

THE IMPORTANCE OF FAMILY MEDICINE IN DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Family physicians are residency-trained, primary care specialists dedicated to treating the whole person. With a focus on prevention, primary care, and overall care coordination, family physicians provide a wide variety of clinical services, and, when necessary, refer their patients to a specialist, while continuing to advocate for that patient's care.

Family Physicians in the U.S. Health Care System

More Americans depend on family physicians than on any other medical specialty. AAFP members are the main source of primary health care for the Medicare population and see a large proportion of new Medicaid beneficiaries.¹

91%
participate in Medicare

83%
accept new Medicare patients

69%
accept new Medicaid patients

Family Physicians^{2,3,4} in District of Columbia

506 AAFP members

**1 family medicine
residency program**

**1 teaching health center
program**

Physician Shortage in District of Columbia

Due to an aging, growing, and increasingly insured population, addressing both physician shortages and geographic maldistribution of primary care physicians requires analysis and action on both the federal and state level.^{5,6}

**35.8% of residents live in a health
professional shortage area**

8 medically underserved areas

Family Medicine's Contributions to the Economy⁷ in District of Columbia

**\$380 million in direct and
indirect economic output**

**1,898 jobs
direct and indirect positions**

**\$213 million in direct and
indirect wages and benefits**

In a week, the average family physician:



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7. AMA. (February 2018). AMA Physicians' Economic Impact Study.
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