



September 1, 2022

The Honorable Anthony S. Fauci, MD, MPH  
Director, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease  
National Institutes of Health  
5601 Fishers Lane, MSC 9806  
Bethesda, MD 20892-9806

Dear Dr. Fauci,

On behalf of the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP), representing 127,600 family physicians and medical students across the country, I write to express our deep appreciation and gratitude for your decades of public service and unwavering commitment to public health.

For almost four decades, as Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, your leadership has helped our country navigate health crises ranging from HIV/AIDS to COVID-19. You have also advised seven presidents, working tirelessly to ensure that the federal government's response to infectious disease outbreaks is rooted in science.

You were at the forefront of the response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic, serving as one of the leading researchers during the epidemic in the early 1980s and helping create the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief in the early 2000s. The AAFP applauds your efforts to connect with diverse patient populations, including the LGBTQ+ community, in several areas to work towards a solution with NIAID. The AAFP knows how important [community engagement](#) and inclusive public health policies are to address disparities and advance health equity.

Your most recent role responding to the COVID-19 pandemic cannot be understated. Throughout the pandemic, you have remained transparent with lawmakers and the American public on the developing evidence to inform policy decisions and public health recommendations to keep Americans safe. Your recommendations on mask-wearing, social distancing, and vaccination have helped save countless lives and allowed us to resume pre-pandemic activities, such as getting together with family and loved ones, in a safe and healthy manner. Additionally, your strong commitment to combatting misinformation has been invaluable. The AAFP, like you, is deeply committed to science-based policies and we have equipped our members with [resources](#) to help mitigate the spread of the virus, combat misinformation, and keep their patients and communities safe and healthy.

Thank you again for your more than 50 years of government service and countless contributions to public health to ensure we all live safe and healthy lives. We wish you the best in your next chapter.

---

**STRONG MEDICINE FOR AMERICA**

**President**  
Sterling Ransone, MD  
Deltaville, VA

**President-elect**  
Tochi Iroku-Malize, MD  
Islip, NY

**Board Chair**  
Ada Stewart, MD  
Columbia, SC

**Directors**  
Andrew Carroll, MD, *Chandler, AZ*  
Steven Furr, MD, *Jackson, AL*  
Teresa Lovins, MD, *Columbus, IN*  
Jennifer Brull, MD, *Plainville, KS*  
Mary Campagnolo, MD, *Bordertown, NJ*  
Todd Shaffer, MD, *Lee's Summit, MO*

Gail Guerrero-Tucker, MD, *Thatcher, AZ*  
Sarah Nosal, MD, *New York, NY*  
Karen Smith, MD, *Raeford, NC*  
Samuel Mathis, MD (New Physician Member), *Galveston, TX*  
Amanda Stisher, MD (Resident Member), *Owens Cross Roads, AL*  
Amy Hoffman (Student Member), *State College, PA*

**Speaker**  
Russell Kohl, MD  
Stilwell, KS

**Vice Speaker**  
Daron Gersch, MD  
Avon, MN

**Executive Vice President**  
R. Shawn Martin  
Leawood, KS

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ada D. Stewart, MD". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial 'A' and a distinct 'D'.

Ada D. Stewart, MD, FAAFP  
Board Chair, American Academy of Family Physicians