

Candidate's Name: RJ Williams

Office Nominated For: Vice-President



Professional Bio: Address your qualifications or expertise
(previous Association service or volunteer activities, as well as practice-related expertise.)

RJ Williams works with patients across the entire lifespan to improve pain, dizziness, and disability through his passion for rehabilitative medicine. RJ combines the fundamentals of neurological and musculoskeletal foundational principles with the nuanced feel of manual therapy to provide a broad scope of interventions to improve patient outcomes at FYZICAL Therapy and Balance Centers. RJ has spent the past several years implementing his leadership skills and business strategies to assist Scott Pensivy in the growth and expansion of FYZICAL in Las Vegas. RJ started his career as a new graduate in 2013 but quickly increased his rank as a clinical director, then general manager, and now C.O.O. Over this time FYZICAL has grown from two to five centers and is thriving during a challenging time in healthcare. RJ has been at the forefront of progressing the standard of health care and increasing access to those in challenging circumstances since he was a student. RJ organized and served the community through a student-led pro bono clinic while finishing his degree at Touro University Nevada. Professionally, he developed a relationship with Volunteers in Medicine of Southern Nevada serving care for those without the ability to access affordable healthcare. RJ serves as a trusted mentor to the future professionals in physical therapy through several educational programs. He serves as an adjunct faculty member at Touro University lecturing in Neurological Conditions, Pathophysiology, and elective courses. RJ is a member of the Carrington College Advisory Board established to improve and develop the educational curriculum for physical therapy assistants. He regularly mentors students from across the United States on clinical affiliations as a clinical instructor. RJ has always remained true to his goal, enriching the physical therapy experience for those around him, including future professionals, colleagues, and most importantly, his patients.

Describe what you feel is the most important issue facing Nevada PT professionals.

There is no denying we are living through a health care crisis. There are a lot of well-educated people trying to tackle national problems in regards to the services and expenses offered to our citizens. The profession of physical therapy has prepared for this fight for many years and presents high relevance to the answers of many of these questions. We have elevated our credentials and fought for direct access to reach more people in the community in an effort to streamline the patient's opportunity to get well and reduce the burden on the economic healthcare industry. While partially successful, we still struggle every day with poor community recognition as a point of entry care, diminishing reimbursement, convoluted logistics from outside parties to provide care consistently and timely. Now more than ever we need passionate representatives to continue the push forward in public awareness and the legislative representation to carry our profession to the next level. The skillset of the physical therapist is perfectly crafted to shift America's health, but we must make sure we are actively engaging in the process with as many constituents as possible.

How can the Chapter Board of Directors best serve Chapter members?

The best way for the board to serve its members is by fostering engagement, maintaining communication, and concentrating its efforts on the highest value tasks. As leaders and representatives, we must actively seek an environment that generates interest and engagement from chapter members. We must be able to deliver high-value content and create a safe, comfortable platforms for chapter members to be heard. Time is one of the most precious resources of any professional, so as we ask for participation and interest in our events they must produce a valuable return on that investment. Additionally, these opportunities are an excellent forum to understand the challenges that chapter members face and seek an understanding of potential solutions for the problem. For the leaders to actively represent to populous communication must be present. The members of the state must make their challenges known to the board and actively work along with their leaders towards solutions. In return, as the leaders work to fulfill the requests made of them consistent communication needs to be distributed through as many mediums as able to spread the news and actions. We as leaders must find ways to meet chapter members where they are and as many places as they are. Our state has an incredibly diverse cohort that may need several means of communication to remain engaged. While many parties involved may have particular interests in their specific situation, it is the burden of the leaders to prioritize the tasks that are both most impactful to the collective group and progress the standard of care for the profession. These decisions must be made with care and decisiveness and in turn communicated to the state for the full understanding of the initiative. When a team achieves harmony and unity behind the most impactful goals and understands them well, they can move mountains, but without clear leadership and ability to maintain focus, many teams will disintegrate and go nowhere. If we succeed in the former, we will elevate the lives of every patient that interacts with a provider.