



ILLINOIS ACADEMY OF
FAMILY PHYSICIANS

Devoted to Advocacy, Education & Action

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**Bloomington Doctor is Illinois Academy of Family Physicians
2016 Family Physician of the Year**

IAFP honors Stephen C. Pilcher, MD, FAAFP.

Three others receive IAFP President's Awards

(NAPERVILLE, Illinois – November 11, 2016) – The Illinois Academy of Family Physicians provided its highest honor, the Family Physician of the Year Award and three President's Awards at their annual awards dinner November 11 at the NIU Naperville Conference Center.

Family Physician of the Year: Stephen C. Pilcher, MD, FAAFP – Bloomington Primary Care

Pilcher describes Bloomington Primary Care as *Marcus Welby, MD meets Star Trek*. "Our providers make it work so well. It's *fun* to be here." His patient panel includes three and four generations, and as many as 50 people, from the same family. He opened BPC in 2010 as a solo practice and has expanded to three family physicians and two nurse practitioners, with 23 total employees and over 8,600 patients. BPC was voted "Best Local Family Practice" in the *Bloomington Pantagraph* in 2015.

Pilcher was personally dedicated to ensuring that uninsured and public aid patients also had a medical home with access to high-quality primary care. Starting in late 2010, he worked with the community to create Chestnut Family Health Center, a federally-qualified health center (FQHC). He then provided stability by recruiting and training the physicians to staff it. Dr. Pilcher served as both physician and Medical Director at Chestnut Family Health Center's Medical Director. Meanwhile BPC physicians provided care at Chestnut until permanent staff could be hired and trained.

Patient Mary Axton found Dr. Pilcher by chance shortly after moving to the area in 2003, when Dr. Pilcher was also new to practice. She was so pleased with his care, she immediately brought her husband in next. When their daughter came to Illinois State University for a master's program, she joined his panel as well. "He is now taking care of my precious grandson and granddaughter through all their illnesses and boo boos," she says.

Pilcher encourages family physicians to embrace the opportunities to use new revenue to hire teammates and the technology, such as patient portals for secure, efficient and accurate communication. "In this time of change, we really need physicians in charge and not just for clinical decisions, but business, too. There is no difference anymore. The team-based approach to medical care is the good business sense of providing quality health care."

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"We have grown our office staff by almost three-fold," concurs Adam Houghton, MD who joined Bloomington Primary Care in 2013 and nominated Pilcher for the Family Physician of the Year award. "All the while, we have, I believe, continued to provide outstanding patient care to this community. I say keep saying 'we' because that is truly how Dr. Pilcher approaches this practice, as a unified medical-family endeavor, rather than a solo entrepreneurship. Without a doubt, we are only where we are today thanks to his vision for an ideal family practice environment."

Pilcher is a 1996 graduate of the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine and completed residency training at Rose Family Medicine Residency program at the University of Colorado. Dr. Pilcher and his wife Sarah (a Bloomington native) have three children; Thomas, Abby and Bridget.

President's Awards

Each year the outgoing IAFP president chooses President's Awards to honor outstanding members, individuals or organization he or she feels were exceptional in advancing the Academy's mission during his or her time as president. Alvia Siddiqi, MD, FAAFP has selected the following for her President's Awards.

Javette C. Orgain, MD, MPH, FAAFP

Dr. Orgain was re-elected Speaker of the AAFP Congress of Delegates in September. For decades, she's been a force for family medicine with IAFP and AAFP, the University of Illinois at Chicago, the National Medical Association, the Illinois State Board of Health and more. Meanwhile she has been a personal mentor and friend to generations of students, residents and physicians. Orgain provides home visits and hospice care as a family physician with VITAS healthcare. She also advocates for expansion of home care visits and support for family caregivers entrusted with caring for elderly and frail loved ones.

The American Academy of Pediatrics – Illinois Chapter

IAFP has enjoyed a long-standing partnership with the Illinois Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (ICAAP), in education and advocacy, with the common goal of providing the best possible health care for Illinois children. In recent months, ICAAP has led our work with IDPH and the Medicaid Managed Care Organizations with recent changes to the Vaccine for Kids program. We continue to work on child obesity, tobacco prevention and immunizations to keep our kids healthy. Executive director Jennie Pinkwater will accept the award on behalf of ICAAP.

Eva M. Bading, MD, FAAFP

Dr. Bading was appointed interim chair of family medicine in 1999, then served as chair of the family medicine department at Loyola from 2001 to 2016, where she influenced many family physician careers, including Dr. Siddiqi, a Loyola alumna. Her legacy of uniting Loyola students to the Maywood community they serve lives on at the Dr. Eva Bading Community House, where medical students in the CARE (Community Advocacy through Relationships and Education) program live in Maywood and become immersed in caring for families with exceptional needs. Meanwhile, those who live in the House during medical school host meetings, events and other opportunities for Loyola faculty and students to experience the community they serve.

"When I was a medical student, I truly admired Dr. Bading for her commitment to vulnerable populations, including her international service to provide care abroad," said Siddiqi. "At a time where many physicians faced burnout, Dr. Bading always displayed professionalism and positivity around her work. She empowered medical students to realize their potential to impact public and community health by choosing a career in family medicine."

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The Illinois Academy of Family Physicians is a professional membership association representing over 4,700 Illinois family physicians and medical students dedicated to improving the lives of Illinois patients and the family physicians who care for them. Learn more at www.iafp.com.