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Four honored with IAFP President's Awards

(Naperville, Illinois – October 19, 2019) – The Illinois Academy of Family Physicians (IAFP) presented its highest honors at their annual meeting on October 19 at NIU-Naperville Conference Center. Among the awards presented were the IAFP President's Awards, given at the discretion of the outgoing president to honor individuals or organizations that have contributed to the mission of the IAFP of promoting the value of the specialty of Family Medicine and improving health for all through advocacy, education and action.

Sachin Dixit, MD, FAAFP presented his 2019 President's Awards to the following four people.

The Honorable Michael E. Hastings Illinois Senator (D-19).

Throughout his public life, Senator Hastings has been passionate about improving the health of public, and especially improving mental health access in Illinois. He has advocated for healthier communities and collaborated with other health organizations to improve health equity.

This session he co-sponsored the Reproductive Health Act and the Tobacco 21 bill, both were supported by IAFP and became law.

"Improving mental health access and treatment across the state of Illinois is Senator Hastings' passion," says Dr. Dixit. "It is through his unwavering efforts that Tinley Park Mental Health facility is about to open again."

Senator Hastings is also a veteran, a former US Army Captain who served in Operation Iraqi Freedom and received a Bronze Star.

Elizabeth Salisbury-Afshar, MD, MPH, FAAFP, FACPM, DFASAM Chicago

"With experience working in opioid-related epidemiology, policy, public health intervention and evaluation, and serving directly as a treatment provider, Dr. Salisbury-Afshar leads our efforts on the critical issues of opioid safety and addiction treatment," explains Dixit. "Her expertise at the intersection of these fields provides incredible insight in treating this difficult public health crisis with clarity and compassion."

Dr. Elizabeth Salisbury was the IAFP Resident board member during her final year at Advocate Illinois Masonic Family Medicine Residency. Upon graduation, earned her master's in public health at Johns Hopkins University and the City of Baltimore and immediately reconnected with IAFP upon her return to Chicago.

Her current work around the opioid crisis at all levels; as well as her past and current involvement on the IAFP public health committee has established her as a nationally known expert in addiction and treatment.

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She brings her expertise to a variety of boards and committees, including the National American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) policy committee, as a Health and Medicine Policy Research Group board member, and as a member of both the Illinois Governor's Opioid Prevention and Intervention Task Force and the Chicago Area Opioid Task Force. Her expertise has been featured in the *New York Times* and *U.S. News and World Report* magazine. She also served two years as a new physician IAFP board member.

Kevin McCune, MD Advocate Health Care

While leading the largest medical group in Illinois as its Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Kevin McCune is also a nationally recognized leader in hospice and palliative care.

His passion for improving patient safety has been instrumental in the implementation of a system-wide Culture of Safety program, patient safety event hotline and web-based patient safety event reporting tool. Today, Advocate Medical Group, with 2,000 clinicians, benefits from Dr. McCune's vigorous efforts for NCQA Certification in Diabetes Care and Stroke/Prevention. "He has been guiding force for AMG's efforts to be a Patient Centered Medical Home," says Dixit. "His efforts to redesign the office, implement electronic health records and web-based health risk assessments, and discharge care planning are just a few examples."

He is a founding board member of Advocate Physicians Partners and Advocate Medical Group and continues to achieve excellence in health outcomes and patient safety. "Leading the medical group growth to 2,000 physicians in this everchallenging value-based health care environment, and consistently improving physician engagement speaks volumes about Dr McCune's leadership," concluded Dixit.

Gail Y. Floyd, MD Cook County Family Medicine Residency Program

With more than 40 years of experience in family medicine in different leadership roles, Dr. Gail Y. Floyd has impacted the development of many family physicians in Illinois. She has contributed significantly to the quality standards of medical care while serving as a physician consultant at the State of Illinois Department of Health and Human Services, Bureau of Medicaid Integrity since 1983.

"Along with all those accomplishments, she continues to be a champion of social justice and health equity and gives back to the community that shaped her as an outstanding family physician. She joined her alumni residency program at Cook County after an illustrious career at Advocate Health Centers in Evergreen Park. Because I am also an Advocate physician, I often see her former Evergreen Park patients and they always rave about her," says Dixit.

"During my early years as a family medicine resident, I was fortunate to directly work with Dr. Gail Floyd at the Loyola-Provident-Cook County Family Medicine Residency Program. She was paired with me as my mentor and did I hit the jackpot there! She has been a stable leader as the program director for Cook County since 2006, and her passion truly lies in family medicine education. Though I graduated from County 12 years ago, her advice, guidance, and her support were instrumental in shaping who I am now as a physician. I still seek her guidance on a regular basis."

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The Illinois Academy of Family Physicians (IAFP) represents over 5,000 family physicians, family medicine residents and medical students dedicated to promoting the value of the specialty of Family Medicine and improving health for all through advocacy, education and action. Learn more at www.iafp.com.