



GEORGIA ACADEMY of FAMILY PHYSICIANS

55th CONGRESS of DELEGATES



Family Medicine Synergy
GROWING. THRIVING. LEADING.
Together

Georgia Academy of Family Physicians
**2023 Annual
Family Medicine
CME Weekend**
November 10-12, 2023
The Hotel at Avalon · Alpharetta, GA

First Session:
Tuesday, October 17, 2023 – Orientation 5:30PM
Congress begins promptly at 6PM
Via Zoom
Please register for both by clicking here –
Congress of Delegates: 1st Session.

Second Session:
Sunday, November 12, 2022 – 1:00PM
The Hotel at Avalon
Alpharetta, GA

The Mission of the Georgia Academy of Family Physicians is to promote the health of the citizens of Georgia by advancing the specialty of Family Medicine through education, advocacy and service to family physicians in the State of Georgia.

**Georgia Academy of Family Physicians
55th Annual Congress of Delegates
Handbook
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Policies for Review:

- A. Internal Policy Review: Seating Medical Student Board Members Amongst Physician Board Members
- B. Internal Policy Review: COD Progress Report to BOD
- C. Internal Policy Review: GAFP PAC Board
- D. Internal Policy Review: GAFP Supports the Georgia Patient Centered Physician Coalition (GPCPC)
- E. Internal Policy Review: GAFP Strategic Planning
- F. Internal Policy Review: Establishment of the Dr. Keith Ellis Award
- G. Internal Policy Review: Poster Publications
- H. External Policy Review: Adult Immunization Requirements
- I. External Policy Review: Increase funding for family medicine and payment
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Submitted by: the GAFP Bylaws Committee

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6. Lack of support to establish new clinic 127

Submitted by: Sandeep Dhaliwal, MD, Acworth, GA

7. Submitted by the GAFF Student Board Members 127

- a) **The GAFF March Student Meeting and Residency Fair were excellent events for both prospective and declared applicants to Family Medicine. We recommend that the GAFF continue this event for students and increase the capacity for the Student Meeting to even more students to promote student engagement with the Academy.**
- b) **We recommend the GAFF continue to provide scholarship opportunities for students to participate in the AAFP National Conference for Medical Students and Residents. This conference offers students the opportunity to represent Georgia on the national platform and engage with other students, residents, and Family Physicians throughout the country.**

8. Submitted by the GAFF Resident Board Members 128

- c) **GAFF should encourage and empower its residents to apply for AAFP leadership positions**
- d) **They should also facilitate having more sessions where residents can learn about the events occurring during the year, i.e., Day at the Capitol, volunteer events, or other advocacy sessions.**

9. From the Practice Management Committee Report128

RECOMMENDATIONS: We recommend that further education to members (possible CME lectures) focusing on different practice models in Family Medicine to show the wide breadth of scope in Family Medicine and career options- i.e. Direct Primary Care, telemedicine, hospitalist, urgent care, obesity medicine, emergency room, wound care, etc.

Respectfully submitted,
Christina Douglass, MD

**9. From Bryan D. Cheever, MD, FAAFP
Family Medicine Residency Program Director Hamilton Medical Center128**

Recommendations for GAFF:

1. Continue to encourage and support Family Medicine training and fellowships in Georgia
2. Support opportunities and funding for scholarly activity
3. Support efforts for Family Medicine Residency program collaboration opportunities.
4. Support and encourage opportunities for GAFF member involvement in the teaching/training of medical students and residents
5. Support and encourage funding opportunities for family medicine physician and resident recruitment and retention in Georgia, especially in the underserved and rural communities.

2022 Minutes of the 54th GAFF Annual Congress of Delegates 130

Congress of Delegates Schedule

Tuesday, October 17, 2023

First Session of the Congress of Delegates

5:30 pm Orientation,

6:00 pm First Session Begins

Both via Zoom-same link for both.

Register here: [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)

Reference Committee Executive Session

To Follow Immediately Afterward

(Reference Committee Members Only)



Sunday, November 12, 2023

The Hotel at Avalon - Alpharetta, GA

Second Session of the Congress of Delegates

1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Trammel/Devore/Dodd Ballroom

Officers' Induction

1:45 pm

Fellows Convocation Ceremony

2:00 pm



**Georgia Academy of Family Physicians
55th Annual Congress of Delegates
Sunday, November 12, 2023
1:00 – 5:00 PM
Live at GAFP Annual Meeting
The Hotel at Avalon, Atlanta, GA
Trammel/Devore/Dodd Ballroom**

12:30 pm – 1:00 pm

Delegates & Alternate Delegates Sign-in and Registration/Review Reference Committee Report

1:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Call to Order and Welcome

Monica Newton, DO – Speaker

Pledge of Allegiance Ellie Daniels, MD – Vice Speaker

All Member Assembly:

Board Chair Remarks..... Susana Alfonso, MD – Board Chair

President’s Remarks Sharon Rabinovitz, MD - President

Introduction and Remarks of Honored Guests Monica Newton, DO – Speaker

AAFP Board Chair Remarks/Q&A Karen Smith, MD - AAFP Board Designee

Installation of Officers Karen Smith, MD - AAFP Board Designee

Fellows Convocation Drs. Smith and Daniels

BREAK

Parliamentary Procedure Review and Orientation for Delegates.....Parliamentarian or Vice Speaker

Omega Report Ellie Daniels, MD – Vice Speaker

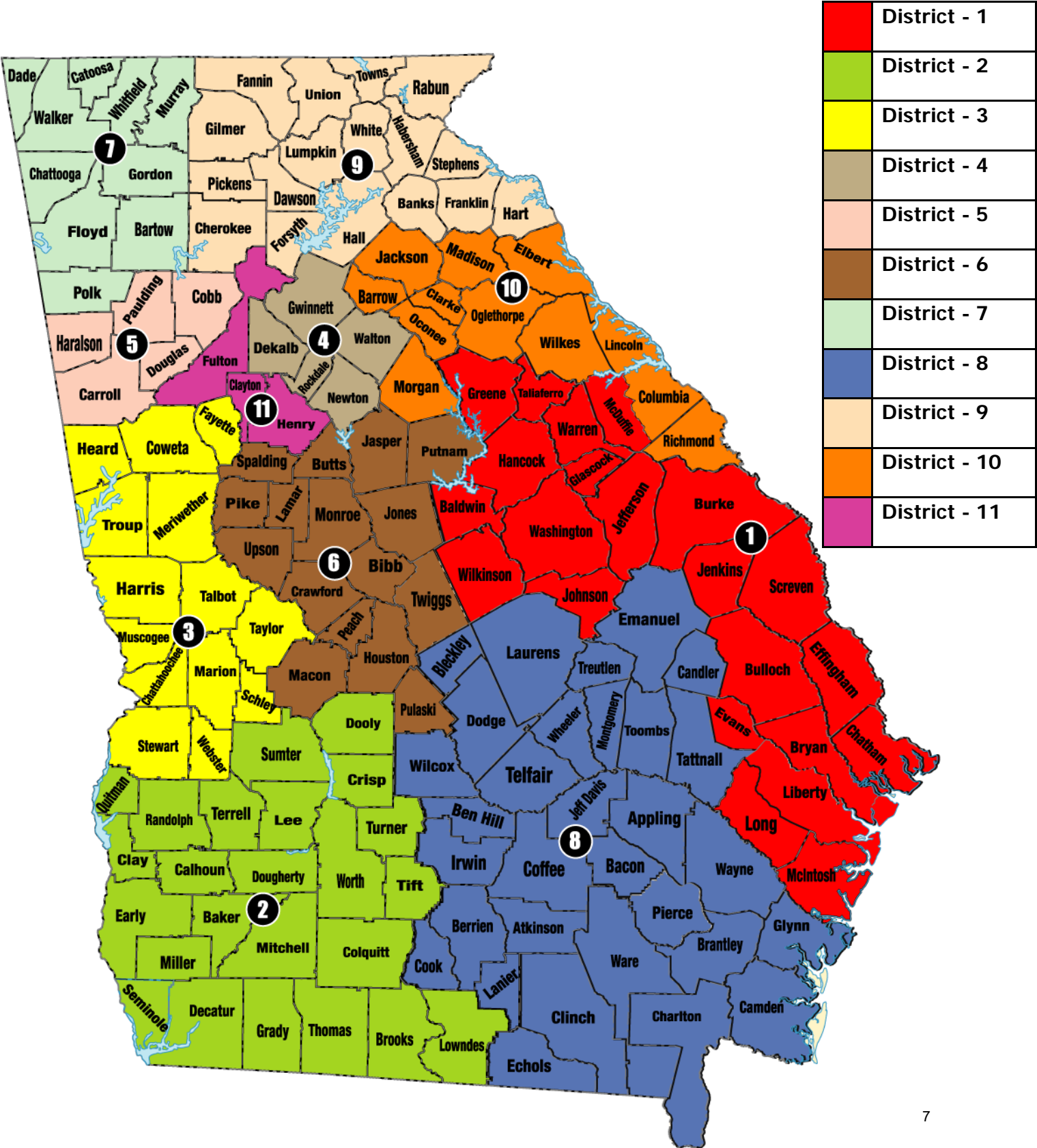
Congress of Delegates Introductions Monica Newton, DO – Speaker

Quorum Call..... Monica Newton, DO – Speaker

55th GAFP Congress of Delegates Action Calendar/Reference Committee Report

Vote of Consent Calendar

Georgia Academy of Family Physicians Membership Districts



2023 District Delegates as of 9/26/23

Speaker: Monica Newton, DO, District 9

Vice Speaker: Ellie Daniels, MD, MPH, District 3

District 1 Delegates

Angela Gerguis, MD
Sherma Peter, MD

District 2 Delegates

Michael Satchell, MD
St. Claire Sumaili, MD
Stephanie Williams, MD

District 3 Delegates

David Bury, DO, MPH, FAAFP
Shawnte Hall Kraft, MD
Alice House, MD, FAAFP
Beverley Ann Townsend MD, FAAFP

District 4 Delegates

Karla Booker, MD
William Bostock, DO, FAAFP
Zachary Cohen, MD
David Daniels, MD
Casey Henritz, DO
Adena Hicks, MD
Linu Joseph, MD, FAAFP
Andrea Juliao, MD, FAAFP
Harold Moore, Jr. MD, FAAFP

District 5 Delegates

Ann-Gelle Carter, MD
Sandeep Dhaliwal, MD
Gregory Floyd, MD
Angela Hayes-Boucher, DO
Allison Key, MD
Abayomi Jones, MD
Abhishek Singh, MD, FAAFP
Christopher Wizner MD

District 6 Delegates

Florence Baralatei, MD
Monique Davis-Smith, MD
Eddie Richardson, MD

Resident Delegates

Njoud Jweihan, MD, Columbus FMRP
Sophia Greer, MD, Emory FMRP
Turner Grogan, MD, Atrium Health, Navicent
FMRP

Resident Alternate Delegates

Sideana Raymond, MD, Houston Healthcare FMRP
Traci Jenkins, MD, Northeast GA HC FMRP

District 7 Delegates

Emma Atherton-Staples, DO
Bryan Cheever MD, FAAFP
Kelly Culbertson, MD
John Desmond, MD

District 8 Delegates

Thomas Choi, MD
Tom Fausett MD, FAAFP
Berrien Waters, MD

District 9 Delegates

Jody Bahnmler-Brasil, MD, FAAFP
Amy Bailey, MD
John Delzell, MD, MSPH, FAAFP
Daniel Gordon, MD
Carl McCurdy, MD
Carol Pryby, MD
Anne Todd, MD

District 10 Delegates

Edward Agabin, MD, MPH, FAAFP
Anthony Daniels, MD
Jacqueline DuBose, MD
Loretta Duggan, MD
Signe O'Neale, MD
Dean Seehusen, MD, MPH, FAAFP

Alternate

Jason Lanham, MD, MA, FAAFP

District 11 Delegates

Susana Alfonso, MD, FAAFP
Wanda Gumbs, MD, MPH
Fred Hood, MD
Thaddeus Lynn, MD
Osara Malalasekara, MD
Yuan-Xiang Meng, MD, PhD, FAAFP
Celeste Miller, MD
Adrienne Mims, MD, MPH, FAAFP
Folashade Omole MD

Student Delegates


Darlene Bio, Morehouse School of Medicine
Cheryl Estes, Saint James School of Medicine St.
Vincent and the Grenadines

Student Alternate Delegates

Hannah Huang, Medical College of Georgia at
Augusta University
Shereen Farooq, Medical College of Georgia,
Athens

Pledge of Allegiance

I pledge allegiance to the Flag
of the United States of America,
and to the Republic for which it
stands:
one Nation under God,
indivisible,
with Liberty and Justice for all.



**Georgia Academy of Family Physicians
Past Presidents**

1948-49	Steven Kenyon, MD*	1987-88	Howard Vigrass, MD
1949-50	James B. Kay, MD*	1988-89	Richard A. Wherry, MD
1950-51	Walter W. Daniel, MD*	1989-90	Paul D. Forney, MD
1951-52	Albert R. Bush, MD*	1990-91	S. Catherine Huggins, MD
1952-53	Peter Hydrick, MD*	1991-92	D. Robert Howard, MD*
1953-54	H.L. Cheves, MD*	1992-93	Darrell L. Dean, DO
1954-55	George H. Alexander, MD*	1993-94	Keith E. Ellis, MD
1955-56	Walter G. Elliot, MD*	1994-95	John S. Antalis, MD
1956-57	Maurice F. Arnold, MD*	1995-96	George W. Shannon, MD*
1957-58	Fred H. Simonton, MD*	1996-97	Dee Brown Russell, MD
1958-59	Sage Harper, MD*	1997-98	Tanya Y. Jones, MD
1959-60	Ben K. Looper, MD*	1998-99	William F. Bina, MD
1960-61	Joseph Mercer, MD*	1999-00	Ralph Peeler, MD
1961-62	Charles McArthur, MD*	2000-01	M.J. Collier, MD
1962-63	W. Frank McKemie, MD*	2001-02	Fred S. Girton, MD
1963-64	Albert L. Moms, MD*	2002-03	Eugene H. Jackson, MD
1964-65	James H. Milford, MD*	2003-04	D. Ann Travis Honeycutt, MD
1965-66	Donald W. Schmidt, MD*	2004-05	Robert B. Hash, MD
1966-67	Robert Mainor, MD*	2005-06	Susan C. Margletta, MD
1967-68	Robert E. Huie, MD*	2006-07	Alice R. House, MD
1968-69	Irving D. Hellenga, MD*	2007-08	Bruce M. LeClair, MD
1969-70	Thomas A. Sappington, MD*	2008-09	Howard C. McMahan, MD
1970-71	Robert D. Walter, MD*	2009-10	Leonard D. Reeves, MD
1971-72	George E. Mixon, MD*	2010-11	Harry S. Strothers, MD
1972-73	Ollie O. McGahee, Jr., MD*	2011-12	Beulette Y. Hooks, MD
1973-74	Edwin E. Flournoy, Jr., MD*	2012-13	Jonathan "Mitch" Cook, DO
1974-75	James C. Dismuke, Jr., MD*	2013-14	Brian K. Nadolne, MD
1975-76	Wells Riley, MD*	2014-15	Wayne K. Hoffman, MD
1976-77	H. Gordon Davis, MD*	2015-16	Mitzi B. Rubin, MD
1977-78	Stephen C. May, Jr., MD*	2016-17	Eddie Richardson, Jr., MD
1978-79	Milton I. Johnson, Jr., MD*	2017-18	Loy D. "Chip" Cowart, MD
1979-80	Robert A. Pumpelly, Jr., MD*	2018-19	Donald L. Fordham, MD
1980-81	Tommy K. Stapleton, MD*	2019-20	Jeff Stone, MD, MBA
1981-82	Guerrant H. Perrow, MD*	2020-21	Thomas D. Fausett, Jr., MD
1982-83	David S. Sowell, MD	2021-22	Susana Alfonso, MD
1983-84	John Ed Fowler, MD*		
1984-85	Andrew P. Morley, Jr., MD		
1985-86	Lanny R. Copeland, MD		
1986-87	Ernest J. Jones, MD		

** Indicates Past Presidents who are deceased*

Thank you for your dedication and support of the GAFP.

