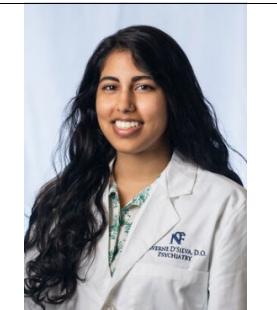


Alternate Delegate

Laverne D'Silva, DO



Residency/Fellowship Program: UCF HCA GME Consortium- Gainesville

Expected Graduation Date: 6/30/2024

Specialty: Psychiatry

As physicians, we have the power to shape the future of medicine and our society. It is important to begin those actions now as residents rather than waiting until we are attendings. I began my efforts for advocacy work as a medical student with Medical Students for Choice, hosting workshops for other medical students on various reproductive health topics including vasectomy workshops, abortion workshops, and lectures on healthcare for marginalized groups like transgender patients. I was drawn to the field of psychiatry because it understands that health is more than physical or mental, it is all aspects of our lives including socioeconomic and cultural.

My goal as a delegate includes representing the field of psychiatry and the issues we see daily, both affecting ourselves as physicians and our patients. Mental health resources are sorely lacking in the United States, especially in Florida where those who need help the most receive the least access at exorbitant costs. There is a growing mental health crisis in our country and as physicians, our voices are incredibly powerful. The AMA has the ability to influence the future of mental health and I want to be a part of that.