

To quote the book 'Just Mercy,' by Bryan Stevenson, a NYU Law Professor, apropos to our volunteering and work as leaders; "we may not be capable of changing the world in one swoop on our own, but when we swim together in the same direction we become an unstoppable force."

In any organization good leadership is the key to a successful group project, and in the long run of the organization itself. The achievements of course are the success of the defined goals that will reach the designed criteria for an end result, and the self satisfaction that the volunteers feel in themselves be they followers or leaders of the organization or of any minute project and/or assignment given to them as an individual or members of a committee. Good leaders have the ability to identify challenges and have the tenacity to act on them. Good leaders driven not by personal ambition but by innate desire to improve the circumstances of the human family and the human condition in a medical community setting.

Good leaders surprisingly are human too. They make mistakes, meander, slip and fall but, still with good heart and intentions, get up and gather themselves together and continue the journey to accomplish the missions and goals of their designated programs with passion for service and firm commitment.

Who am I addressing these descriptive words to, you might ask? You, the members of the UERMAFUSA Board of Trustees, officers who have taken the responsibilities of leading and taken the time to serve without remunerations! You, members of the

committees who formulate and implement the projects and programs of the Foundation! This is our way of continuing the journey that we started, unconsciously perhaps, during our medical school years, a journey of service to others, our medical community and our Alma Mater.

The UERMAFUSA, INC. first and foremost was created and established by leaders who inspired us to help people who need our assistance, monetary or otherwise. Now I ask you leaders and Board Members, what do we want for our organization? Good missions, good goals and excellence in the performance of tasks and responsibilities. Excellence now, excellence always, because excellence is **TEAMWORK!**