Georgia Academy of Family Physicians
Northlake Commons
3760 LaVista Road, Suite 100
Tucker, GA 30084

404-321-7445 phone | 404-321-7450 fax
www.gafp.org

2023 In Memoriam

In memory of our colleagues

Henry Gordon Davis Jr, MD ~ Sylvester

Edwin E Flournoy Jr, MD ~ Albany

Cyler D Garner MD ~ Gordon

William Vaughn Headley MD ~ Jesup

Catherine James-Peters MD ~ Decatur

Ferdinand Vogt Kay MD ~ Macon

Teodulo M Llorente MD ~ Rome

Paterno R Marquez MD ~ Wake Forest, NC

John Bradford Mersereau MD ~ Canton, GA

James R. Morrow MD ~ Cumming, GA

Fredrick L O'Neal MD ~ Rome

Onelio E Perdomo MD ~ Duluth

Charles M Sow MD ~ Atlanta



*“We don’t forget those...
Who give us much to remember.”*

60 Years

Carvin Moreland, MD, FAAFP

55 Years

James Burns, MD, FAAFP
Charles Bagley, MD, FAAFP
Edwin Flournoy, Jr, MD, FAAFP
W. Nicholson, MD, FAAFP

50 Years

Benjamin Anderson, MD, FAAFP
David Burtner, MD, FAAFP
Joseph Bishop, MD, FAAFP
John Fillingim, MD, FAAFP
E R Hensley, MD, FAAFP
William Kent, Jr, MD, FAAFP
Richard Rosenberger, MD, FAAFP
Philip Sapp, MD, FAAFP
Irwin Streiff, MD

45 Years

Yu-Chia Chao, MD, FAAFP
Keith Ellis, MD, FAAFP
Paul Forney, MD, FAAFP
Samuel Griffin, MD, FAAFP
Joseph Hobbs, MD, FAAFP
Richard Melcher, MD, FAAFP
Glenn Poon, MD, FAAFP
Calvin Reams, MD, FAAFP
James Robertson, MD, FAAFP
H. Smith, MD
Rosa Urrutia, MD, FAAFP
Howell Wasden, III, MD, FAAFP
Richard Wherry, MD, FAAFP

40 Years

Roger Beville, MD
William Collins, MD, FAAFP
Steven Garner, MD, FAAFP
Richard Gorman, MD
Edwin Hendricks, DO, FAAFP
Jack Heneisen, MD, FAAFP
William Keating, MD
Eugene Jackson, MD, FAAFP
Howard McMahan, MD, FAAFP
Adrienne Mims, MD, MPH, FAAFP
Ralph Peeler, MD, FAAFP

James Seale, MD, FAAFP
Wiley Smith, MD, FAAFP
James Smith, MD, FAAFP
John Spicer, MD, FAAFP
Dennis Thomas, MD, FAAFP
Lee Woodall, MD, FAAFP

35 Years

William Adcox, MD, FAAFP
Sam Amporful, MD
Henry Anderson, IV, MD, FAAFP
Christopher Armour, MD, FAAFP
Linda Arnold, MD
Thomas Bat, MD
Crystal Brown, MD, FAAFP
James Brown, MD
Frank Carter, MD
Linda Casteel, MD
Bryan Cheever, MD, FAAFP
William Dixon, MD
Mark Ebell, MD
Albert Edwards II, MD, FAAFP
Thomas Garigan, MD, MA, FAAFP
David Hall, MD, FAAFP
Barry Hull, MD, FAAFP
Kenneth Jones, Jr, MD
Juliette Kendrick, MD
Glenn King, MD, FAAFP
Mark Koralewski, MD
Dominic Mack, MD
Michael Manning, MD
William McDaniel, MD
Hugh McLaurin, MD
Rolf Meinhold, MD
Henry Moon, MD
Lenox Morris, MD, FAAFP
Sarah Polow, DO
Cedric Porter, MD, FAAFP
Natalie Russo, MD, FAAFP
Roy Smith, MD, FAAFP
Willard Snyder, MD, FAAFP
Robert Taylor, DO
Robert Williams, MD, FAAFP

30 Years

Jibike Adegbile, MD, MPH, FAAFP
Frank Alena, MD
Andrea Andrews, MD, FAAFP

Nicole Ash-Mapp, MD
Garrett Bennett, MD
Shainul Bhatia, MD, FAAFP
Eric Bohn, MD
Paula Boyle, MD
Parviz Brahman, MD
Valencia Burruss, MD
Jeffrey Culpepper, MD
Jeffery Dockery, MD, FAAFP
Donald Fordham, MD, FAAFP
Angela Gerguis, MD, FAAFP
Stewart Grizzard, MD
Padmini Gunadeva, MD
Paul Haver, MD, FAAFP
Jeffrey Holley, MD
Nadeem Hoodbhoy, MD, FAAFP
Kenneth Howard, MD
Joel Jager, MD
Joyce Koram, MD
Lawrence Kulish, MD
Victor Lambert, MD
Maureen Lamm, MD
Edward Lloyd, MD
Marek Majoch, MD
Carol Odegaard, MD
Gerren Perry-Fabrizio, MD
Nicholas Pietrzak II, MD
Vera Reaves, MD
Holly Roberts, MD
Tracy Rosenbaum, DO, FAAFP
Phyllis Rutledge, MD
Margaret Schutte, MD
Kele Sewell, MD
Mark Sexton, MD
James Toth, MD
Shirin Valiani, MD
Jeff Wilkins, MD, FAAFP

25 Years

Kevin Adams, MD
Karen Artress, MD, FAAFP
Kenneth Boss, MD
Andrea Brown, MD, FAAFP
Gloria Browne, MD
Lia Bruner, MD
Israel Bryson, MD
Margaret Chang, MD
Troy Clifton, MD
Monique Davis-Smith, MD, FAAFP

David Denman, MD
Cynthia Drury, MD
Kimberley Ham, MD
Lina Harper, MD
George Harrison, MD
Nicole Haynes, MD, MPH, FAAFP
Charles Hoff, MD
Lisa Jennings, MD
Slavko Kukucka, MD
Sean Lynch, DO
Willert Lynn, III, MD, FAAFP
George McCaskill, MD
Michael Miles, MD
Sean Miles, MD
Melanie Mooney, MD
L Jill Moore, MD, FAAFP
Michael Munsey, MD
Cynthia Murray, MD
Thomas Nguyen, DO, FAAFP
Oguchi Nwosu, MD, FAAFP
Sara O'Heron, MD
LaJune Oliver, MD
Folashade Omole, MBChB, FAAFP
Michele Pennington, MD
Jeffrey Reznik, MD, FAAFP
Emily Richardson, MD
Wayne Richey, MD
Richard Rickman, MD
Stephen Schmidt, MD
Andre Schoeffler, MD
Jeffrey Sherman, MD
James Short, MD, FAAFP
Suzanne Storey, MD
Lisa Sward, MD
Jonathan Thompson, MD
Kimberly Turner, MD
Jennifer Utley, MD
Jeffrey Vrieland, MD
Janise Whitesell, MD
Benise Williams, MD, FAAFP
John Womble, DO

20 Years

Shitaye Argaw, MD
Joshua Garrett, MD
Maria Alban, MD
Indira Asser, MD
Bridgett Bailey, DO
Komal Balaney, MD
Teresa Bradford, MD

Cynthia Carter, MD, FAAFP
David Celestial, DO
Deborah Daniels, MD, FAAFP
Jacqueline DuBose, MD, FAAFP
Alice Edwards, MD
Jairaj Goberdhan, MD, FAAFP
Steven Greer, MD, FAAFP
Sinan Haddad, MD
Shawnte Hall Kraft, MD
Tomia Harmon, MD
Jennifer Herbert, MD
Melvin Jackson, MD
John Jenkins, MD
Manishkumar Joshi, MD
Georgina Kalaitzidis, MD
Larry Kang, MD
Craig Kaplan, MD
Allison Key, MD, FAAFP
Leticia Lindsey, MD
Jyoti Manekar, MD, FAAFP
Kris Manlove-Simmons, MD, MSPH
Amardeep Mann, MD
Shameka McElhaney, MD
Alan Miller, MD, FAAFP
Nelly Mizrahi, MD
John Murimi, MD
Piyushkumar Patel, MD
Bhumiben Purohit, MD
Amanda Sahai, MD
Rodrigo Sanchez, MD
Christine Scott, MD
Irshad Syed, MD
Allison Turk, MD

15 Years

Tolulope Adeyemo, MD
Kamlesh Ansingkar, MD
Florence Baralatei, MD
Maria Bendana, MD
Sowmya Brahmadevi, MD
Vishal Burra, MD, MBBS, MPH, FAAFP
Kitty Carter-Wicker, MD
Joy Church, MD
Lyndsay Claroni, DO
Zachary Cohen, MD
Michelle Cooke, MD
John Corbin, MD
Kenyatta Dean, DO
Kathryn Dudas, MD
Mark Earhart, MD

Islam Eltarawy, MD
Samina Fakhri, MD, FAAFP
Jennifer Francois, MD
Ophelia Gherman, MD
Lakshmi Gopireddy, MD
Elizabeth Gordon, MD
Raquel De Guzman, MD
Karen Hacker, MD
Rosiland Harrington, MD
Jackson Hatfield, MD
Anila Jamal, MD
Matthew Jenkins, MD
Loni Jenkins, MD
Lawrence Kirk, MD
Thaddeus Lynn, MD
Beata Majewski, MD, MPH
Elizabeth Mathew, MD
Brian McNiece, MD
Merritt McLaughlin, MD
Natallia Matuzava, MD
Sherma Peter, MD
Matthew Mote, DO
Laci Myers, MD
Ndubuisi Ndukwe, MD
Ifechukwude Nwadei, MD
Ike Nwaobi, MD, MBA
Irene Olabode, DO
Kristine Ortega-Fonte, MD
Akpomudiare Otuguor, MBBS
David Persaud, MD, FAAFP
Sumathi Puttu, MD, FAAFP
William Raisig, MD
James Roth, MD
David Schaffer, MD
Brian Shian, MD, FAAFP
Jiyo Shin, MD, FAAFP
Collyn Steele, MD
Catherine Strickland, MD, FAAFP
Aerica Summers, MD, MPH, FAAFP
Gary Swartzentruber, MD
Calvin Terrelonge, MD
Veronita Thompson, MD
Sabrina Wyllie-Adams, MD
Lisa Young, DO
Monika Zakaria, MD

10 Years

Wallace Ajakaiye, MD
Andrew Anderson, DO
Huma Arain, MD

Megan Brown, MD
Kimberly Brown-Gullatt, MD
Salvatore Bruni, MD
Jaeson Courseault, MD
Esraa Dhabaan, MD
Ana Dinulescu, MD
Nicolas Duchemin, MD
Jameson Estes, MD, FAAFP
Alexandra Feliciano Aponte, MD
Harendra Fernando, MD
Nancy Garcia, MD
Renee Gounden, MD
James Hamilton, MD
William Hamilton, Jr, MD
Alexandra Havlik, MD
Harley Hendrix, MD
Mariel Hepburn, MD
Randy Hines II, MD
Wanda Jirau-Rosaly, MD
Mary Keith, MD
Sonja Kelleher, MD
Nakato Kibuyaga-Travis, MD
Jung Kim, MD
Daniel Kosobucki, MD
Ambar Kulshreshtha, MD, PhD, FAAFP
Priya Kurl, MD
Antony Labady, MD
Vera Lafosse, DO
Thien-Kim Le, MD
Christina Leigh Noguera, MD
Maria Ley Kelly, MD
Patrick Lancaster, MD
Carlos Lucero, MD
Ambreen Mardhani, MD
Nicolle Martin, MD
Kelsay McFall, DO
Robert McClowry, MD
Shanda Newsome, MD
Monique Merritt-Atkins, MD
Andrew Mrugala, MD
Samyuktha Muralidhara, MD
Anu Murthy, MD
Remmya Nair, MD
Tung Nguyen, DO
Kelly O'Dell, MD
Bhavika Patel, MD
Tuhina Patel, MD
Matthew Phillips, MD
Mary Pippin, MD
Sana Rabbi, MD

Atiya Rana, MD
Subhod Rao, MBBS
Kumuda Ranjan, MD
Leah Robinowitz, DO
Cortie Rolison, DO
Kevin Stephens Jr, MD, MBA
Devin Stephens, MD
Zaheeruddin Syed, MD, MBA
Sharita Trimuel, MD
Raulnina Uzzle, MD
Reena Vanmali, MD
Thara Vidyasagaran, MBBS
Berrien Waters, MD
Denise Workman, DO
Nazia Younus, MD

5 Years

Samson Adewale, MD
Shawkut Ali, MD, Med
Kendra Allen, MD
John Andrews, DO
Phuong Anh Dinh, MD
Mariam Antonios, DO
Megan Appleby, MD
Natasha Arora, DO
Charles Babere, MD
Bernadette Baker, MD
Stephanie Baker, MD
Shangeetha Balakumar, MD
Reneeta Basu, DO, MPH
Kayla Batchelor, DO
Clayton Bellam, DO
Jason Berman, DO
Nijah Burris, MD
Jelisa Carroll, DO
David Carstens, MD
Ann-Gelle Carter, MD, MS
Leslie Chiang, DO
Crystal Chiu, MD
Kaavya Chivukula, MD
Jungwon Choi, MD
Chelsea Cohen, MD, MPH
Francesca Damus, MD
Nercie Danger, MD
Patrick Delisser, MD
Sandeep Dhaliwal, MD
Darren Dillard, DO
Monica Drummond, DO
Catie Duskin, DO, MBA
Timothy Erdei, MD

Kaitlin Ervin, MD
Christopher Esonu, MD
Soren Estvold, MD, MPH
Vadley Faugue, MD
Regan Frake, MD, MS
Jaye George, MD
Christina Hall, MD
Sun Hee Shin, MD
Thomas Hierspiel, MD
Karla Hoover, DO
Kaya Jackson, MD
Stephen James, MD
Soo Jin Lee, DO, MPH
Theodore Johnson, MD, MPH
D'Amico Johnson, MD
Caylor Johnson, MD
Sorna Kamara, MD
Justin Kappel, MD
Rachel Kumar, MD
Brett Lawson, MD
Brittany Lawson, MD
Navdeep Mangat, MD
Wien Manguerra-Casiano, DO
Victoria Mazzella, MD
Katherine McClellan, MD
Zachary McGalliard, MD, MPH
Miranda McNear, MD
Kaitlin Meixner, MD, MEd
Puja Mehta, MD
Rodrigo Miguel Maceda, MD
Jacob Mitchell, MD
Khaja Mohiuddin, MD
Jean-Philippe Morisset, MD
Saloni Patel, MD
Poorvi Pfenning, MD
Stephen Purser, MD
Miriam Onyegbula, MD
Amita Nawathe, MD
Ify Nzenwa, MD
LaTasha Oaks Comer, MD
David Onyabe, MD
Radhika Patel, DO
Daniel Ralston, MD
Rachel Rowland, MD
William Saunders, MD, MBA
Pooja Sharma, MD
Kihae Shin, DO
Safia Siddiqui, MD
Carmen Simmons, MD
Mary Sorci, DO
Nimish Sudan, MD

Brandon Taylor, MD
Jerry Thompson, DO
Victoria Timmermans, MD
Lucy Triana, MD
Tam Van, MD
Vijay Venkatesan, MD
James Vlahos, MD
Hailie Volpitto, DO
Catherine Waldron, MD
Joy Zarandy, DO
Aaron-Nickolaos Zervos, DO

Congress of Delegates Officers

Speaker

Monica Newton, DO (District 9)

Vice Speaker

Ellie Daniels, MD (3)

Parliamentarian

Chris Wizner, MD (5)

Credentials Committee

Chair – Sherma Peter, MD (1)

Member – Eddie Richardson, MD (6)

Tellers Committee

Chair – John Desmond, MD (7)

Reference Committee

Chair – Alice House, MD (3)

Vice Chair - Monique Davis-Smith, MD (6)

Secretary – Karla Booker, MD (4)

Member – Michael Satchell, MD (2)

Member – Tom Fausett, MD (8)

Staff - Fay Fulton

Staff – Alesa G. McArthur

Delegate & Alternate Delegate Instructions

You have been elected by your colleagues to represent them at the GAFP Congress of Delegates. As a delegate or alternate delegate, you are responsible for setting the policies of the Academy for the coming year. It is also your responsibility to:

- a) Read the Congress of Delegates Handbook, paying special attention to reports with recommendations; and,
- b) Talk with your colleagues about the recommendations presented.
- c) Attend both reference committee virtual and in person meetings.

Credentialed Delegates will vote on the recommendations presented by the Reference Committees. If approved, these recommendations will then become policy for the Academy.

Instructions

The Credentials Committee will officially register every delegate and alternate before the opening session.

A delegate may represent his constituents on the floor of the Congress by accepting the floor in debate of issues, discussion at Reference Committees, and, of course, in voting on all actions. The American Institute of Parliamentarians Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure shall govern the proceedings of the Congress of Delegates.

Congress of Delegates leadership are appointed by the Speaker of the Congress from among the members of the Congress of Delegates.

The Congress will hold a session for deliberations, receipt of officer and committee reports and action on Reference Committee recommendations as well as election of officers.

Each delegate appointed to the Congress is asked to report punctually to all meetings of that Committee.

Standing Rules of the GAFP Congress of Delegates 2023

Rules. The American Institute of Parliamentarians Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure, most current edition, shall govern the Congress except when it is in conflict with the bylaws or the standing rules of the Congress.

Resolutions. Pursuant to Chapter 7 Section 9 of the Bylaws, resolutions to be submitted to the Congress of Delegates should be submitted to the executive vice president of the Academy or the Speaker of the Congress of Delegates at least forty-five days prior to the meeting during which they are to be considered. All resolutions so submitted will be included in the Congress of Delegates Handbook. The speaker will designate the reference committee to which each resolution is assigned.

Resolutions not submitted forty-five days in advance may be introduced at the first session of the Congress of Delegates only with approval of two-thirds (2/3) of the Congress present and voting. Such resolutions should be submitted in the official form, and a copy of the resolution must be given to the

speaker and Vice Speaker of the Congress, prior to introduction. Resolutions not properly prepared cannot be accepted.

If it is desired to introduce a late resolution not printed in the handbook, the delegate should so state after being recognized by the chair. The speaker will inquire of the Congress if there is an objection. If there is none, the speaker will instruct the delegate to proceed. If the occasion arises for a resolution to be presented, the “Whereas” paragraphs can be omitted and only the “Resolved” portions may be presented.

If an objection is voiced, the speaker will call for a vote on the motion to introduce the resolution. If two-thirds of the delegates present and voting vote in the affirmative, the speaker will instruct the delegate to proceed.

Any substitute resolution offered from the floor by an individual during debate must be in writing and in good form to be accepted by the speaker.

Any proposed amendment or verbiage beyond a very simple correction must be presented in writing.

Resolutions presented to the Congress for consideration by the Congress will be received only from Georgia Academy of Family Physician members.

Speaking Opportunities.

No delegate may speak a second time during the discussion of any motion until all delegates have been given an opportunity to speak once. This will give every member of the Congress the opportunity to present their views.

The officers and directors, past presidents, and the chairperson of each committee of the Academy shall have the privilege of the floor in the Congress of Delegates but shall not have the right to vote.

Nonmember Speaking. Any Academy member or staff executive has the privilege of speaking at a reference committee hearing. The chair also may request nonmembers to provide needed information to clarify or present essential facts on an item under discussion. Otherwise, nonmembers will be granted the floor only upon permission of the presiding officer. Requests from nonmembers wishing to testify preferably should be made in advance of the reference committee hearing.

Recommendations for Action or Policy from Reports of Officers, Residency Programs or Committee

Reports Submitted to the Congress of Delegates from Committees, Residency Programs, or a committee may contain a recommendation for action or proposed statement of policy. The reference committee may file the report but not the proposed recommendations or policies. The reference committee may propose the policy or recommendation be adopted, not adopted, substituted or referred with a statement of reasons for the actions taken.

