

Our Mission

To be the voice of Family Physicians by promoting the value of the specialty of Family Medicine and improving health for all through advocacy, education and action.

Vision

IAFP will:

- 1) Exercise stewardship through fiscal and operational accountability;
- 2) Advocate for family physicians with the challenges they face in practice and with the needs of their patients;
- 3) Collaborate pro-actively to increase awareness of our advocacy
- 4) Improve the health care system
- 5) Support and strengthen family medicine's workforce
- 6) Promote professional development of family physicians

Values

Membership

- Ease the pathways to meet professional requirements; including assisting family physicians to obtain education needed to remain licensed, board certified, and credentialed to practice at the top of their training and ability
 - Connect family physicians to the information, training, colleagues and organizations they need to fully engage in their chosen practice style
 - Build awareness among family medicine residents of the opportunities of active member status, and ease the transition from resident to active member
 - Develop family physicians as leaders in their practice, medical group, health system and community through training
 - Broaden and increase membership to unite all family physicians and to strengthen the profession

Commit to Dialogue and Engagement

- Be the voice of family medicine values to health organizations and the public; seeking to transform healthcare to be primary care-centric
- Train volunteer leaders to represent family medicine as they make presentations,

Mission

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advocate and serve as media representatives

- Choose strategic health organizations with which to engage and collaborate to promote family medicine
- Supply family physicians with resources to understand health advocacy and to promote family medicine
- Strongly define family medicine and showcase to members, medical students and others the values, services and best practices of the profession

Lead with Advocacy

- Be the voice of family medicine. Advocate for healthier communities and collaborate with other health organizations to improve health equity and social determinants of health.
- Mobilize volunteer leaders and members in grass-roots meetings with state and federal legislators.
- Advance the interests of Family Medicine with employers, health plans, and public and private payors. Promote the quadruple aim through advanced payment models that support joy in practice.
- Publicize the value of Family Medicine and share widely.

Quality CME

- Be the source of CME opportunities for Illinois family physicians linking to excellent CME and creating CME to meet the needs of family physicians.
- Collaborate with other health organizations to make clinical and non-clinical education available.

Stewardship

- Conserve resources to provide effective governance, efficient operations, and fiscal transparency
- Use strategic plan to prioritize among various opportunities
- Promote affordable pathways to complete post-graduate educational requirements
- Encourage mentoring of volunteer leaders from all member segments; provide wide range of leadership opportunities inside and outside of IAFFP.

ABOUT FAMILY MEDICINE

Family medicine's cornerstone is an ongoing, personal patient-physician relationship focusing on integrated care. Unlike other specialties that are limited to a particular organ or disease, family medicine integrates care for patients of both genders and every age, and advocates for the patient in a complex health care system. Family physicians provide pre-natal care through end of life care and often treat generations of members of the same family.

ABOUT THE FAMILY PHYSICIAN

Family physicians are truly the foundation of our health care system. As our nation's population grows and ages, no other specialty is better prepared to meet these needs. Ninety percent of U.S. family physicians treat Medicare patients, providing their ongoing primary care and coordinating needed specialty care. Today, family physicians provide the majority of care for America's underserved rural and urban populations. In fact, family physicians are distributed more proportionally to the U.S. population than any other physician specialty. Without family physicians, rural and underserved populations, in particular, would lack access to primary care.

Because of their extensive training, family physicians are the only specialists qualified to treat most ailments and provide comprehensive health care for people of all ages - from newborns to seniors. Additionally, family physicians complete a rigorous re-certification process every seven years. AAFP members are required to complete 150 hours of continuing medical education every three years to maintain their memberships. These measures ensure that family physicians are current and comprehensive in caring for patients throughout the life spectrum.