are hosting a Food Drive for local families in need and also donating to the Indian River State College Food Pantry. This pantry is currently only at the main campus and through donations we hope to collect enough food (cans and dried goods) to stock shelves at all seven campus sites. We see a need to provide to those in need, (local families, struggling students, etc.) and those who may one day need.

We have arranged for continued educational units from now until May 2015. Our next CEU meeting will be on Nov. 5 on the topic of Documentation with this meeting being held at Indian River State College, Fort Pierce starting at 6:15pm. Please check out the FSMA for our Schedule of Events and Facebook for Events.

Treasure Coast Chapter will continue to work with the various committees for Marketing, Communications, etc.

We look forward to your continued support.