Powers and Duties of the Reference Committees

Reference committees are created to facilitate the work of the Congress of Delegates. Most matters requiring action by the Congress go through the hands of a reference committee. Instead of debating details and hearing all evidence for or against a question when it is submitted to the Congress, the question is referred by the Speaker of the Congress to the appropriate reference committee.

The reference committee presents the resolutions submitted to the COD in front of the entire body of the Congress of Delegates at its first meeting. This will be held Oct 17, 2023 at 6:00 PM. This is conducted virtually.

The chair of the reference committee presides at the hearings and facilitates discussion. As far as possible, all who wish to speak should be heard and a few persons should not be permitted to monopolize the discussion. The committee may limit the length of time assigned to each speaker. The reference committee chair cannot permit motions or votes at the hearing, since its objective is only to receive information and opinions; decisions of any sort during the hearing would hamper the reference committee in its private deliberations.

Requests from nonmembers wishing to testify preferably should be made in advance of the reference committee hearing.

Every pertinent point should be heard and considered by the reference committee. However, it is necessary to limit or avoid extraneous orations and purely personal or irrelevant views in order that the committee can devote full attention to the subject and complete its work in the brief time available.

The secretary and staff of the reference committee will make notes pertinent to preparing the final report, but formal minutes are not taken, and all member of the reference committee are encouraged to take notes to aid in future deliberations.

Executive Session of Reference Committee:

The decisions to be reflected in the reference committee report are to be made in the executive session. No one other than the members of the committee and assigned staff are to attend this executive session unless invited by the chair to provide needed information. The Speaker and Vice Speaker are available for consultation at the invitation of the reference committee chair. All decisions should be made immediately following the reference committee testimony and are made in executive session.

Without stifling constructive debate, the committee should strive as quickly as possible to handle each item referred to it by recommending:

- a) Adopt
- b) Not Adopt
- c) A revision or substitute to submit to the Congress
- d) Referral of the matter to the Board of Directors which may include a suggestion as to which body might appropriately study it, e.g. committee, etc.
- e) Filing for reference

The reference committee report will, at an appropriately designated time, be reviewed by all other members of the committee, providing opportunity to make corrections or changes deemed necessary. The chair of the reference committee will have reviewed it prior to distribution.

A majority of the members of a reference committee must approve a report before it can be submitted to the Congress.

If a reference committee cannot reach a unanimous decision on a given item (or items), it is proper that this is noted in report with the comments of the minority included in the report.

The content of the reference committee report is the responsibility of the chair and the reference committee. After the reference committee has reached decisions on all items on its agenda, staff will assist with the format and preparation of the report. As soon as the reports are completed and signed, they will be distributed electronically to delegates. Paper copies of the reference committee report will also be available at the in person second session of the Congress of Delegates Meeting.

Consent Calendar

All items of business before the GAFP Congress of Delegates that have been previously reviewed by the COD Reference Committee are placed on a Consent calendar.

Voting on the Consent Calendar

The recommended action on the "Consent Calendar" items is to adopt.

Any delegate may ask for an item to be removed or "extracted" from the consent calendar for individual action by the Congress.

In order to expedite the presentation and action on the reference committee reports, the entire report will be presented on a consent calendar and voted on in one vote unless item(s) are extracted.

The extracted items will then be debated and voted on separately. The entire report will not be read. Only the underscored portions will be read by the chair of the reference committee if extracted and requested by either the speaker or delegates.

Once the extracted items are discussed and voted on the Speaker will entertain discussion and request a vote on the remainder of the consent calendar.



Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure

(Source: *The American Institute of Parliamentarians Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure—May, 2012*)

PRINCIPAL RULES GOVERNING MOTIONS								
<i>Order of precedence¹</i>	<i>Can interrupt?</i>	<i>Requires second?</i>	<i>Debatable?</i>	<i>Amendable?</i>	<i>Vote required?</i>	<i>Applies to what other motions?</i>	<i>Can have what other motions applied to it?⁵</i>	<i>Renewable?</i>
PRIVILEGED MOTIONS								
1. Adjourn	No	Yes	Yes ²	Yes ²	Majority	None	Amend, Close debate, limit debate	Yes
2. Recess	No	Yes	Yes ²	Yes ²	Majority	None	Amend, Close debate, limit debate	Yes ⁶
3. Question of privilege	Yes	No	No	No	None	None	None	Yes
SUBSIDIARY MOTIONS								
4. Table	No	Yes	No	No	2/3	Main motion	None	No
5. Close debate	No	Yes	No	No	2/3	Debatable motions	None	Yes
6. Limit or extend debate	No	Yes	Yes ²	Yes ²	2/3	Debatable motions	Amend, close debate	Yes ⁶
7. Postpone to a certain time	No	Yes	Yes ²	Yes ²	Majority	Main motion	Amend, close debate, limit debate	Yes ⁶
8. Refer to committee	No	Yes	Yes ²	Yes ²	Majority	Main motion	Amend, close debate, limit debate	Yes ⁶
9. Amend	No	Yes	Yes ³	Yes ³	Majority	Rewordable motions	Amend, Close debate, limit debate	No ⁶
MAIN MOTIONS								
10. (a) The main motion	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority	None	Subsidiary	No
(b) Specific main motions								
Adopt in-lieu-of	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority	None	Subsidiary	No
Amend a previous action	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Same Vote	Adopted main motion	Subsidiary	No
Ratify	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Same vote	Adopted main action	Subsidiary	No
Recall from committee	No	Yes	Yes ²	No	Majority	Referred main motion	Close debate, limit debate	No
Reconsider	Yes ⁴	Yes	Yes ²	No	Majority	Vote on main motion	Close debate, limit debate	No
Rescind	No	Yes	Yes	No	Same Vote	Adopted main motion	Subsidiary, except amend	No
INCIDENTAL MOTIONS								
<i>No order of precedence</i>	<i>Can interrupt?</i>	<i>Requires second?</i>	<i>Debatable?</i>	<i>Amendable?</i>	<i>Vote required?</i>	<i>Applies to what other motion?</i>	<i>Can have what other motions applied to it?</i>	<i>Renewable?</i>
MOTIONS								
Appeal	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Majority ⁷	Ruling of chair	Close debate, limit debate	No
Suspend rules	No	Yes	No	No	2/3	Procedural rules	None	Yes
Consider informally	No	Yes	No	No	Majority	Main motion or subject	None	No
REQUESTS								
Point of order	Yes	No	No	No	None	Procedural error	None	No
Inquiries	Yes	No	No	No	None	All motions	None	No
Withdraw a motion	Yes	No	No	No	None ⁸	All motions	None	No
Division of question	No	No	No	No	None ⁹	Main motion	None	No
Division of assembly	Yes	No	No	No	None ⁸	Indecisive vote	None	No

¹ Motions are in order only if no motion higher on the list is pending. Thus, if a motion to close debate is pending, a motion to amend would be out of order, but a motion to recess would be in order, since it outranks the pending motion.

² Restricted.

³ It is not debatable when applied to an undebatable motion.

⁴ A member may interrupt the proceedings but not a speaker.

⁵ Withdraw may be applied to all motions.

⁶ Renewable at the discretion of the presiding officer.

⁷ A tie or majority vote sustains the ruling of the presiding officer; a majority vote in the negative reverses the ruling.

⁸ If decided by the assembly, by motion, requires a majority vote to adopt.

Georgia Academy of Family Physicians 2022 Congress of Delegates

Action Grid – September 2023

2022 Resolutions	Speaker/Vice Speaker Recommendations	Action Taken
<p>1. From the GAFP Policy Manual with recommended edits: Resolve that the GAFP will support the American Academy of Family Physician’s policies and procedures as it relates to Family Physician’s obstetrics credentialing efforts. and will continue to support individual member’s credentialing efforts, and the GAFP will develop a member group to report back to the 2020 COD including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> –Educating stakeholders at Georgia Hospital Association on the FP/OB model and training and. –Encourage their members to recruit Family Medicine residents to provide comprehensive maternity care and offer to post jobs on the GAFP website. <p>RECOMMENDATION: The Policy Review Team recommended re-adopting the policy as edited, as the activities listed above have already occurred or are no longer needed. Following a brief discussion, it was moved and approved to refer to the Practice Management Committee for additional language related to GAFP working with hospitals.</p>	<p>Send a memorandum for inclusion in the March Practice Management Committee discussion.</p> <p>Expected action item for either March or June or August Board of Directors meeting.</p>	<p>June: The Practice Mgt Comm sent updated language to the Board as an action item. This new language was approved by the Board August 2023:</p> <p>The Georgia Academy of Family Physicians supports our members practicing the full scope of Family Medicine practice commensurate with their training and experience. The GAFP supports and advocates for our members who wish to provide their patients with obstetrical and gynecological care and procedures. The Georgia Academy supports the AAFP’s policies regarding FP/OB practice privileges including the following statement:</p> <p>The AAFP advocates that pregnancy, perinatal, and newborn care privileges should be based solely on the individual physician's training, experience, and demonstrated current competence and not by specialty-specific designation alone.</p> <p>The Georgia Academy remains committed to work with our members in their discussions with hospitals if they face roadblocks to receive appropriate credentialing for their FP/OB services. Action Complete.</p>

Georgia Academy of Family Physicians 2022 Congress of Delegates
Action Grid – September 2023

2022 Resolutions	Speaker/Vice Speaker Recommendations	Action Taken
<p>2. RESOLVED that, GAFP leadership and staff strives to include WHO and CDC best practice compliant disease naming terms in GAFP communications.</p>	<p>Staff and Medical Content Editor to be aware of new policy and make needed changes to GAFP publications (January 2023).</p> <p>Add to GAFP Policy Manual (January 2023)</p>	<p>Action Complete</p>
<p>3. RESOLVED that, the Georgia Academy of Family Physicians advocate with state and federal lawmakers to support the passage of US Senate Bill 2375, the “Freedom to Compete Act” which amends the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to eliminate non-compete clauses, and</p> <p>RESOLVED that, the Georgia Academy of Family Physicians advocate with state lawmakers to ban “soft” non-compete practices, in which termination of employment may be used as a threat or punitive response to a family physician informing patients of their intent to practice outside of their current employment or publicly disclosing their intent to change practices, and advocate for the abolition by the legislature of such restrictive covenants and non-compete agreements in physician employment contracts in Georgia and be it further</p> <p>RESOLVED that, the Georgia Academy of Family Physicians advocate and support resolution 507 before the AAFP Congress of Delegates opposing restrictive covenants and non-compete agreements in physician contracts as against public policy, in order to better preserve the physician - patient relationship.</p> <p>Approved to be referred to the GAFP Board of Directors.</p>	<p>Staff to seek background on current congressional action on the elimination of non-competes for physicians with the AAFP Government Relations team. (January 2023)</p> <p>Speaker/Vice Speaker rework the resolution into an action item for approval by the Board of Directors with the potential of a resolution to be sent to the AAFP and/or the Medical Association of Georgia seeking the House of Medicine to work on the elimination of non-competes for physicians as an urgent priority by the AMA, AAFP, and the Medical Association of Georgia. (Action Item prepared for the March Board of Directors Meeting)</p>	<p>Per AAFP GR Staff, SB 2375 will not help physicians, as it’s targeted for lower-income employees.</p> <p>Because of pending Federal Trade Commission rules that would dismantle most non-competes – this item is on hold – pending Federal resolution.</p> <p>May Update: The GAFP joined the AAFP and 26,813 other individuals and groups that made a formal comment to the FTC’s proposed rule to ban non-competes. The comment period ended in mid-April – and an FTC response is expected in late fall.</p> <p>This item continues to be “on hold” until additional federal regulation updates are announced.</p>

Georgia Academy of Family Physicians 2022 Congress of Delegates

Action Grid – September 2023

2022 Resolutions	Speaker/Vice Speaker Recommendations	Action Taken
<p>4. RESOLVED, that GAFP writes a letter of endorsement to the Georgia Council on Aging Perennial Budget Issue requesting increased funding for Home and Community Based Services from the state to eliminate waitlists for services that support Georgia family caregivers to keep loved ones aging at home.</p> <p>After discussion, it was moved and approved to support this resolution.</p>	<p>Staff to draft a letter to the Governor to support and advocate for increasing the budget for the Georgia Council on Aging and seek elimination of the current waitlist to allow more Georgians who wish to have aging at home services. (February 2023)</p>	<p>July: Staff meeting with AARP lobbyists to help draft letter of funding support. Letter to be finalized by legislative committee at August meeting.</p> <p>Letter mailed to Governor Brian Kemp’s office on August 31.</p> <p>Action Complete.</p>
<p>5. RESOLVED, that, GAFP alert our members to the pitfalls of such contracts and GAFP through its legislative committee and lobbyists seek and support legislation in the Georgia General Assembly to impose limitations on such Auto-renewal contracts and</p> <p>RESOLVED, that, such limitations require notice and affirmative written consent to renewal of such contracts between 30 and 60 days prior to any deadline for cancellation or contract renewal and</p> <p>RESOLVED that, all such contracts contain clear and conspicuous descriptions of the provisions for auto-renewal and any cancellation costs or penalties</p> <p>RESOLVED that, and failure to comply with such provisions shall cause the good or service to be classified as an "unconditional gift" to the consumer.</p>	<p>Staff draft a memo to come from the Speaker/Vice Speaker to be sent to the Legislative Committee for the group to seek legislative solutions on auto-renewal contracts. (March 2023). The Legislative Committee will be meeting in-person in June after the legislative session concludes.</p> <p>Ask the Legislative Committee to respond with potential solutions to advance this advocacy initiative with a reply back by August 2023.</p> <p>Legislative Committee had lawyer review to confirm there is no law to address situation and recommended a resolution to the MAG House of Delegates seeking broad coalition support.</p>	<p>This action item went before the Board in August 2023 and was approved as written: GAFP resolution to the Medical Association of Georgia’s House of Delegates – Auto-Renewal Contracts</p> <p>The Speaker and Vice Speaker of the GAFP Congress of Delegates recommended that Board of Directors approve the following resolution to be presented to the Medical Association of Georgia’s 2023 House of Delegates:</p> <p>Whereas Auto-renewal ("Evergreen") contracts are frequently and increasingly used by vendors and service providers such as insurance claim clearinghouses, sterilization services, communications providers, medical waste disposal services, etc. to medical practices in Georgia and the US as a means to enhance the vendor's revenue at the expense of the medical practice (consumer) and Whereas such added expenses must be absorbed by the medical practice or passed on to patients, increasing the cost of health care and locking practices (consumers) into paying for services they no longer need or want,</p>

Georgia Academy of Family Physicians 2022 Congress of Delegates
Action Grid – September 2023

2022 Resolutions	Speaker/Vice Speaker Recommendations	Action Taken
<p>After discussion, it was moved and approved to refer to the Legislative Committee.</p>		<p>or switching to vendors with better or cheaper service and Whereas multiple other states including California, Oregon, and New Jersey have imposed limits on such contracts, specifying requirements for adequate written notice of renewal, require affirmative written consent to renew, simple cancellation procedures, and other disclosures and Whereas failure to comply with these requirements can result in the service or product being classified as an “unconditional gift” to the customer, and Whereas legislative action in Georgia could reduce unnecessary expense to consumers, medical practices and patients in Georgia now therefore be it Resolved that MAG alert our members to the pitfalls of such contracts and MAG through its legislative committee and lobbyists seek and support legislation in the Georgia General Assembly to impose limitations on such Auto-renewal contracts and Be it further Resolved that such limitations require notice and affirmative written consent to renewal of such contracts between 30 and 60 days prior to any deadline for cancellation or contract renewal and all such contracts contain clear and conspicuous descriptions of the provisions for auto-renewal and any cancellation costs or penalties and Be it further Resolved that failure to comply with such provisions shall cause the good or service to be classified as an "unconditional gift" to the consumer. <i>Background:</i> At last year’s Congress of Delegates, a resolution focusing on advocating for banning auto-renewals in physician’s contracts was discussed. This resolution was not approved but referred to the Legislative Committee for review. The Legislative Committee,</p>

Georgia Academy of Family Physicians 2022 Congress of Delegates
Action Grid – September 2023

2022 Resolutions	Speaker/Vice Speaker Recommendations	Action Taken
		<p>in concert with the Executive Committee, sought outside legal counsel to review whether or not current Georgia law covered this issue. While there is language on banning auto-renewals, it does not cover employment contracts. Therefore, the Legislative Committee recommended that a resolution be introduced in MAG’s House of Delegates so that the full force of the House of Medicine can focus on this key issue. The Speaker and Vice Speaker have reviewed the proposed resolution and asks the GAFP Board for their final review and approval for MAG submission. This was approved at the August 2023 Board meeting and has been sent to MAG for the October House of Delegates meeting. Action complete.</p>
<p>6. RESOLVE THAT, GAFP sponsor and develop an annual introduction to Georgia Advocacy course where Family Medicine residents are exposed to current physician advocacy initiatives and activities in our state.</p> <p>RESOLVE THAT, GAFP may further recommend that Family Medicine residency programs provide notice and encourage course attendance to all residents.</p> <p>RECOMMENDATION: The reference committee recommended that this be referred to the GAFP Board of Directors.</p>	<p>The Speaker and Vice Speaker prepared a memorandum for the Student and Resident Recruitment Committee to ask that they review potential new activities to support additional advocacy education for residents. (By April since they aren’t meeting formally in March). And ask the S&R Committee to have a response prepared by the end of August 2023.</p>	<p>Memorandum sent to Student and Resident Recruitment Committee – June 1.</p> <p>Response following August Committee Meeting: The Committee noted that these opportunities should be highlighted more through <i>Briefly Stated</i>, Georgia Academy of Family Physicians Enewsletter, and the GAFP website. Staff will update the appropriate areas. Thank you for allowing us to review this proposal and let us know if there is a need for further action. However, our decision was that there was NOT a need for more activities – just better communication to residents about our advocacy activities which they can participate. Action Complete.</p>

**Congress of Delegates
President's Report-Sharon Rabinovitz, MD
September 2023**

It has been a tremendous honor to serve as your president in 2023. During this year, more than ever, I experienced how the GAFP supports and lifts up its members and leaders, focuses on the well-being and access to care for our patients, and ensures our work positively impacts all of Georgians.

