

Kelly Landeen, MD: A military family set the example to serve

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Staff News Writer



The AMA “Members Move Medicine” series profiles a wide variety of doctors, offering a glimpse into the passions of women and men navigating new courses in American medicine.

On the move with: Kelly Landeen, MD, an otolaryngology resident at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, Tennessee.

AMA member since: 2014.

What inspired me to pursue a career in medicine: The example of service set forth by my military family urged me to pursue a career of serving others. I believe that medicine is one of the noblest pursuits of service, and I strive to be worthy of such responsibility every day.

How I move medicine: By ensuring that adequate preventive health care and education are available to all patients, regardless of background or socioeconomic status. As a physician, I am able to serve my community; as a physician in the AMA, I am able to affect change nationally and globally.

Career highlights: As a third-year medical student, I was recognized by the National Public Health Service for my work in addressing health disparities affecting the Native American communities in my home state of South Dakota. I hope to continue battling health care disparities and improving access to care through policy and service to my community.

Advice I’d give to those interested in pursuing a career in medicine: Health care is bigger than you or your practice, so get involved! Medicine is an ever-changing field that is shaped by those who pursue it.

Aspect of my work that means the most: Making a difference in people’s lives every day. There is no greater way to impact a community than through the art and science of healing. Patients don’t care how much you know until they know how much you care.

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