

I'm sure we have all been looking forward to 2021, for many different reasons, but let's not forget all of the positive outcomes the challenges 2020 brought to us! As a profession, we came together to share evidence-based COVID-19 information, advocated for dental hygienists, released an antiracism statement, attended our first virtual ADHA Annual Conference and House of Delegates, and most importantly, we demonstrated unity and resilience as healthcare professionals! But, we didn't stop there!

The month of January is a time for many to reboot, to be inspired by new dreams and new possibilities. ADHA kicked off the new year with a reimagined way to unleash your leadership potential and held its first virtual Leadership Summit. Nearly 400 dental hygienists from across the US came together for a jam-packed two-day event where leaders from many disciplines (clinical, research, education, association, corporate, etc.) shared their stories of success and some lessons learned. As the ADHA Board Advisor to the Leadership Development Committee, I had many attendees tell me how inspired they were to do more, to learn more, to share what they learned with their colleagues, and to look for opportunities to strengthen their leadership muscles. One of my favorite quotes from the summit was, "change is inevitable; growth is intentional". This year, I challenge each of you be intentional in your words and your actions and be witness to the growth that comes from change.

Looking forward, registration for the ADHA Annual Conference is now open. As of today, are planning on both in-person and virtual events. Although, with so much still unknown about safety related to COVID-19, there is a chance the event will once again be virtual. To register, and for current information go to adha2021.org. The in-person event will be held in Phoenix this year – I expect to see you all there!

For current events and to learn more about what ADHA is doing for you, be sure to follow ADHA on social media, and don't forget to check out Your Official ADHA Podcast hosted by Past-President Matt Crespin. As always, reach out to me with any questions, comments, or concerns you may have.

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