This year has felt sweeter as it was the first full year with the COVID-19 pandemic less in focus, which gave space and time to other initiatives and allowed the needed attention to timely sociopolitical issues which would impact our members and our patients. I have learned a great deal about the advocacy process and how important our collective voice is in Georgia.

I was fortunate to be able to attend the Annual Chapter Leadership Forum and the AAFP Congress of Delegates which bring Family Physicians together from across the country to share best practices, learn how to make change, and support each other.

The Georgia Healthy Family Alliance (GHFA)

The goal of the GHFA is to improve the health of Georgia's citizens and increase the financial health of organization. GHFA reached the momentous milestone this summer of culminating the end of their capital campaign by reaching their 4-million-dollar goal.

Highlighted Initiatives or Events to Support Our Strategic Plan: The work of the GAFP is very broad and has a great deal of depth. I want to highlight some of the most impactful, new, or innovative work accomplished this year.

Enhance Georgia's Family Physician Community/Social Network/Engagement

Engagement in the Primary Care Summit scheduled for September 15, 2023
Summer meeting 2023: Standing Strong Shining Brightly
August and March Conclaves where the hard work of the committees supports the mission of the GAFP.

Advancement of Practice Excellence

August Board Meeting: Dr. Carmen Cavalli shared the mission and vision of the Georgia Alliance for Patient Protection (GAPP) which is dedicated to physician-led, team-based care in Georgia.
June Board Meeting: Dr. Michael Tuggy joined the June Board Meeting to present on Best Practices for Family Medicine and Interprofessional Teams.
March Board Meeting: Dr Debra Houry, MD, MPH, the Chief Medical Officer at the CDC presented with a firsthand invitation to partner with the CDC on the next phase of vaccine recommendations in Primary Care.
Legislative Committee support of SB 197 (Health Care Practitioners Truth and Transparency in Advertising which passed) and opposition of HB 455 (CRNA Independent Practice which was defeated)

Advance Health Equity in Georgia/Workforce in Underserved Communities

Contributions to Foothills AHEC and SOWEGA Pathway to Medical School Programs
Legislative Committee support of HB 82 (renewal of the Rural Physician Tax Credit-eligible in 2024) and HB 308 (the renewal of the Community Preceptor Tax Credit-passed)

Advocacy for Family Medicine and Our Patients to Public and Private Payors

We continue to partner with our Primary Care colleagues to create a united and strong voice regarding issues impacting our MD/DO colleagues and our most vulnerable patients.

- August 30, 2023: It's August: Do you Know Where Your Legislator Are? A webinar addition to introduce physicians to the process of advocacy and provide tools to reach out to their local legislators.
- March 2, 2023: Advocacy Day at the Capitol
- January 17, 2023: Virtual Advocacy Night Webinar featuring Jet Toney
- June 27, 2023: Medicaid Redetermination webinar

Legislative Committee work including support of the following: HB 37 (Medicaid support during redetermination) and HB 38 (Increase Medicaid Coverage up to 136 percent of the poverty level). Both of which are eligible in 2024.

Evaluation of Governance/Administration/Academy's Soundness and Resiliency

Instituted an additional five percent match for employees which is vested after three years. This is in addition to the automatic match which is in place for up to 6%.

Instituting a Treasurer's summary report for each board meeting

Providing follow-up to the Board Meeting small group discussions to emphasize the importance of identified improvements and the review done by the staff.

Continued support of the EVP position and review of the succession plan

Awards and nominations for 2023

- GAFP Family Physician of the Year Award: Chip Cowart, MD, FFAFP (Statesboro, GA)
It is an honor to bestow Dr. Chip Cowart the GAFP Family Physician Award of the Year. Chip has made a significant contribution to GAFP over the years. He has been a tremendous mentor and guide for me over the years. His vision and implementation of GHFA in its current form has changes the lives of thousands of Georgians and will continue to do so due to his leadership. Congratulations on this well-deserved honor.
 - GAFP Legislative Champion Award: Representative Matt Hatchett servicing Dublin, GA
 - GAFP Family Medicine Resident of the Year Award: Samuel Nwaobi, MD (Piedmont Columbus Regional Midtown in Columbus, GA)

Recommendations: None

Congress of Delegates - September 2023

Chairman of the Board of Directors' Report 2023

I would like to extend my thanks to over 100 GAFP members who have served in a leadership role during 2023. My colleagues on the Executive Committee have met at least monthly and continually strive to advance our specialty and protect our patients.

Board of Directors

The GAFP Board of Directors meets quarterly throughout the year, and this year met three times prior to the annual meeting, on March 12, June 10, and August 13. The Board will meet during the GAFP annual meeting on Friday, November 10.

The GAFP has a dedicated group of members serving all of you and includes the following leaders:

Chair – Susana Alfonso, MD	Alternate Director, District 5 – Cedrice Davis, MD
President – Sharon Rabinovitz, MD	Alternate Director, District 6 – Monique Davis-Smith, MD
Vice President – Michael Satchell, MD	Alternate Director, District 7 – Christina Douglass, MD
President-Elect – Samuel Le Church, MD	Alternate Director, District 8 – Richard Wheeler, MD
Secretary – Michael Busman, MD	Alternate Director, District 9 – Jody Bahnmler, MD
Treasurer – John Vu, MD	Alternate Director, District 10 – Michelle Mason Woodard, MD
Speaker - Monica Newton, DO	Alternate Director, District 11 – D’Amico Johnson, MD
Vice Speaker – Ellie Daniels, MD	Resident Director – Nijah Burris, MD
Director, District 1 – Sherma Peter, MD	Resident Director – Shantrice Appleby, MD
Director, District 2 – Michael Sein, DO	Resident Alt. Director – Teresa Colon-Asumu, MD
Director, District 3 – Alice House, MD	Resident Alt. Director – Sydney Koenig McRae, MD
Director, District 4 – Carmen Echols, MD	Student Director – Michael Brackett
Director, District 5 – Paul Chukelu, MD	Student Director – Zachary Harrison
Director, District 6 – Steve Wilson, MD	Student Director – Katie Lively
Director, District 7 – Pamela Obi, MD	Student Alt. Director – Tucker Hickox
Director, District 8 – Jonathan Wade, DO	Student Alt. Director – Amanda Lilley
Director, District 9 – Nkikura Udejiore, MD	Student Alt. Director – Shant Ohanian
Director, District 10 – C. Judson Pickett, MD	AAFP Delegate – Angeline Ti, MD
Director, District 11 – Daniel Feckoury, MD	AAFP Delegate - Mitch Cook, DO
Alternate Director, District 1 – Angie Gerguis, MD	AAFP Alternate Delegate – John Gerguis, MD
Alternate Director, District 2 – Shaun Franklin, MD	AAFP Alternate Delegate – Beverley Ann Townsend, MD
Alternate Director, District 3 – Dan Singleton, MD	
Alternate Director, District 4 – Casey Henritz, DO	

Committee chairs and vice-chairs also serve on the Board in a non-voting capacity:

Education and Research Committee

Theresa Jacobs, MD – Chair
Ken Howard, MD – Vice Chair

Finance Committee

John Vu, MD – Chair
Brian Pratt, MD – Vice Chair

Legislative Committee

Loy “Chip” Cowart, MD – Chair
Casey Henritz, DO – Vice Chair

Membership Committee

Alice House, MD – Chair
Christina Kelly, MD – Vice Chair

PAC Board

Susana Alfonso, MD – Chair
Jeff Stone, MD – Vice Chair

Practice Management Committee

Christina Douglass, MD – Chair
Sherma Peter, MD – Vice Chair

Public Health Committee

Angeline Ti, MD - Chair
Dan Singleton, MD – Vice Chair

Student and Resident Committee

Julie Dahl-Smith, DO – Chair
Jody Bahnmler, MD – Vice Chair

Georgia Healthy Family Alliance

Mitzi Rubin, MD – President
Harry Strothers, MD – Vice President

Thank you to the following Board members whose terms expire this November:

Chair – Susana Alfonso, MD
Vice President – Michael Satchell, MD
Treasurer – John Vu, MD
Speaker – Monica Newton, DO
Vice Speaker – Ellie Daniels, MD
Director, District 1 – Sherma Peter, MD
Director, District 6 – W. Steven Wilson, MD
Director, District 7 – Pam Obi, MD
Alternate Director, District 6 – Monique Davis-Smith, MD
Alternate Director, District 7 – Christina Douglass, MD

Resident Director – Nijah Burris, MD
Resident Director – Shantrice Appleby, MD
Resident Alt. Director – Sydney Koenig McRae, MD
Student Director – Michael Brackett
Student Director – Zachary Harrison
Student Director – Katie Lively
Student Alt. Director – Tucker Hickox
Student Alt. Director – Amanda Lilley
Student Alt. Director – Shant Ohanian
AAFP Delegate – Jonathan “Mitch” Cook, DO
AAFP Alternate Delegate – Beverley Ann Townsend, MD

Policies of the GAFFP

In addition to the GAFFP Bylaws, the GAFFP has a Policy Manual that is reviewed and updated every year. The policy review process is that one-third of all policies are reviewed each year on a three-year rotating basis by the Board Chair and the Congress of Delegates Speaker and Vice Speaker. The policies that originated with the Board are taken back to the Board for approval every three years on a rotating basis so that all policies are continuously reviewed. Those originated with the Congress of Delegates will be presented in this report for review and approval.

The following policies were recommended by the Policy Review Team and approved by the Board of Directors. They were updated in the following manner:

1. Seating Medical Student Board Members Amongst Physician Board Members

The GAFFP will seat Medical Student Board members amongst Physician Board members during GAFFP Board meetings.

The Policy Review Team recommends to re-adopt the policy as written.

2. COD Progress Report to BOD

Actions of the COD to the GAFFP Board

The Speaker of the Congress of Delegates must present to the Board of Directors, at each regularly scheduled meeting, a progress report on the directives given to the Academy as set forth by the approved resolutions.

The Policy Review Team recommends to re-adopt the policy as written.

3. GAFFP PAC Board

The PAC strives to increase its annual contributions by 20 percent annually.

The Policy Review Team recommends to re-adopt the policy as edited:

In order to achieve this goal, the Congress of Delegates strongly encourages all members, and especially members of the Congress of Delegates, Board of Directors, and all its leadership committees to contribute annually.

4. GAFFP GPCPC

GAFFP Supports the Georgia Patient Centered Physician Coalition (GPCPC)

The Georgia Academy of Family Physicians proclaims its support for the Patient Centered Physician Coalition of Georgia Patient Centered Physician Care Coalition (PCPCC).

The Executive Director/Executive Vice President of GAFFP is charged with facilitating and attending meetings of the GPCPC. Additionally, two (2) members of the GAFFP active membership will be appointed by the President to attend each meeting – typically the President and President Elect.

The Policy Review Team recommends to re-adopt the policy as written.

5. GAFP Strategic Planning

The GAFP completes a Strategic Plan at a minimum of every 3 years and the implementation and accomplishments of that plan be presented to the Board of Directors at each of their regularly scheduled meetings.

The Policy Review Team recommends to re-adopt the policy as written.

6. Establishment of the Dr. Keith Ellis Award

On the eve of Dr. Keith Ellis' retirement as Residency Faculty and Program Director of Memorial Health Family Medicine Residency in Savannah, a scholarship fund be developed that would be awarded to send one (1) deserving resident per year to the GAFP Annual Meeting.

Criteria for choosing this resident would be developed and maintained by the Membership Committee.

The current policy is that the Membership Committee reviews all named GAFP awards every ten years.

The Policy Review Team recommends to re-adopt the policy as written.

7. Poster Publications

The GAFP has a research poster presentation and contest at the Annual Meeting each year. As policy, the GAFP is to publicize the winning posters in their publications.

The Policy Review Team recommends to re-adopt the policy as written.

8. Adult Immunization Requirements

Adult Immunization Requirements

Under certain settings, the GAFP approves of Pharmacist administered vaccines to adults, under a physician protocol, as long as:

- 1) that information is sent to the patient's primary care physician if the patient consents,
- 2) the specific vaccine is provided either under authority of prescription or specific collaborative agreement with a Georgia licensed physician
- 3) the administering pharmacist has a valid certificate from the State Pharmacy Board, and
- 4) the pharmacist inputs the information into GRITS (Georgia Registry for Immunization Services) which will allow the primary care physician/medical home to have access to the information.

The Policy Review Team recommends to re-adopt the policy as written.

9. Increase funding for family medicine and payment

Continue to advocate strongly for increased funding for family medicine GME and increased payment for family physicians at the state and national levels in collaboration with AAFP.

The Policy Review Team recommends to re-adopt the policy as written.

10. GAFP's Opposition Non-Physician Prescribing Medications

The GAFP is committed to opposing any expansion of a scope of practice by any non-physician when we believe that it is not in the best interest of our patients.

The Policy Review Team recommends to re-adopt the policy as written.

11. Medicaid Reimbursements

That the GAFP support increased Medicaid reimbursements to be equal to 100% of Medicare reimbursements.

The Policy Review Team recommends to re-adopt the policy as edited:

Medicaid ~~Reimbursements~~ **Payments**

That the GAFP support increased Medicaid ~~reimbursements~~ **payments** to be **at least** equal to 100% of Medicare ~~reimbursements~~ **payments**.

12. Scoliosis Screening

~~The GAFP work to eliminate routine screening for scoliosis in accordance with USPSTF guidelines.~~

~~Edited 11/2020~~— The GAFP will work with the Medical Association of Georgia’s House of Delegates to eliminate routine screening for scoliosis in schools.

The Policy Review Team recommends to re-adopt the policy as edited:

The GAFP will continue to work with the Medical Association of Georgia’s House of Delegates to eliminate routine screening for scoliosis in schools.

Recommendations: Approve the policies listed above

Respectfully submitted: Susana Alfonso, MD, FAAFP - Chair, GAFP Board of Directors

Report of the Treasurer and the Finance Committee
September 2023
Congress of Delegates
Georgia Academy of Family Physicians Annual Financial Report

GAFP's Annual Financial Report

Under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) section 6104, tax exempt entities must make their tax returns to the public at the organization's principal office. The public is free to review the 2020, 2021, and 2022 tax filings for both the Georgia Academy and the Georgia Healthy Family Alliance during regular business hours – Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Copied versions can be mailed for \$10 per filing. For more information contact the GAFP office at (404) 321-7445 or by e-mail at gafp@gafp.org. This report is a comparison of 2022 year-end financial activity versus 2021 year-end activities.

Statement of Activities for the Years Ended December 31, 2022 and 2021

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total for 2022	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total for 2021
REVENUE & SUPPORT						
Membership dues	\$ 595,398		\$ 595,398	\$ 580,126		\$ 580,126
Contributions		24,960	24,960		23,097	23,097
Grants	189,309		189,309	192,709		192,709
Conferences & meetings	314,713		314,713	236,905		236,905
Advertising	23,810		23,810	19,569		19,569
Investment Income				514,700		524,700
Interest & dividends	95,553		95,553	---		---
Other revenue	35,206	19,384	54,590	17,578	11,650	29,228
Total revenue & support	1,253,989	44,344	1,298,333	1,561,587	34,747	1,596,334
Net assets released from restrictions	44,344	(44,344)	--	50,580	(50,580)	--
EXPENSES						
Program services:						
Education	743,592		743,592	613,925		613,925
Advocacy	159,594		159,594	142,485		142,485
Supporting Services						
Management and General	365,177		365,177	281,393		281,393
Membership development	163,797		163,797	133,988		133,988
Total expenses	1,432,160		1,432,160	1,171,791		1,171,791
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS FROM OPERATIONS	(133,837)		(133,837)	440,376	(15,833)	424,543
Donation to Alliance	(192,106)		(192,106)	198,662		198,662
Change in Net Assets	(1,083,911)		(1,083,911)	341,625	(2,073)	339,552
Net assets – beginning of year	4,951,419		4,951,419	4,709,705	17,906	4,725,538
Net assets – end of year	\$ 3,867,508		\$3,867,508	\$ 4,951,419	\$ 15,833	\$4,951,419

The change in net assets from operations in 2022 was \$-(133,837) versus the final net change in assets from operations in 2021 was \$440,376.

Committee Activities of 2023:

The Finance Committee met three times this year in March, June, and August and these were some of the important issues that were tackled:

- The Finance Committee continues to review the strategic plan and is available to assist other committees in budgeting for their concepts and member-related activities when needed. The strategic plan will be updated throughout the year with activities from each committee, staff, and other stakeholders.
- The Finance Committee is now tracking a new 2023 financial policy, approved by the GAFP Board of Directors at the August Board meeting, which is, that travel expenses must be sent to the GAFP office within 45 days of the dates of travel, which would assist in the financials being more accurate during the year, instead of by the end of December in the current year. This will be fully implemented in 2024.
- The Finance Committee and the GAFP staff reviewed the 2022 audit. Brian Muia, auditor with Loblolly Solutions, joined the group at the June committee meeting in person to review and discuss the GAFP and GHFA 2022 audit reports. The group reviewed the independent audits, and Mr. Muia stated that, both organizations are in great shape financially. No issues were found, and our new bookkeeper has transitioned very well into her role and made great strides to close out 2022 financials, with which he found no material adjustments; therefore, the audit letter is clean without any needed changes.
He noted, also, it concerns auditors when membership dues revenue dip but that GAFP's membership dues continues to be strong, which is a huge plus. In addition, with our risked pooled investment fund, even in tough market years, our funds drop less than those strictly tied to the market.
Finally, he went on to share that net assets have grown for GHFA with strong pledge receivables on the balance sheet.
- The Finance Committee reforecast the budget slightly after the first half of the year to reflect a few changes, with the main revision being that GAFP was able to apply for, and receive approval of, approximately \$136,000 net in the Employee Retention Credits available through Federal/COVID support.

