

# AAFP Foundation Student Trustee 2023 Annual Report

#### **AAFP Foundation Student Trustee**

#### Resident

Joseph Laterza, MD Prisma Health FMR Greeneville, SC Class of 2023

#### Student

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### **Purpose & Scope of Work**

The American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Foundation is a non-profit organization that is the philanthropic arm to the AAFP. The Foundation's mission is to advance family medicine through philanthropy, using humanitarian, educational, and scientific programming to improve health. Its scope of work encompasses various initiatives via its signature programs aimed at enhancing the professional development of family physicians, fostering innovative research, and addressing health disparities in underserved populations. This is made possible through earnings from AAFP Insurance Services, corporate partner programs, and individual member donations. These total contributions have allowed the foundation to supply over \$2M towards initiatives that strengthen the primary care workforce and ensure that individuals have access to high-quality, comprehensive, and patient-centered healthcare.

Some of these signature activities and their achievements include:

# **Family Medicine Leads (FM Leads)**

This program focuses on the future of the Family Medicine specialty by supporting efforts to build their workforce pathway as well as developing more and better trained Family Medicine leaders through two initiatives, attending the AAFP National Conference and participating in the Family Medicine Leads Emerging Leader Institute (ELI).

- FM Leads Emerging Leader Institute (ELI): The Emerging Leader Institute is one of the flagship programs of the AAFP Foundation. This program aims to pair promising future family medicine leaders with qualified mentors to identify and carry out a year-long project in one of three leadership tracks: (1) Policy & Public Health, (2) Personal & Practice, and (3) Philanthropic & Mission-Driven. 30 new residents and medical students have now been selected and will attend the 2-day Family Medicine Leads Emerging Leader Institute. The 9 Leadership Project Award recipients from the 2022 class have had the opportunity to showcase their project work with posters during National Conference. The three Best Leadership Project Award recipients (one from each track) presented at the National Conference followed by a O&A.
- FM Leads Scholarships: The AAFP National Conference has been one of the most impactful events for Family Medicine residents and students for 49 years. The AAFP Foundation recognizes not only the importance of physicians in-training to have access to National

Conference but also the financial barriers that may prevent them from doing so. This year the AAFP Foundation was again able to offer 250 scholarships, including 30 scholarships for FM Leads ELI due to the generosity of our donors.

## **Family Medicine Discovers (FMD)**

• Rapid Cycle Scientific Discovery and Innovation (RapSDI) Project: This provides funding to practicing family medicine physicians for short-term innovative projects that reflect 'real world' solutions in the primary care setting. The goal is support for inexperienced researchers with the opportunity to contribute knowledge to the base of Family Medicine. Two new scholars have now been selected for awards of up to \$40,000 each moving the total number of FMD RapSDI scholars to eight.

# **Family Medicine Cares (FMC)**

- Family Medicine Cares USA: Allows for the Foundation to support free clinics for the uninsured by providing grants to new and existing free clinics in collaboration with the non-profit organization National Association of Free and Charitable Clinics. The Foundation provides up to \$25,000 to new free health clinics for the purchase of durable medical instruments and equipment, and up to \$10,000 for existing free health clinics. The total amount of funding available per year is \$150,000. 13 free clinics were awarded this year bringing the total to 107 awards for over \$1.8M to free clinics in 34 states from 2011-2022.
- Family Medicine Cares Resident Service Award: Established in 2013, this program provides up to two \$16,500 awards to support a yearlong service project implemented by first or second-year residents that address unmet health care needs in their community. Two awards are available annually. The first 2022 recipient is Dr. Aerial Petty with New York Presbyterian-Columbia University Family Medicine Program. Her project is titled "Addressing the Mental Health Needs of Minority Youth in New York City." The other recipients are Dr. Michelle-Ann Ramsey and Dr. Tiffany Gillion, both from Tallahassee Memorial Family Medicine Program. Their project is titled "Feeding Our Community: An Initiative to Reduce Food Insecurity and Address the Social Determinants of Health in Underserved Communities." The awardees began their project work in June and they will present their projects at the 2023 National Conference. Since this program inception, a total of \$280,500 have been awarded to 28 residents.
- Family Medicine Cares International (FMCI): This program delivers medical education, patient care and service to adults and children to improve the health for the people of the Dominican Republic. During the educational trip, the Foundation delegation hosted a one-day medical educational workshop at the local medical school, over 60 medical students attended. There was also a one-day diabetes education workshop for 75 residents. In addition to providing care to almost 400 patients, the Foundation provided \$4,000 in funding to purchase school shoes for 130 local children. The David and Karen Smith Foundation scholarship was awarded to Dr. Jessica Eason with the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston, SC. A partial scholarship was awarded to Dr. Nahra Saballos from the University of Pennsylvania Health System, courtesy of Dr. Martin Devine.

## **Center for the History of Family Medicine (CHFM)**

The CHFM serves as the collective memory of Family Medicine by fulfilling three roles in one: historical research library, archives, and museum. The CHFM also serves as the official repository for the leading associations and organizations in the specialty, including the AAFP, ABFM, ACOFP, ADFM, AFMRD, NAPCRG, & STFM.

- Sandra L. Panther Fellowship: The CHFM sponsors a research fellowship through a generous endowment from Sandra L. Panther. This \$3,000 Award supports one fellow annually to use the collections of the CHFM for the purpose of advancing understanding and appreciation of the history of Family Medicine. Diane Jarrett, EdD was selected as the 2023 fellow with her project titled, "The Family Physician on TV: A Reflection of Societal Changes, 1969-1976."
- Student and Resident Essay Contest: Each year, CHFM sponsors a contest to encourage medical students and family medicine residents to write scholarly essays relevant to the history of family medicine in the United States. The first-place winner of 2022 was Audriana Mooth for her essay titles, "Family Physicians and the Humanizing of Opioid Use Disorder Management." She received \$1,000. The second-place winner, Jonothon Segars, received a \$500 award for his essay titled, "Over Yonder."

Serving as the student trustee on the AAFP Foundation Board of Trustees has been an absolute honor. It has provided me with a unique opportunity to contribute to the advancement of family medicine and be directly involved in the future of healthcare. Being a part of the board has allowed me to collaborate with esteemed professionals and leaders in the field, gaining invaluable insights and knowledge about the challenges and opportunities in family medicine. It has been inspiring to witness firsthand the dedication and passion of the board members, staff, and stakeholders in improving the health of individuals and communities. Additionally, serving in this role has allowed me to advocate for the needs and perspectives of medical students, ensuring that their voices are heard and considered in the decision-making processes. Overall, being a student trustee on the AAFP Foundation board has not only enhanced my understanding of family medicine but has also deepened my commitment to invest in primary care and the difference it makes in the lives of patients.

Note: This report was prepared by the resident or student representative(s) listed and includes their account(s) of the business conducted during their term. This is not an official record of business proceedings from the AAFP or any other entity. To find out more about the business of the AAFP, its congresses, commissions, and current policies visit aafp.org.