



AMERICAN ACADEMY of FAMILY PHYSICIANS

## Commission on Health of the Public and Science 2025 Annual Report

### Student and Resident Representatives

#### Resident

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Greeley, CO  
Class of 2026

#### Student

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Augusta, GA  
Class of 2026

Hello fellow Students and Residents,

We're honored to serve as your student and resident representatives on the AAFP Commission on the Health of the Public and Science—better known as CHPS. Our commission is composed of two subcommittees, Subcommittee on Clinical Recommendations and Policies (SCRCP) and Subcommittee on Public Health Issues (SPHI). CHPS is where public health, clinical evidence, and advocacy intersect to shape the policies and guidelines that define how we care for patients and how we fight for their well being beyond the exam room. This commission reviews and updates AAFP clinical recommendations, crafts evidence-based health policies, and tackles pressing public health issues. It also oversees numerous member interest groups focused on topics from adolescent health and breastfeeding to obesity and wilderness medicine.

Over the past year, CHPS has tackled a wide range of work. Our work aims to promote evidence-based care that is also person-centered and strives for inclusivity. Our commission is driven by a higher purpose of improving health for all individuals across the lifespan regardless of status, location or background. As student and resident members, we directly contributed to revisions of important policies and provided input on guidelines on topics from increasing access to reproductive healthcare, striving for birth equity, addressing barriers to care among incarcerated individuals and immigrants and so much more.

Serving on CHPS gave us a front-row seat to the leadership and collaboration that drive the Academy. We worked alongside physicians who hold leadership positions across the country. Our voices were welcomed and encouraged by these wonderful leaders. We contributed not only to discussions within our subcommittees, but also to broader initiatives that amplify AAFP's voice on the national stage. Our meetings were often guided by emotional discussions and conversations about real time challenges faced by family medicine physicians across the country and impacts of national policy on family physicians and our patients.



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One invaluable tangible skill that we both took away from our time on the commission was learning to review and evaluate clinical practice guidelines. Family medicine physicians are sought out by many organizations for their expertise on how to improve and hone guidelines. Through this work, we learned to apply a discerning lens to clinical guidance and balancing rigorous evidence with the real-world context of primary care.

Overall, this role has given us a deeper appreciation for the power of policy, the value of diverse perspectives, and the impact that even early-career voices can have. Our experience with the AAFP during a changing public health climate was so meaningful and rewarding. We encourage you to apply for our commission if you feel drawn to its mission and purpose. Your lived experience and ideas matter, and we believe AAFP is a place where you can shape real change.

Thank you