The Finance Committee will continue to support and review evaluations of the initiatives listed above to ensure the monies allocated are supporting the intended activities successfully. The Committee is also in full support of the current strategic plan and will evaluate the need for program funding during the life of this plan.

Overall, we had a financially healthy year due to several factors including investments and membership dues.

I would like to thank my committee members which include Brian Pratt MD – Vice Chair, Tina-Ann Thompson, MD, Beverley Townsend, MD and student member Jantzen Pride.

Recommendations: None

Respectfully Submitted,

John Vu, MD
Treasurer, Georgia Academy of Family Physicians
Chair, Finance Committee

September 2023

Congress of Delegates Georgia Academy of Family Physicians

Secretary of the Executive Committee and Board of Directors

The Board of Directors met four times over the course of the year. The minutes of the meetings were approved and duly filed at the GAFP headquarters and are available for review upon request. The minutes from the upcoming November Board meeting will be approved before the end of December. Since the last Congress of Delegates, the Executive Committee has met at least monthly either in person or by phone. The Executive Committee minutes are sent to the Board after approval, so that the Board can continue to be informed on the business of the Academy during the interim time between meetings (typically 2-3 months)

2023 Executive Committee Members

Chair	Susanna Ajoy Alfonso, MD
President	Sharon Rabinovitz, MD
President-Elect	Samuel Le Church, MD
Vice President	Michael Satchell, MD
Secretary	Mike Busman, MD
Treasurer	John Vu, MD
Speaker	Monica Newton, DO
Executive Vice President	Fay Fulton (staff)

GAFP continues to have unprecedented leadership at the national level including the following members:

Samuel Le Church, MD – Member, AMA CPT Editorial Panel
Chip Cowart, MD – Member, AAFP Commission on Federal and State Policy
Fay Fulton, MHS – Chapter Staff Advisor, AAFP National Research Network
Beulette Hooks, MD – Member, Council on Graduate Medical Education (COGME)
Patrick P.J. Lynn, MD – AAFP Scholars Leading Physician Well-Being
Celeste Miller, MD – AAFP Scholars Leading Physician Well-Being
Kevin E. Johnson, MD - Association Family Medicine Residency Directors Board
Evelyn Lewis&Clark, MD - AAFP Delegate to the AMA House of Delegates
Adrienne Mims, MD – Member, National Committee on Quality Assurance
Monica Newton, DO – Member, AAFP Commission on Education
Nkiruka Udejiofor, MD – Member, AAFP Commission on Quality and Practice
Ambar Kulshreshtha, MD – Member, AAFP Commission on Health of the Public and Science,
Member AAFP National Research Network Board of Advisors

Georgia Family Physicians continue to be leaders around Georgia such as:

John Antalis, MD	Georgia Composite Medical Board, Past Chair
Garrett Bennett, MD	Georgia Board for Healthcare Workforce
Scott Bohlke, MD	Georgia Board for Healthcare Workforce
William Bostock, DO	Georgia Composite Medical Board Chair
George Harrison, MD	Georgia Composite Medical Board Member
Barby Simons, DO	Georgia Composite Medical Board Past Chair
Monica Newton, DO	Georgia Physician Leadership Academy

Adrienne Mims, MD	Vice Chair, Georgia Council on Aging
William Nash MD	Georgia Medical Directors Association Board
Michael Satchell, MD	President, Georgia Medical Directors Association Board
Dave Ringer, MD	Past President, GA Medical Directors Association Board
Angeline Ti, MD	Member, Maternal Mortality Review Action Committee
Ralph Warnock MD	Georgia Medical Directors Association Board
Wayne Hoffman, MD	Georgians for a Healthy Future Board

Georgia Delegation for the AAFP’s Annual Chapter Leadership Forum and the National Chapter Constituencies Forum:

NCCL attendees – Voting Delegates

- Women: Elvan Daniels, MD
- Minorities: Carmen Echols, MD
- New to Practice: Macy McNair, MD
- IMG: Nkiruka Udejiofor, MD
- LGBTQ+: Christina Kelly, MD

ACLF attendees

- Sharon Rabinovitz, MD
- Le Church, MD
- Susana Alfonso, MD
- John Gerguis, MD
- Mike Busman, MD
- John Vu, MD
- Director of Education – Sarah Bigorowski

Georgia Delegation for the AAFP’s Family Medicine Advocacy Summit:

- Susana Alfonso, MD – Board Chair
- Sharon Rabinovitz, MD – President
- Thomas Hoang Nguyen, MD – Mercer (Macon) Family Medicine Resident
- Loy “Chip” Cowart, MD – Legislative Committee Chair
- Casey J. Henritz, DO – Legislative Committee Co-Chair
- Alexandria Poitier, MD – Alliance Resident Trustee – Morehouse Resident
- Andy Herink, MD – Mercer (Macon) Family Medicine Resident
- Yoonhee Kim, MD – Mercer (Macon) Family Medicine Resident
- John S. Gerguis, MD – AAFP Congress of Delegate Alternate Delegate

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Busman, MD
 Board Secretary, Georgia Academy of Family Physicians

RECOMMENDATIONS: None

Congress of Delegates Report
Executive Vice President

September 2023

It continues to my honor and joy to work for the Georgia Academy of Family Physicians. As many of us are continuing to count the years of “Before COVID” and “After COVID”, the Georgia Academy is building for the future that includes the changes that COVID has incurred.

From our Georgia Academy offices in Tucker, here are the current dramatic changes we have seen:

- More members are employed by health care systems.
- Membership has dropped nationally, and Georgia’s membership has also decreased (but below national averages).
- Attendance at meetings has not returned to pre-pandemic levels.
- Outside funding has dropped dramatically.
- Our members are busier than ever before and many express ongoing concerns over burnout and lack of their joy of medicine.

While our State Chapter considers itself up to all challenges, we can’t solve them all, but your leaders continue to look for new and innovative ways to support all 3,200 members to keep advancing family medicine.

Here are a few new activities that we have launched in 2023, as we look for the future to continue to increase member benefits for state involvement:

- CME is offered virtually and in-person.
- Adding wellness and joy in medicine as part of all meetings.
- Gathering information for a new approach to education, and engagement with a year-long study to hear back from our members before launching a new strategic plan.
- Increasing our capacity to support our FMIG groups that are now on over 10 campuses throughout our state.
- Working with our Residency Directors to launch an all-Georgia collaborative for shared expertise and best practices.
- Working with industry to pilot a statewide “Breaking Vaccine Barriers in Communities of Color.”
- Connecting more family physicians with their state and national legislators to influence key decisions affecting family medicine and your patients.
- Georgia Healthy Family Alliance hit our initial fundraising goal of \$4 million dollars – a feat that no other AAFP state chapter has accomplished!

We are fortunate to have amazing leaders steering the GAFP ship, and we are constantly seeking new volunteers to keep us growing. If you haven't served on a committee, please consider joining in 2024, as we have both virtual and in-person options for all of our committee meetings that typically meet in March, June, and August.

I can't conclude my report without thanking my colleagues who continue to excel and give premier customer service to all who we meet, speak to, or connect with during our workday. This group is the best of the best and they are:

Sarah Bigorowski – Director of Education

Ali Bohannon – Manager of Membership and Industry Engagement

Alesa McArthur – Deputy Executive Vice President

Kara Sinkule – Deputy Director, Georgia Healthy Family Alliance

To those that ready these words, know that we are strengthened by the work that you dedicate to Georgia's patients, and it drives us forward. Thank you for your trust and confidence in allowing us to support you.

Recommendations: None

Report of the Bylaws Committee

September 2023

Congress of Delegates
Georgia Academy of Family Physicians

The GAFP Bylaws Committee met once this year at the March GAFP Committee Conclave in Atlanta. The Committee recommended the following revisions to the GAFP Bylaws. The updates will go to the 2023 Congress of Delegates for final approval.

GAFP Bylaws-Update 2023 Review and changes to the current Bylaws

The Bylaws Committee group reviewed the GAFP Bylaws and suggested several, mainly, grammatical or process changes to the following sections of the Bylaws:

CHAPTER 4

LIFE MEMBERS

Life members may vote, serve on committees and commissions, and address the membership but shall not hold office. **Committee recommends deleting commissions (as we don't have commissions).**

INACTIVE MEMBERS

An Inactive member shall not vote or hold office in the Academy but may address the membership and serve on committees and commissions. **Committee recommends deleting commissions.**

SUPPORTING MEMBERS

A Supporting Member shall not vote or hold office in the Academy but may address the membership and serve on committees and commissions. **Committee recommends deleting commissions.**

CHAPTER 7

Congress of Delegates

SECTION 2: Each district, as determined by the Board of Directors, shall be entitled to elect delegates and alternate delegates to the Congress of Delegates, who shall be elected for terms of two (2) years, provided that at the first election, each district elects one delegate and one alternate delegate for two (2) years. Each district shall be entitled to no less than two delegates and two alternates. The total number of delegates in the Congress of Delegates shall be up to 70. Each district shall be allotted delegates and alternate delegates above their two delegates and two alternates as determined by the *secretary* **Committee recommends this be changed to Vice Speaker** on the basis of that district's proportion of the total paid Academy membership. Only active members may be elected as delegates; however, in determining the number of delegates per district all classes of members except student and resident members are counted. Such determination shall be made by May 31st each year. The names of all delegates entitled to be seated in the Congress of Delegates shall be furnished to the Credentials Committee of the Congress of Delegates by the *Secretary*. **Committee recommends this be changed to Vice Speaker.**

SECTION 3: Membership in a district will be determined by the *primary* mailing address of said member, whether home or professional. **Committee recommends changing primary to preferred to align with updated AAFP language.**

CHAPTER 8

Board of Directors

SECTION 9: *Advisory Committee.* Committee recommends updating to Past Presidents (as this group is the Advisory Committee)

All past presidents shall ~~become an Advisory Committee to the Board of Directors and shall~~ be considered ex-officio members of the Board with the privilege of the floor, but without the right to vote. ~~Committee recommends removing the wording related to an Advisory Committee consisting of GAFF past presidents and leave that they are ex-officio members.~~

CHAPTER 9:

Election of Officers

SECTION 1: Definition. The officers of the Academy shall be a President, President-Elect, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Chairperson of the Board of Directors, ~~and Speaker of the Congress of Delegates, GAFF Delegates and Alternate delegates to the AAFP.~~ All officers shall serve until their successors are elected and installed. The powers, duties, terms of office, and method of election of the officers shall be set forth in the Bylaws. ~~Committee recommends removing that GAFF Delegates and Alternate delegates to the AAFP – as they do not currently serve on the Executive Committee.~~

SECTION 4: Election of the above officers shall be by (~~Committee recommends adding “electronic” since that is current process~~) ballot prepared by the Executive Director/Executive Vice President. The nominee receiving the majority of votes shall be declared elected, provided that when the nominations have been closed with only a single candidate having been nominated, the presiding officer shall declare that candidate elected to office.

CHAPTER 10

Duties and Terms of Officers

SECTION 1: The President shall be a member of the Board of Directors and all standing committees. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Academy. The President shall be the spokesperson of the Academy. They shall have general supervision of the business of the Academy and shall see that all orders and resolutions of the Board of Directors are carried into effect; ~~they shall execute bonds, mortgage, and other contracts requiring the seal of the Academy, except where required by law to be otherwise signed and executed and except where the signing and execution thereof shall be expressly delegated by the Board of Directors to some other officer or agent of the Academy.~~ ~~Committee recommends striking this – as the Executive Vice President has the authority to sign contracts, under supervision of the Executive Committee.~~ Their term of office shall begin at the installation ceremony following the one at which their predecessor was installed. In the event of the death or resignation of the president during the term of their office or if they shall for any reason be unable or unqualified to serve, the Vice-President shall succeed to the office of the President for the unexpired portion of the President's term. In the event of the death, resignation, or incapacity of both the President and the Vice-President, the Board of Directors shall elect a President for the unexpired portion of the term. The President-Elect shall succeed to the office of President at the conclusion of the annual meeting following the meeting at which their election occurred.

SECTION 2: The Vice-President shall be a member of the Board of Directors and shall preside at meetings of the Academy in the absence of the President. Their term of office shall begin at the installation ceremony during the annual meeting at which their election occurs and expires at the installation ceremony during the next annual meeting. The Vice-President shall also serve as a member with voting privileges on the bylaws committee and shall serve as the parliamentarian of the Board of Directors. In the event of the death, resignation, or incapacity of the Vice-President, the Board of Directors shall elect a Vice-President for the unexpired portion of their term. ~~The committee recommends adding: The Vice President oversees the implementation of the Strategic Plan - as this is already current process.~~

SECTION 5: The Chair of the Board of Directors shall be the immediate past president and shall assume the office of Chairperson at the conclusion of the annual meeting following the conclusion of their presidency. The Chairperson of the Board of Directors shall preside over all meetings of the Board and the Executive Committee.

In the absence of the Speaker and Vice- Speaker, they shall preside over meetings of the Congress of Delegates. In the event of the death or resignation of the Chair during their term of office or if they shall for any reason be unable or unqualified to serve, the Board of Directors shall elect a new Chair to serve the unexpired portion of the term. If the Chair is unable to attend a meeting of the Board or the Executive Committee, the President shall preside at that meeting. In their absence a temporary Chair shall be elected by the members present for that meeting.

The Chair of the Board of Directors shall be an ex-officio member of all standing committees, **but without the right to vote. (Committee recommends adding clarifying voting language.)**

SECTION 6: The Secretary shall be a member of the Board of Directors and shall be elected for a term of three (3) years. The Secretary shall cause to be kept an accurate record of the minutes of the Board of Directors, and shall serve as Secretary to this body. The duties of Secretary, by action of the Board of Directors, may be assigned to the Executive Director/Executive Vice President. The Secretary, assisted by the Executive Director/Executive Vice President, shall provide a summary of the activities of the Academy including elected officers, significant actions, activities, and events at the annual meeting for purposes of the GAFP archives. **Committee recommends adding: The Secretary serves as the medical content editor for the GAFP's newsletter as this is current process.**

CHAPTER 11 Committees

~~SECTION 3: Official Publication.~~

~~The Board of Directors shall appoint the Board Secretary to serve as the medical content editor for GAFP publications. Committee recommends deleting as this has now been clarified in Chapter 10, Section 6, above where it is more appropriate.~~

CHAPTER 13 Miscellaneous

~~SECTION 2: Annual Financial Report.~~

~~The directors shall cause to be sent to the members, not later than six (6) months after the close of the fiscal year, a balance sheet as of the closing date of that fiscal year, together with statement of the income and profits and losses for such fiscal year. Such financial statement shall be certified by a public accountant. Committee recommends this edit: Financial records, once certified by a public accountant, can be reviewed by any member who makes a written request. Financial reports will be available through IRS website, and also an annual report to the Congress of Delegates as this is current process.~~

SECTION 4: Rules of Order.

Sturgis Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure, current edition, except when the same is in conflict with the Constitution and Bylaws of this Academy, shall control all parliamentary proceedings of the meetings of the Congress of Delegates and the Board of Directors. Committee recommends changing to American Institute of Parliamentarians Code of Parliamentary Procedure, current edition because Sturgis is no longer in print and industry recommends this version instead.

CURRENT BYLAWS (2020)

CHAPTER 1

Name

This corporation, an association of family physicians, shall be known as the "Georgia Academy of Family Physicians, Inc."

CHAPTER 2

Affiliation

This organization is a constituent chapter of the American Academy of Family Physicians, a corporation that is possessed only of those rights and powers conferred by said corporation on this organization. No rules, regulations or policies adopted by this organization shall be in conflict with the rules of the American Academy of Family Physicians or the Charter issued by said Academy to this organization.

CHAPTER 3

Purposes

SECTION 1: The purposes of this Academy are as follows:

- The promotion of the art and science of Family Medicine as a specialty;
- The preservation of the right of Family Physicians in the State of Georgia to engage in the practice of the medical and surgical procedures for which they are qualified;
- The promotion of research in the discipline of Family Medicine;
- The promotion of the Family Physician as an ideal medical home for patients of all ages;
- The promotion of the practice of high quality, safe, and cost effective medicine;
- The promotion of Family Medicine as a career choice to pre-medical and medical students;
- The promotion of public health by: patient education, health promotion, patient advocacy, and community leadership in health related affairs;
- The development and provision of leadership for the specialty of Family Medicine in the State of Georgia;
- The representation of Family Physicians in issues of importance to the public health and the practice of medicine to the people and leaders of the State of Georgia;
- The provision of appropriate continuing education for the Family Physician; including the provision of support and education for the Family Physician in relation to the constantly changing medical environment;
- The fostering and support of Family Medicine education in the State of Georgia; including the Education of other physicians and health care professionals in the concept of Family Medicine.

SECTION 2: To accomplish its mission and purposes this Academy may:

- Have the power to acquire, own, and convey real and personal property;
- Carry on research;
- Make awards and give recognition for achievements in leadership and in the science and practice of medicine;
- Establish and issue publications;
- Establish, conduct, and maintain educational courses
- Use any and all ethical and prudent means for the attainment of its objectives, which from time to time it may deem desirable.

SECTION 3: This organization shall have no capital stock. It is not conducted for pecuniary profit and does not contemplate pecuniary gain or profit to the members thereof.

CHAPTER 4

Membership

Section 1: Classes of Membership and Election

The qualifications, classes and conditions of membership shall be the same as provided in the Bylaws of the AAFP. All active members of this organization shall be members of the AAFP and the GAFP. In the event of a conflict regarding classes of membership and election, the Bylaws of the AAFP shall prevail.

ACTIVE MEMBERS

Any active member in good standing shall be eligible to vote and hold office.

LIFE MEMBERS

Life members may vote, serve on committees and commissions, and address the membership but shall not hold office.

INACTIVE MEMBERS

An Inactive member shall not vote or hold office in the Academy, but may address the membership and serve on committees and commissions.

HONORARY MEMBERS

An Honorary Member may not vote. He/She shall pay no dues or admission fees and shall have no right, title, or interest in any Academy property.

SUPPORTING MEMBERS

A Supporting Member shall not vote or hold office in the Academy, but may address the membership and serve on committees and commissions.

RESIDENT MEMBERS

A Resident member may vote and hold office in the Academy, may address the membership, may have a voice in reference committees, and may serve on committees but may not serve as a chair.

STUDENT MEMBERS

A Student Member may vote and hold office in the Academy, may address the membership, may have a voice on reference committees, and may serve on committees but may not serve as a chair.

TRANSITIONAL MEMBERS

A Transitional Member shall not be entitled to hold an office in the Academy. They may address the membership, attend GAFFP's Congress of Delegates, may speak to issues during reference committees, and may serve on committees but may not serve as a chair.

SECTION 2: Agreement.

The Board of Directors of this chapter shall be the judge of each member's right to be or remain a member, subject to the right of appeal to the AAFP as provided in Chapter 6 (Ethics) of these bylaws. All rights, title, and interest, both legal and equitable, of a member in and to the property of this organization, shall cease and determine in the event of any or either of the following:

- (a) the expulsion of such member;
- (b) the striking of his/her name from the roll of members;
- (c) his/her death or resignation.

SECTION 3: Good Standing.

A member in good standing shall be one whose current dues and assessments, if any, have been paid in accordance with the provision of these Bylaws, as well as those of AAFP, who is not under disciplinary action, and who has met the applicable CME requirements during the period of the preceding three (3) years as set forth in the AAFP Bylaws.

CHAPTER 5

Dues and Assessments SECTION

1:

The dues for active members, special dues, and the maximum amount of annual dues may be changed by a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the Board of Directors. Dues for active members shall be fixed annually. Said dues shall be levied per capita upon all the active members of the Academy.

SECTION 2: Membership dues shall be payable in conjunction with the AAFP dues schedule.

SECTION 3: Any member whose dues or assessments are unpaid at the time of the AAFP dues deadline shall be ineligible to vote or hold office.

SECTION 4: The record of payment of dues and assessments on file of the American Academy of Family Physicians shall be final as to the fact of payment by a member and to their right to participate in the business and proceedings of the Academy.

CHAPTER 6

Ethics

SECTION 1: The Principles of Medical Ethics of the American Medical Association, as they now or hereafter may provide, as modified by the AAFP, shall be the principles of this organization and are hereby made a part of these Bylaws.

SECTION 2: If any member is believed to have violated the Principles of Medical Ethics or the Bylaws of this organization or the bylaws of the American Academy of Family Physicians, or to be otherwise guilty of conduct justifying censure, suspension, or expulsion from this organization, any member may then profer charges against them in the form and manner herein after specified.

Such charges must be in writing and signed by the accuser(s) and must state the facts of the case with reasonable particularity.

Such charges must be filed with the Secretary and at the first meeting of the Board held after the filing of said charges, the Secretary must present said charges to the Board of Directors. The Board shall then or at any adjournment of said meeting, but not more than thirty (30) days thereafter, consider the charges and shall either dismiss them or shall proceed as hereinafter set forth.

If the Board fails to dismiss said charges, it shall within fifteen (15) days thereafter cause a copy of the charges to be served upon the accused by depositing in the United States mail a copy thereof, registered and addressed to the last known address of the accused. The Board shall at the same meeting fix a time and place for hearing said charges, and the accused shall be notified of the time and place at the same time and in the same manner as provided for the serving of the charges. The time set for said hearing shall be not less than fifteen (15) days nor more than six (6) months after services of charges.

Unless otherwise noted, the Board of Directors is the GAFP Board of Directors.

The accused may answer in writing but need not do so. Failure to answer shall not be an admission of truth of the charges or a waiver of the accused's right to hearing.

The Board shall, after having given the accuser and the accused every opportunity to be heard, including oral arguments and the filing and consideration of any written briefs, conclude the hearing and within thirty (30) days thereafter render a decision. The affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Board present and voting shall constitute the verdict of the said Board which such vote may exonerate, censure, suspend, or expel the accused member(s). In matters of exoneration, suspension, or expulsion, the decision of the Board shall be expressed in a resolution which shall contain no explanation of the verdict and shall be signed only by the chairperson of the Board of Directors and forwarded to the accused in a certified mail, or equivalent, return receipt requested. Censure shall mean a reprimand by the chair of the Board of Directors administered to the accused in the presence of the said Board. No member shall be suspended for more than one year, except in instances when suspension is due to lack of or loss of licensure, in which case the suspension shall not exceed the duration of licensure suspension. At that time, the member may be reinstated to membership upon their application and the payment of dues accrued, before or after the period of suspension. The decision of the Board of Directors regarding censure, suspension, expulsion, exoneration, or reinstatement shall be final except as provided hereinafter.

Any member who has been censured, suspended, or expelled may appeal such action to the American Academy of Family Physicians pursuant to the Bylaws of said corporation.

CHAPTER 7

Congress of Delegates

SECTION 1: Congress of Delegates, Definition.

The control and administration of the GAFP shall be vested in the Congress of Delegates, subject to the statutory authority of the Board and to those additional duties and powers specifically reserved to the Board in these Bylaws.

SECTION 2: Each district, as determined by the Board of Directors, shall be entitled to elect delegates and alternate delegates to the Congress of Delegates, who shall be elected for terms of two (2) years, provided that at the first election, each district elects one delegate and one alternate delegate for two (2) years. Each district shall be entitled to no less than two delegates and two alternates. The total number of delegates in the Congress of Delegates shall be up to 70. Each district shall be allotted delegates and alternate delegates above their two delegates and two alternates as determined by the secretary on the basis of that district's proportion of the total paid Academy membership. Only active members may be elected as delegates; however, in determining the number of delegates per district all classes of members except student and resident members are counted. Such determination shall be made by May 31st each year. The names of all delegates entitled to be seated in the Congress of Delegates shall be furnished to the Credentials Committee of the Congress of Delegates by the Secretary.

SECTION 3: Membership in a district will be determined by the primary mailing address of said member, whether home or professional.

SECTION 4: It shall be the duty of the COD Secretary (role filled by the Vice-Speaker, see Chapter 11, Section 4) of the Congress to poll each district as to their choice for delegates and alternate delegates from a list submitted to them of the entire active membership in that district. The names of those so elected shall be published prior to the annual meeting.

SECTION 5: The Congress of Delegates shall meet during and at the place of the annual meeting of the Academy and at such other times and places as it may determine. Special meetings of the Congress of Delegates may be called by a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the Board of Directors, and shall be held at such time and place as may be set forth in said call, subject to the following notice: Notice of such meetings shall be given by the Executive Director/Executive Vice President in writing at least sixty (60) days prior to the date set for such a meeting.

SECTION 6: The Family Medicine Residency Programs shall consider a full delegation to be up to (3) resident members and (3) alternate resident members, each from different Georgia family medicine residency programs, with elections by resident members if needed;

SECTION 7: The Family Medicine Interest Group from each allopathic and osteopathic accredited medical school physically located in the state shall have a total representation of (2) student delegates and (3) alternate delegates, each being from different Georgia medical school campuses, with elections by student members if needed; to the Congress of Delegates.

SECTION 8: The Congress of Delegates having at least one member from each geographic district shall constitute a quorum at any meetings of the Congress. The Congress may adopt such rules of procedure of the transaction of its business as it deems desirable, and shall be the judge of the election and qualifications of its members.

SECTION 9: Resolutions offered to the Congress of Delegates must be submitted to the Executive Director/Executive Vice President at least 45 days before the next meeting of the Congress of Delegates. Resolutions will be assigned by the Speaker to the reference committees. Prior to the published deadline, any member may submit resolutions in writing that are pertinent to the objectives of the Academy or in reference to any report by any office or committee of the Academy.

At the Reference Committee hearing the proponents and opponents of resolutions shall be given reasonable opportunity to be heard. Any member of the Academy may attend and testify at the Reference Committees.

At a later session(s) of the Congress of Delegates during the annual meeting, the Reference Committees shall report their recommendation on such resolutions, with any amendments or comments, to the Congress of Delegates.

The Congress of Delegates shall thereupon approve, disapprove or modify such resolution at the annual meeting, and their actions shall be entered in the minutes.

Each delegate of the Congress shall have one (1) vote. Alternate delegates will not vote unless their associated delegate is absent. In the event of a dispute, the Speaker will determine which alternate(s) may vote. The officers and directors, past presidents, and the chairperson of each committee of the Academy shall have the privilege of the floor in the Congress of Delegates, but shall not have the right to vote as such except as provided in this Chapter.

CHAPTER 8

Board of Directors

Unless otherwise noted, the Board of Directors is the GAFP Board of Directors.

Duties and Powers. The business and affairs of the GAFP shall be managed by or under the direction of the Board acting in a manner consistent with its fiduciary duties and responsibilities. In addition to the powers and authority expressly confirmed upon it by these Bylaws, the Board may exercise all powers and do all acts as allowed by law, subject to the powers of the Congress of Delegates as set forth in these Bylaws.

SECTION 1: Composition of the Board. Subject to the action of the Congress of Delegates, and during the interim between the meetings of the Congress, the control and administration of the Academy shall be vested in a Board of Directors. There will be an Executive Committee of the Board comprised of the Chairperson of the Board of Directors, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the President, the Vice President, the President-Elect, and the Speaker of the Congress of Delegates. The Remaining Board members shall be composed of the Vice Speaker of the Congress of Delegates, two (2) delegates to the AAFP Congress of Delegates, one (1) elected member from each of the eleven (11) districts, two (2) resident directors, and three (3) student directors, each with the right to vote. Additionally, there shall be elected two alternate delegates to the AAFP Congress of Delegates, an alternate director for each of the eleven directors, alternate resident directors and alternate student directors referred to above. An alternate director shall assume the official duties of the director for whom they are alternate only when the director cannot function in these duties.

SECTION 2: The Board of Directors or the Executive Committee shall meet within thirty (30) days following the annual meeting of the Academy and such other times and places, but not less than two (2) times annually or as may be determined by the written request of five (5) voting members of the Board of the Board of Directors. A majority of the Board shall constitute a quorum.

SECTION 3: The Chairperson of the Board, with the approval of two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board of Directors, may remove any director or alternate director who misses two or more consecutive Board meetings or fails to show interest in the performance of the duties assigned them. Any director removed from the Board for lack of attendance can file a written appeal outlining any extenuating circumstances within thirty (30) days of notification to the chairperson of the Board for review. The decision of the chairperson regarding such a written appeal is final.

SECTION 4: The Executive Committee, by majority vote of those present, shall have full authority to act for and on behalf of the Board of Directors whenever the business of the Academy demands prompt action in the interim between meetings of the Board or when it is impractical or impossible to convene the entire membership of the Board of Directors. Action of this committee shall be voted on by the Board of Directors at its next meeting following.

SECTION 5: Directors and Alternate Directors.

The term of office of directors/alternate directors shall be for three (3) years and shall begin at the conclusion of the annual meeting of the Congress of Delegates at which their elections occur and expire at the conclusion of the third succeeding annual meeting, or when their successors are elected. No director shall be eligible for re-nomination to the Board of Directors unless at least one year has elapsed since the expiration of their previous term. Should a vacancy occur on the Board of Directors, it shall be filled by a majority vote of the remaining members. Directors who have been appointed to the Board by the Board of Directors to fill an unexpired term shall be eligible for re-nomination to the Board notwithstanding the provisions to the contrary in this section.

SECTION 6: Resident Director.

There shall be two (2) resident representatives elected by the Board of Representatives of the resident members for the GAFP and shall have full voting privileges on the GAFP Board of Directors. One resident will serve two years and one will serve one year, with a corresponding number of alternate representatives elected annually. The resident alternate director shall be elected by the GAFP resident members. If the director's position becomes vacant, a resident alternate is eligible to serve the remainder of the unexpired term.

SECTION 7: Student Director.

Three (3) students shall be elected by the GAFP student members to hold the positions of student directors to the GAFP Board of Directors, with full voting privileges. There will be a corresponding number of alternate representatives elected annually. If the director's position becomes vacant, a student alternate is eligible to serve the remainder of the unexpired term.

SECTION 8: Delegate and Alternate Delegate to AAFP.

One delegate and one alternate delegate to the Congress of Delegates of the American Academy of Family Physicians shall be elected annually for a two (2) year term that shall be limited to two consecutive terms with the option of serving in the same position at a later time. The delegates and alternate delegates shall be members of the Board of Directors and the delegates have a right to vote. The alternate delegates may vote only in the absence of the delegates.

SECTION 9: Advisory Committee.

All past presidents shall become an Advisory Committee to the Board of Directors and shall be considered ex-officio members of the Board with the privilege of the floor, but without the right to vote.

CHAPTER 9:

Election of Officers

SECTION 1: Definition. The officers of the Academy shall be a President, President-Elect, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Chairperson of the Board of Directors, Speaker of the Congress of Delegates, GAFP Delegates and Alternate delegates to the AAFP. All officers shall serve until their successors are elected and installed. The powers, duties, terms of office, and method of election of the officers shall be set forth in the Bylaws.

SECTION 2: Election of Officers. At least ninety (90) days before the annual meeting each year, the President shall appoint a nominating committee of three or more members whose duties shall be to present nominations for the office of President-Elect, Vice-President, one Delegate and one Alternate Delegate to the Congress of Delegates of the American Academy of Family Physicians, and such directors whose terms of office are expiring. At each third annual meeting, the nominating committee shall also present a nomination for the offices of Secretary and of Treasurer, both of whom shall be elected for a term of three (3) years and shall serve until their successor has been elected.

Nothing in these Bylaws shall prevent nominations from the floor of the Congress of Delegates. No officer or Board member who has served a full term shall be eligible to succeed them, except the Secretary, Treasurer, and Vice President. The election of all offices shall be by a majority vote of the members of the Congress of Delegates. When there are three or more candidates for a single office and no one receives a majority vote on the first ballot, a second ballot shall be taken between the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes on the first ballot. Vacancies on the Board of Directors may be filled by Board vote.

SECTION 3: The Congress of Delegates shall annually elect a Speaker and a Vice-Speaker who shall take office at the conclusion of the annual meeting at which their elections occur, and whose terms shall expire at the conclusion of the next annual meeting or when their respective successors are elected.

SECTION 4: Election of the above officers shall be by ballot prepared by the Executive Director/Executive Vice President. The nominee receiving the majority of votes shall be declared elected, provided that when the nominations have been closed with only a single candidate having been nominated, the presiding officer shall declare that candidate elected to office.

CHAPTER 10

Duties and Terms of Officers

SECTION 1: The President shall be a member of the Board of Directors and all standing committees. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Academy. The President shall be the spokesperson of the Academy. They shall have general supervision of the business of the Academy and shall see that all orders and resolutions of the Board of Directors are carried into effect; they shall execute bonds, mortgage, and other contracts requiring the seal of the Academy, except where required by law to be otherwise signed and executed and except where the signing and execution thereof shall be expressly delegated by the Board of Directors to some other officer or agent of the Academy. Their term of office shall begin at the installation ceremony following the one at which their predecessor was installed. In the event of the death or resignation of the president during the term of their office or if they shall for any reason be unable or unqualified to serve, the Vice-President shall succeed to the office of the President for the unexpired portion of the President's term. In the event of the death, resignation, or incapacity of both the President and the Vice-President, the Board of Directors shall elect a President for the unexpired portion of the term. The President-Elect shall succeed to the office of President at the conclusion of the annual meeting following the meeting at which their election occurred.

SECTION 2: The Vice-President shall be a member of the Board of Directors and shall preside at meetings of the Academy in the absence of the President. Their term of office shall begin at the installation ceremony during the annual meeting at which their election occurs and expires at the installation ceremony during the next annual meeting. The Vice-President shall also serve as a member with voting privileges on the bylaws committee and shall serve as the parliamentarian of the Board of Directors. In the event of the death, resignation, or incapacity of the Vice-President, the Board of Directors shall elect a Vice-President for the unexpired portion of their term.

SECTION 3: The President-Elect shall be a member of the Board of Directors and shall preside at meetings of the Academy in the absence of the President and Vice-President. They shall succeed to the office of President at the expiration of the President's term as provided in Section 1. In the event of the death, resignation, or removal from office of the President-Elect, the Board of Directors shall nominate candidate(s) for that office and election of the successor to the President-Elect shall take place by vote on these candidate(s) by the Congress of Delegates at the next ensuing meeting, as the first order of business following approval of the minutes, provided however, that nothing herein shall be construed as preventing additional nominations for this from the floor. Such elected President-Elect shall succeed to the office of President at the next installation ceremony.

SECTION 4: The Speaker of the Congress of Delegates shall be a member of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee with the privilege to vote. The Speaker shall preside over meetings of the Congress, and shall appoint all reference and special committees of the Congress.

The Vice Speaker shall serve as the Secretary to the Congress of Delegates, shall cause to be kept an accurate record of the minutes, and shall be a member of the Board of Directors with the privilege to vote. He/She shall preside over all meetings of the Congress in the absence of or when designated by the Speaker.

The Speaker and Vice Speaker shall be elected for one (1) year term of office for a maximum of three (3) years. The term shall begin at the conclusion of the annual meeting of the Congress of Delegates at which their elections occur and expire at the conclusion of the next succeeding annual meeting, or when their successors are elected. No speaker shall be eligible for re-nomination to the Board of Directors unless at least one year has elapsed since the expiration of their previous term. Should a vacancy occur on the Board of Directors, it shall be filled by a majority vote of the remaining members. The Speaker or Vice Speaker who has been appointed to the Board by the Board of Directors to fill an un-expired term and who has served for a period of less than one (1) year shall be eligible for re-nomination to the Board notwithstanding the provisions to the contrary in this section.

SECTION 5: The Chair of the Board of Directors shall be the immediate past president and shall assume the office of Chairperson at the conclusion of the annual meeting following the conclusion of their presidency. The Chairperson of the Board of Directors shall preside over all meetings of the Board and the Executive Committee. In the absence of the Speaker and Vice-Speaker, they shall preside over meetings of the Congress of Delegates.

In the event of the death or resignation of the Chair during their term of office or if they shall for any reason be unable or unqualified to serve, the Board of Directors shall elect a new Chair to serve the unexpired portion of the term. If the Chair is unable to attend a meeting of the Board or the Executive Committee, the President shall preside at that meeting. In their absence a temporary Chair shall be elected by the members present for that meeting.

The Chair of the Board of Directors shall be an ex-officio member of all standing committees.

SECTION 6: The Secretary shall be a member of the Board of Directors and shall be elected for a term of three (3) years. The Secretary shall cause to be kept an accurate record of the minutes of the Board of Directors, and shall serve as Secretary to this body. The duties of Secretary, by action of the Board of Directors, may be assigned to the Executive Director/Executive Vice President. The Secretary, assisted by the Executive Director/Executive Vice President, shall provide a summary of the activities of the Academy including elected officers, significant actions, activities, and events at the annual meeting for purposes of the GAFP archives.

SECTION 7: The Treasurer shall be a member of the Board of Directors and shall be elected for a term of three (3) years. They shall be the Chair of the Committee on Finances. They shall cause to be kept adequate and proper accounts of the properties and funds of the Academy. The Treasurer shall cause to be deposited all monies and other valuables in the name and to the credit of the Academy with such depositories as may be designated by the Board of Directors. They shall disburse the funds of the Academy as may be ordered by the Board of Directors, shall render to the Board of Directors, whenever it may request it, an account of their transactions as Treasurer and of the financial condition of the Academy, and shall have such other powers and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors or these Bylaws. The Treasurer may be required by the Board of Directors to give a surety bond in an amount to be determined by the Board of Directors, the premium thereon to be paid by the Academy. Any of the duties of the Treasurer, by action of the Board of Directors, may be assigned to the Executive Director/Executive Vice President.

SECTION 8: The Executive Director/Executive Vice President shall be appointed for a term and stipend to be fixed by the Board of Directors. The Executive Director/Executive Vice President, under the direction of the Board of Directors, performs such duties as the title of the office ordinarily connotes and such duties of the Secretary and/or Treasurer as may be assigned to the Executive Director/Executive Vice President by the Board of Directors. The Executive Director/Executive Vice President shall supervise all other employees and agents of the Academy and have such other powers and duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors. The Executive Director/Executive Vice President shall not be entitled to vote. The Executive Director/Executive Vice President shall be bonded in an amount fixed by the Board of Directors, the premium thereon to be paid by the Academy.

SECTION 9: The title of Executive Director shall be changed to Executive Vice President when, in the judgment of the Board of Directors, tenure, expertise and credibility have been established, and the title will be conferred by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 10: The President, Vice-President, President-Elect, Speaker of the Congress of Delegates, Vice-Speaker of the Congress of Delegates, Chairperson of the Board of Directors, Delegate to the AAFP, Alternate Delegate to the AAFP, Secretary, Treasurer, or any member of the Board of Directors may be removed from office for cause by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the total voting members of the Board of Directors. Any vacancy which should occur as a result of removal from office shall be filled in the same manner as is otherwise provided in this Chapter.

No action may be taken to remove any person listed in the preceding paragraph from office except upon the written petition of five (5) voting members of the Board of Directors. The petition shall be delivered to the Secretary of the Board of Directors and shall state that cause(s) for which removal is sought. Within five (5) days of receipt of such petition, the Secretary shall cause a copy thereof to be sent by registered mail, with return receipt requested, to each officer and member of the Board of Directors. The person whose removal is being sought may answer the petition in writing at any time prior to the meeting of the Board of Directors, but need not do so, and failure to answer shall not be an admission of truth of the charges or waiver of the right to a hearing. The petition shall be considered and a decision rendered at the first meeting of the Board of Directors which is held no less than fifteen (15) days after the date on which a copy of the petition was mailed to the officers and directors. The person whose removal is being sought shall be afforded every opportunity to be heard at the board meeting at which the petition is considered and may be represented by counsel.

CHAPTER 11

Committees

SECTION 1: Standing Committees.

Standing committees of the Academy shall be as follows. Committee on Membership and Member Services, Committee on Education and Research, Committee on Bylaws, Committee on Practice Management, Committee on Legislation, Committee on Public Health, Committee on Student and Resident Recruitment, and the Committee on Finances.

The duties of each of these committees shall be defined by the Board of Directors. Unless otherwise provided in these Bylaws, each of these committees shall be appointed and may be replaced by the President and President-Elect with the advice and consent of the Board. The President, with the approval of the Board of Directors, may replace any member of any committee who fails to show interest in the performance of the duties assigned them. All committee chairpersons shall make an annual report to the Congress of Delegates in advance of the annual meeting.

SECTION 2: Special (Ad Hoc Task Force) Committees.

To facilitate the work of this organization, Special Committees may be appointed by the President. Special Committees shall serve until the end of that President's term unless re-appointed by the new President. The new President can only extend the committee's life through the end of their term. All such committees shall be designated as standing or special at the time of appointment and the purposes, duties, duration shall then be stated.

SECTION 3: Official Publication.

The Board of Directors shall appoint the Board Secretary to serve as the medical content editor for GAFFP publications.

CHAPTER 12

Annual Meeting

Unless otherwise ordered by the Board of Directors, there shall be an annual meeting of the Congress of Delegates, together with such meetings of the Board of Directors, Executive Committee, and other commissions and committees as may be fixed by the Board of Directors. The time and place of the annual meeting shall be designated by the Board of Directors and announced at least sixty (60) days before the date so fixed.

CHAPTER 13

Miscellaneous

SECTION 1: Inspection of records.

The minutes of the proceedings of the Board of Directors and of the Congress of Delegates, as well as the membership books and books of account, shall be open to inspection upon the written demand of any member at any reasonable time for any purpose reasonably related to the member's interest as a member. They may be produced at any time when requested by the demand of one-third (1/3) of the members of the Congress of Delegates present. Such inspection may be made by agent or attorney, and shall include the right to make extracts thereof. Demand of inspection, other than at a meeting of the members shall be in writing to the President or Secretary of the Academy.

SECTION 2: Annual Financial Report.

The directors shall cause to be sent to the members, not later than six (6) months after the close of the fiscal year, a balance sheet as of the closing date of that fiscal year, together with statement of the income and profits and losses for such fiscal year. Such financial statement shall be certified by a public accountant.

SECTION 3: Seal.

The Georgia Academy shall have a seal, the form and device of which shall be adopted by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 4: Rules of Order.

Sturgis Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure, current edition, except when the same is in conflict with the Constitution and Bylaws of this Academy, shall control all parliamentary proceedings of the meetings of the Congress of Delegates and the Board of Directors.

SECTION 5: Fiscal year.

The fiscal year of this organization shall begin on the first day of January and end on the last day of December.

CHAPTER 14

Amendments to Bylaws.

Any five (5) or more members, the Bylaws Committee, or the Board of Directors may propose amendments to the Bylaws. Such proposals shall be submitted to the Executive Director/Executive Vice President at least one hundred (100) days prior to any regular or special meeting of the Congress of Delegates, and notice shall be given by the Executive Director/Executive Vice President to all Academy members at least thirty (30) days prior to said meeting. Publication of proposed amendments in the official publication of the Academy shall be sufficient to constitute notice thereof to the members. An affirmative vote of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the delegates present and voting shall constitute adoption. Amendments shall take effect immediately upon adoption unless otherwise specified.

CHAPTER 15:

AAFP Resolutions.

Before submission to the American Academy of Family Physicians, members in good standing seeking an endorsement or support from the Georgia Academy of Family Physicians related to resolutions must submit a written resolution to the Chair of the Board of Directors a minimum of forty-five (45) days prior to a Board meeting. The resolutions require a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the Board to receive an endorsement of the state chapter.

The proposed changes were published in the July 17, 2023 issue of *Briefly Stated*, uploaded on the GAFP website, and emailed to membership (on September 12) as part of the 2023 COD Resolutions.

I would like to thank the Bylaws Committee members: Dr. Donald Fordham (Vice Chair), Dr. Leonard Reeves and medical student member, Joshua Fertig as well as Dr. Michael Satchell, GAFP Vice President and Ex Officio Member.

Beulette Hooks, MD, FAAFP
Chair, Bylaws Committee

RECOMMENDATION: Approve updated Bylaws.

September 2023 Education & Research Committee 2023 Report to the GAFF Congress of Delegates

Committee Meetings:

The Education and Research Committee convened on the following dates:

- January 10, 2023
- March 11, 2023
- June 8, 2023
- August 12, 2023

Activity Planning:

The Education and Research Committee met during the past year and was fundamental in the planning of the following activities:

- A. Needs Assessment Survey
- B. 2023 Summer Family Medicine CME Weekend
- C. 2023 Annual Family Medicine CME Weekend
- D. Virtual ABFM Knowledge Self-Assessments (KSAs)
- E. 2023 Research Poster Competition
- F. Department of Public Health Education
- G. Additional CME Virtual Webinars
- H. Re-accreditation Year and Process Improvements

Needs Assessment Survey

In early 2023, the Committee shared a needs assessment survey for member feedback. The survey is completed every 2-3 years and provided important guidance to committee members as they plan 2023-2024 educational opportunities.

2023 Summer Family Medicine CME Weekend

GAFF in collaboration with Georgia Primary Care Association (GPCA) hosted the Summer Family Medicine CME Weekend on June 9-11, 2023 at Wild Dunes Resort in Isle of Palms, SC. The weekend offered up to 16 CME credits and offered a virtual option for attendees not able to attend in person. Over 150 family physicians and other healthcare professionals attended the conference.

The Summer CME Weekend included topics on Rheumatoid Arthritis, Menopause, Pediatric Anxiety & Depression as well as leadership topics provided by GPCA. Additionally, public health lectures were offered on topics including training on developmental disability sensitivity and women's mental health care during preconception, pregnancy and postpartum.

2023 Annual Family Medicine CME Weekend

The 2023 Annual Family Medicine CME Weekend will be held at the Hotel at Avalon in Alpharetta, GA on November 10-12. The annual meeting will have a virtual option as well and about 300 GAFF members are expected to attend.

This year's educational programs will include a variety of CME including obesity management, chronic kidney disease, and a Composite Medical Board update. Public health lectures include an overview of Contraceptive Care Post-Roe and Congenital Cytomegalovirus. In collaboration with the Georgia Osteopathic Medical Association, an add-on OMT Refresher Workshop has been organized which will include OMT techniques, hands-on demonstrations and will offer AOA Category 1 credit.

Virtual ABFM Knowledge Self-Assessments (KSAs)

A total of 6 virtual ABFM Knowledge Self-Assessments (KSAs) were offered in 2023. Behavioral Health Care and Care of Women were offered in May, Heart Disease and Palliative Care were offered in July and Asthma and Health Counseling and Preventive Care were offered in September.

2023 Research Poster Competition

Pre-med students, medical students, residents and practicing physicians will be allowed the opportunity to submit poster abstracts for acceptance and scoring based on their research. A total of 57 posters were accepted and once judged, the top 3 poster presenters will be able to provide onsite oral presentations during the 2023 Annual CME Meeting. Submissions will be judged prior to the meeting. Online visibility for all poster presentations will be available.

Department of Public Health Education

Georgia Academy of Family Physicians (GAFFP) has continued its partnership with the Georgia Department of Public Health (GA DPH) to offer educational public health activities. Via the GA DPH/GAFP contract, GAFP offered two public health lectures during the 2023 Summer CME Meeting (developmental disabilities sensitivity training and women’s mental health care) and will offer an additional two lectures at the 2023 Annual CME Meeting (Contraceptive Care Post-Roe and Congenital Cytomegalovirus), among other offerings throughout the year.

Additional CME Virtual Webinars

The annual Coding Workshop is being planned for December 6, 2023 and will take place virtually.

Re-accreditation Year and Process Improvements

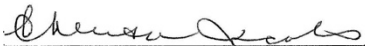
In preparation for this year’s ACCME re-accreditation through the Medical Association of Georgia (MAG), various education planning processes were reviewed and updated based on AAFP and ACCME best practices. The re-accreditation self-study was completed in September 2023 with a virtual survey interview scheduled for October.

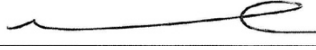
Thank you to our Education and Research Committee for their participation and support of GAFP educational initiatives. The continued goal of the Education and Research Committee is to make the GAFP the “Premier Provider” of CME for our members.

Karla Booker, MD
Melody Bray-Ross, MD
Ambar Kulshreshtha, MD
Oguchi Nwosu, MD
Monica Parker, MD
Dean Seehusen, MD
Harry Strothers, MD

Anne Todd, MD
Chris Wizner, MD
Resident Nikhila Gandrakota, MD
Student Darlene Bio
Michael Satchell, MD-Executive Committee
Liaison

Respectfully submitted,


Theresa Jacobs, MD - Chair


Ken Howard, MD – Vice Chair

Recommendations: None

August 2023

Georgia Academy of Family Physicians Congress of Delegates

Annual Report of the Legislative Committee

The Georgia General Assembly declared “Sine Die” and the end of the first of a two-year legislative session on March 29th. Many of the GAFP’s legislative priorities were accomplished including successfully battling back scope of practice and, the renewal of the community preceptor tax credit.

The Legislative Session Working Group, including many members of the Legislative Committee met on a weekly basis to provide staff and leadership to ongoing recommendations and guidance. The key priorities that the group worked on were the following:

- Support higher payment for Medicaid codes on par with Medicare through the Georgia Medicaid budget.
- Support the renewal of the Community Physician Preceptor Tax Credit teaching medical students, physician assistant and nurses.
- Protect physicians’ conversations with patients and oppose any criminalization or penalties for providing medically approved care.
- Oppose any changes of non-physician scope of practice that will diminish quality of care to our Georgia patients.

Medicaid Budget Increases

The Georgia General Assembly sent a budget to the Governor’s desk with an increase of \$18 million to pay primary care and ob/gyn physicians for certain codes from the current Georgia Medicaid rate to the 2021 Medicare rate.

The codes to be increased include the following:

Code	Current Rate	2021 Medicare
99213	\$76.15	\$92.47
99214	\$110.43	\$131.20
59400	\$2,217.89	\$2,418.80
59510	\$2,459.70	\$2,668,64

Unfortunately, the Governor line item vetoed this funding request, including 133 items throughout the proposed budget sent to the Governor from the Georgia General Assembly. There was overarching support for these increases by leadership in both the State House and State Senate. The Georgia Academy leadership, along with other primary care partners are continuing conversations seeking these increases to be included in the supplemental budget in early 2024.

Other Key Bills:

Support - House Bill 37 - Medicaid Support- Did not Cross Over - Eligible in 2024

A bill to provide support to the Department of Community Health to mitigate the potential loss of Medicaid coverage caused by the discontinuation of the continuous enrollment of Medicaid during COVID. **Current Status:** Assigned to House Public Health Committee

Support – House Bill 38 – Did not Cross - Eligible in 2024

Increase Medicaid Coverage up to 136 percent of the federal poverty level. **Current Status:** Assigned to House Public Health Committee

Support House Bill 82 - Renewal of Rural Physician Tax Credit and increase eligible clinicians to include dentists - Did not Cross - Eligible in 2024

Current Status: Crossed over on March 6, 2023. Assigned to Senate Finance Committee. Passed out of the Senate Finance Committee on March 16th – amended to sunset in 2026. Was tabled on the last day of the session in the Senate. Those eligible for the Rural Physician Tax Credit will not be affected by this delay, but dentists will not be able to utilize this tax credit until the current bill is passed next year.

Support House Bills 191 and 192 – Did not Cross - Eligible in 2024

Increasing the tobacco tax on cigarettes (HB 91) and vaping products (HB 192).

Current Status: Received a hearing on a Ways and Means Subcommittee on February 22, and the GAFP testified in support of both measures. With measured opposition from several legislators, and lukewarm support from other advocates seeking an increase of at least \$1.00 – this bill did not move through the legislative process.

Oppose House Bill 214 – Did not Cross - Eligible in 2024

Allowing APRN/PA to Write Schedule II's without Physician Supervision and allow APRN/PAs to approve handicapped parking sticker.

Current Status: Pending in House Health and Human Service Committee

Oppose House Bill 557 – Allowing APRN/PA to write Schedule II's without physician supervision for "emergency" 5-day supply for adults only. - Did not Cross - Eligible in 2024

Current Status: Passed both houses in the General Assembly but did fail to get a final "agree" in both chambers when an amendment to loosen noncompete agreements between physicians and hospitals was added to the current version of the bill.

Support House Bill 308 – Renewing the Community Physician Tax Credit which expires in December 2023.

Current Status: GAFP testified in support of this renewal in Subcommittee. Passed both Chambers – **Governor signed into law.**

Support House Bill 343 – Will lower RX drug costs via minimizing rebates that the pharmacy benefit managers currently receive. Did not Cross - Eligible in 2024

Current Status: The bill has passed out of House and crossed over 168-3 – Pending in Senate Health and Human Services Committee.

Support House Bill 455 – Wellness program for healthcare professionals - Did not Cross - Eligible in 2024

Create programs for physicians focusing on wellness, to address career fatigue, and note that clinicians will not be obligated to report to licensing boards except in certain circumstances. Last Action: Passed out of the House, pending in the Senate Regulated Industries Committee.

CRNA Independent Practice – Did Not Cross/Bill Defeated

Last Action: A hearing was held on March 1 in the House Health and Human Services Committee. The bill was defeated.

Senate Legislation

Oppose – Senate Bill 1 – Extension of COVID Vaccine Exemptions – **Passed.**

Last Action: Passed out of the Senate and State House – Governor signed into law.

Support – Senate Bill 47 – Banning Vaping Under the Indoor Smoking Act - **Passed**

Last Action: Passed out of Senate on February 15th (51-3) GAFF spoke in favor of this bill in the House Public Health Committee, and it passed the full House on March 21 (9152-14). Governor signed into law.

Oppose Senate Bill 102 – CRNA Independent Practice – **Did Not Cross/Defeated**

Last Action: A hearing was held on February 23 in the Senate Health and Human Services Committee. The GAFF submitted a letter in opposition that stated, in part:

The Georgia Academy opposes any legislation that will diminish the quality, care, and safety of our patients. This bill will put patients under anesthesia at great risk with less skilled and educated clinicians to oversee surgical procedures that require the patient to receive anesthesia. We believe this bill will not expand health care access, it will do the opposite, as it removes highly trained health care professionals (the physician) from overseeing anesthesia care of our patients.

The bill received a vote to move it to the Senate Rules Committee, and the motion was defeated.

Oppose Senate Bill 140 – Transgender Care to Minors – Signed into Law

Passed the House (96-75) on March 16th. The GAFF changed its position from neutral to opposed when the House removed language to protect physicians/hospitals liability. GAFF worked with a coalition to oppose. Delivered veto request letter to the Governor on April 23rd working with outside legal counsel and other physician groups. The Governor signed it into law on Friday, March 24th.

Support Senate Bill 197 – Health Care Practitioners Truth and Transparency in Advertising. **Passed**

Requires anyone marketing or advertising their health care services utilize the title that they are licensed for in the State of Georgia. It will also require anyone with a doctorate degree to introduce themselves as their clinical licensure in patient interactions.

Current Status: Passed the Senate on March 6th (54-2) and the House on March 23 (166-0). Governor signed into law.

2023 Legislative Day at the Capitol

Due to the uncertainty of whether the Georgia General Assembly will allow for groups to come to the State Capitol, the Georgia Academy partnered to hold two events.

The first event was open to all members, and colleagues from the Patient Centered Physicians Coalition of Georgia (family physicians, pediatricians, Ob/Gyns, internists and DO's) and was held January 17th.

Then a smaller group of leaders met key legislative leaders and agency representatives on March 2nd. As part of the Patient Centered Physician Coalition of Georgia, Georgia Academy leaders met recently with key elected state officials and state agency leaders focusing on Medicaid, Behavioral Health, Vaccine Hesitancy, and key legislation moving through the Georgia General Assembly. Our leaders were able to speak to the following state leaders:

- State Representative Sharon Cooper – Chair, House Public Health Committee
- Grant Thomas, Director – Governor’s Office of Health Strategy
- Megan Andrews, Asst. Commissioner for Policy, Georgia Dept. of Public Health
- Kevin Tanner, Commissioner, Georgia Depart. of Behavioral and Developmental Disability
- Former State Senator Dean Burke, M.D. – Chief Medical Officer, Georgia Dept. of Community Health

Leaders who attended this meeting included:

Susana Alfonso, MD (Atlanta) – Board Chair

Samuel Church, MD (Hiawassee) – President Elect

Chip Cowart, MD (Statesboro) – Past President, Legislative Committee Chair

Sarah Dupont, MD (Atlanta) – Legislative Committee Member

Tom Fausett, MD (Adel) – Past President, Legislative Committee Member

Bruce LeClair, MD (Evans) – Past President, Legislative Committee Member

Sharon Rabinovitz, MD(Atlanta) – President

Jeff Stone, MD (Canton) – Past President, PAC Board Vice Chair

Family Medicine Legislative Champions of the Year

The Georgia Academy selected State Representative Matt Hatchett (Dublin) to be our Legislative Champion of the Year.

State Representative Matt Hatchett (R-Dublin) is serving his first year as the House Appropriations Chairman. He is very aware of the priorities of family medicine, and specifically rural healthcare issues.

State Representative Hatchett was born and raised in Dublin, Georgia. He is an Eagle Scout from Troop 68 and was an honor graduate of Dublin High School. He graduated from Presbyterian College with a Bachelor of Science in Applied Mathematics with an Economic Emphasis.

Rep Hatchett started with Delta Air Lines, Inc. in June of 1988 as a Methods Analyst. He served later in the Stockholder Relations and Corporate Contributions department at Delta. He completed his career with Delta serving as a Procedures Planning Analyst in the Technical Operations Division. After working with Delta Air Lines, Inc. for six years in Atlanta, he returned home to start a family with his wife Kim.

After returning home to Dublin, he started Hangers Cleaners, Inc., a local dry-cleaning establishment and operated it until 2010. He and his wife purchased Plum Alley, a ladies clothing store in 1997, which she presently operates. He also owned the local Bruster’s Real Ice Cream and Nathan’s Famous Hot Dogs franchise from 2001 until 2015. Matt presently works as a Director of Development and Director of Mission Enhancement with the School of Medicine for Mercer University.

Representative Hatchett serves on the Advisory Board of the Citizens Bank of Laurens County. Matt was elected to House District 150 in November 2010. He is the Chair of the House Appropriations Committee. He also serves on the following committees: Economic Development & Tourism, Energy, Utilities & Telecommunications, Health, Rules, and Ways & Means.

Follow Up and Heart Felt Thanks

It has been our pleasure to serve as your leaders for the Legislative Committee. The Legislative Working Group and the Committee worked tirelessly and met weekly by phone during the session to discuss urgent issues. This proved very effective in having an ongoing voice in the ever-shifting political landscape at the state capitol.

The Georgia Academy continues to work with Chuck McMullen as our outside Legislative Consultant and our Executive Vice President Fay Fulton continues to also serve as our other registered lobbyist at the Capitol. We extend our ongoing gratitude for the work that both Chuck and Fay provide in supporting our ongoing advocacy efforts.

Thank you to the following GAFP leaders:

Legislative Session Working Group:

Jody Bahnmillier-Brasil, MD	Darlene Bio (medical student)
Stalina Gowdie, MD	Najeeb Siddiq, MD
Kevin Stephens Jr, MD	Siri Chirumamilla, MD
Sylveria Olatidoeye, MD	Tariq Islam (medical student)
Renee Corley, MD	Spring Davis (medical student)
Macy McNair, MD	Karimah Rokins (medical student)
Adena Hicks, MD	Sharon Ekume (medical student)
Jantzen Pride (medical student)	Sharon Rabinovitz, MD
Nikhila Gandrakota, MD	Susana Alfonso, MD

Legislative Committee Members:

Sarah Dupont, MD	Daniel Feckoury, MD	Marybeth Montrichard
Tom Fausett, MD	John Gerguis, MD	(medical student)
Rick Wherry, MD	Mitch Cook, DO	
Bruce LeClair, MD	Le Church, MD	

Respectfully Submitted,

Loy D. "Chip" Cowart, MD, FAAFP
Chair

Casey J. Henritz, DO
Vice Chair

Recommendations: NONE

Report of the Membership Committee

September 2023
Congress of Delegates

The Membership Committee met three times this year and will hold a final meeting via zoom in September to put forth a nomination for the 2024 AAFP Award for Distinguished & Meritorious Service to Family Medicine. This year the committee focused on streamlining the awards process and workload of nomination submissions. Additionally, the committee sought recommendations to engage with new-to-practice physicians and how to highlight the importance and resources of the academy.

The following are the year highlights from the Membership Committee.

Membership Programs:

GAFP Membership as of June 2023

Membership

GAFP membership as of June 2023 was 1.75% higher than the previous year, and overall academy membership rose 1.33% from the previous year. Staff noted that this year a higher percentage of members dropped due to lack of payment, and fewer due to lack of CME. By the end of June, the GAFP member demographics included 1,767 active members, 10 inactive members, 220 life members, 397 residents, 495 students, 9 supporting, and 6 transitional members- for a total of 2,904.

The Georgia Academy of Family Physicians ranked 1st Place for Large State Chapters for the highest percent increase for active membership for 2022.

Inactive members continue to be reviewed annually and placed back into active status unless they have a hardship or are retired and have not yet reached life status by AAFP membership affiliation years. Possible life members were sent a notice in advance of the AAFP annual membership dues outreach and given the option to convert their active membership to life.

Recruitment and Retention

Throughout the year, the Committee continued to discuss ways to engage members, particularly focusing on new-to-practice physicians. The Committee suggested that these members need to be informed about the value of GAFP and its benefits showing the convenience and ease with which GAFP assists in members' needs, such as CME tracking, advocacy, and ongoing education. Some of the ideas included a happy hour dedicated to new-to-practice physicians at the Annual Meeting, connecting new-to-practice physicians to leaders, advertising membership benefits in e-newsletter.

Member Benefits and Resources

The GAFP continues to offer member benefits that help to enhance their practice experience. For graduating residents, the GAFP offers a one-time contract review as they embark on their new employment journeys by partnering with Southern Health Lawyers. GAFP covers the cost of the review and the only requirement for the resident is that they remain in employment in Georgia. Additionally, new-to-practice physicians still receive free registration to a GAFP-sponsored CME meeting.

Awards

The Membership Committee works diligently to attract competitive and highly deserving nominees for both state and national recognition. The Committee wanted to continue to support our members and reward those heroes of family medicine.

This year's winners for the GAFP awards include:

Family Physician of the Year.....Loy "Chip" Cowart, MD, FAAFP - Statesboro
Family Medicine Educator of the Year.....Amy Bailey, MD, FAAFP - Gainesville
Family Medicine Resident of the Year.....Samuel Nwaobi, MD -Piedmont Columbus Regional Midtown -
Columbus

Keith Ellis Resident Scholarship Award.....Macy Tabb, DO- Northeast Georgia Medical Center -Gainesville

T. A. Sappington Awards

In 2023, there were seven T. A. Sappington Award winners:

- Ms. Shiori Ucheya, a student from Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, will be attending the Emory Family Medicine Residency in Atlanta
- Mr. James Trent Griner, a student from Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, will be attending the Atrium Health Floyd Family Medicine in Rome.
- Mr. Tristian Ruiz, a student from Augusta University, will be attending Eisenhower Army Medical Center in Gordon.
- Mr. T. Martin Wood, a student from Mercer University School of Medicine- Columbus, will be attending Piedmont Midtown Medical Center Columbus in Columbus.
- Mr. Benjamin Bridges, a student from Mercer University School of Medicine- Savannah, will be attending HCA Memorial Health Savannah in Savannah.
- Mr. Chase Shook, a student from Mercer University School of Medicine- Macon, will be attending Atrium Health Navacent in Macon.
- Mr. Brejon Childers, a student from Morehouse School of Medicine, will be attending Emory Family Medicine Residency in Atlanta.

AAFP Awards

Dr. Lanny Copeland was nominated by the Membership Committee and was selected by AAFP to receive the John G. Walsh Award for Lifetime Contributions to Family Medicine. Dr. Copeland had a successful career in family medicine which spanned over 40 years in which he practiced full-scope medicine and created a rural rotation for third-year students to rural family medicine. He was the president of the Georgia Academy of Family Physicians, the American Board of Family Medicine, and the AAFP. He also chaired AAFP’s Task Force on Universal Coverage and earned recognition as one of *Modern Healthcare’s* 50 most influential physician executives.

Congratulations to all our 2023 award winners!

Acknowledgment:

The Membership Committee has worked tirelessly on your behalf, and I would like to acknowledge and thank the members who served: Vice Chair Christina Kelly, MD; Ann-Gelle Carter, MD; Ellie Daniels, MD; Sreevalli Dega, MD; Tariq Islam and Monica Newton, DO – Executive Committee Liaison.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alice House, MD
Chair, Membership Committee

RECOMMENDATIONS: That we sincerely thank the GAFP staff for without you then we would not look good. You truly are the reason we do so well.

September 2023

**Congress of Delegates
Georgia Academy of Family Physicians
Report of the Nominating Committee**

The installation of officers will take place during the 2023 Annual CME Meeting in November. The nominations proposed by the members of the Nominating Committee are as follows:

President-Elect*	Michael Satchell, MD, Leesburg (2023-2024)
Vice President	Monica Newton, DO, Gainesville (2023-2024)
Treasurer	Brian Pratt, MD ~ Clayton (2023-2026)
Speaker**	Ellie Daniels, MD ~ Atlanta (2024)
Vice Speaker**	Macy McNair, MD ~ Atlanta (2024)
Director – District 1	Angie Gerguis, MD ~ Statesboro (2023-2025)
Director – District 6	John Vu, MD ~ Griffin ~ (2023-2026)
Director – District 7	Christina Douglass, MD ~ Armuchee (2023-2026)
Alternate Director – District 1	Khaja Mohiuddin, MD ~ Savannah (2023-2026)
Alternate Director – District 6	Florence Baralatei, MD ~ Macon (2023-2026)
Alternate Director – District 7	Bryan Cheever, MD ~ Dalton (2023-2026)
AAFP Delegate	Tom Fausett, MD ~ Adel (2024/2025)
AAFP Alternate Delegate	Susana Alfonso, MD ~ Atlanta (2024/2025)

Summary

I would like to thank the efforts of the members of the Nominating Committee. The members include Drs. Le Church, Julie Dahl-Smith, Monique Davis-Smith, Wayne Hoffman, Harry Strothers, and Jeffrey Stone. I would also like to thank all of those who have agreed to serve as leaders next year.

A nomination for two PAC Board nominees will be forthcoming from the GAFP Board meeting on November 11, 2023. In addition, two Georgia Healthy Family Alliance trustees for 2024 will be presented to the COD at that time.

Recommendations: None

Respectfully Submitted,
Sharon Rabinovitz,
Chair, Nominating Committee

*** President Elect automatically becomes President in 2025 and Board Chair in 2026.**

****Speaker and Vice Speaker nominations are for the 2024 Congress of Delegates.**

September 2023

Georgia Academy of Family Physicians Congress of Delegates

Report of the GAFP PAC Board

The PAC Board voting members for 2023 were:

GAFP Board Chair – Susana Ajoy Alfonso, MD
GAFP PAC Board Vice Chair – Jeff Stone, MD
GAFP President – Sharon Rabinovitz, MD
COD Speaker – Monica Newton, DO
GAFP Board Member Representative – Beulette Hooks, MD
At Large GAFP Member – Donald Fordham, MD

The PAC Board ex officio members were:

GAFP Legislative Chair – Loy D. “Chip” Cowart, MD
GAFP Legislative Vice Chair – Casey J. Henritz, DO
GAFP President Elect – Samuel Le Church, MD
GAFP Executive Vice President – Fay Fulton

The PAC Board finalized our contribution criterion for more transparency to our members. This document formalizes how the PAC Board makes decisions related to giving financial support to incumbents and candidates for open seats for state offices. Below this report is the newly approved criterion that now formalizes our policy and has been reviewed by legal counsel that specializes in Georgia’s Code of Ethics in Elections and State Fundraising.

Recent PAC Donations Given (Through September 15)

Some additional donations may be given in December and early January if the PAC Board believes are warranted before the 2024 Legislative Session begins:

State Representative James Burchett - \$500
Speaker Jon Burns - \$1,500
State Representative Sharon Cooper - \$500
State Representative Chuck Efstration - \$500
State Representative Houston Gaines - \$500
State Representative Matt Hatchett - \$950
State Representative Jan Jones - \$500
State Representative Butch Parrish - \$500
State Representative Deborah Silcox - \$500
State Representative Richard Smith - \$750
State Representative Bruce Williamson - \$500

State Senator Matt Brass - \$500.00
State Senator Steve Gooch - \$750
State Senator Burt Jones for Lt Governor - \$1,500
State Senator John Kennedy - \$750
State Senator Randy Robertson - \$500
State Senator Blake Tillery - \$750
State Senator Ben Watson, MD - \$500

PAC Donation by GAFP Members

In 2022, we raised \$ 15,170, which was more than what we raised in 2021 (\$13,877). As of July, the PAC has raised \$ 3,495 and we encourage all members to contribute to support our PAC advocacy efforts. Optional PAC donor invoices have been sent to all active members, encouraging annual support to the GAFP PAC that gives funds out to state-level candidates who support family medicine principles and measures that will improve the health of our patients.

We anticipate hosting a raffle during the in-person annual meeting in November and believe our fundraising efforts will renew our members interest in supporting our advocacy efforts.

We thank our GAFP members who continue to strengthen our advocacy by donating to the PAC. Through August 2023, the following members have contributed to the PAC:

Susana Alfonso, MD – Atlanta
Karla Booker, MD - Sugar Hill
Loy Cowart, MD – Statesboro
Thomas Fausett, MD - Adel
Donald Fordham, MD - Demorest
Wayne Hoffman, MD - Atlanta
Beulette Hooks, MD – Midland
Christina Kelly, MD - Fort Moore
Bruce LeClair, MD - Evans

Kristine Ortega-Fonte, MD - Dallas
Alexander Osowa, MD - Buford
Sherma Peter, MD – Sylvania
W.M Hashell-Prinssen, MD - Atlanta
Sharon Rabinovitz, MD - Decatur
Eddie Richardson, Jr, MD – Eatonton
Mitzi Rubin, MD - Atlanta
Michael Satchell, MD - Leesburg
Susan Schayes, MD - Woodstock
Jeffrey Stone, MD - Canton

I encourage all members and especially those of you designated leaders of the Congress of Delegates to take less than five minutes and open your wallet to donate to the GAFP State PAC. You can contribute online securely:

<https://www.gafp.org/donate-to-gafp-pac/>

Recommendations: None

Respectfully Submitted,

Susana Ajoy Alfonso MD, FAAFP
PAC Board Chair

Jeff Stone, MD, FAAFP
Vice Chair

GAFP PAC Contribution Criteria

Support of Legislative Priorities

Every two years, the Legislative Committee sends out a survey of potential legislative issues to all members. Based on the rankings of these initial issues, legislative priorities are recommended to the Board of Directors for approval. Support of these priorities is a key factor in determining eligibility for a PAC contribution.

Georgia elected officials or state candidates who have been or are being helpful in advancing GAFP's legislative priorities and our mission statement are eligible for GAFP PAC contributions.

The GAFP PAC Board takes its stewardship of PAC funds very seriously.

Contribution Strategy

GAFP PAC will direct its contributions to those candidates (primarily incumbent Senators and Representatives) who serve on key committees and subcommittees, who hold positions of leadership, or who have supported GAFP's key legislative priorities through bill co-sponsorship or votes in favor of GAFP-supported legislation. GAFP may also consider support of state-wide candidates such as Governor, Lt Governor, Secretary of State, and Insurance Commissioner.

Committee Assignment: GAFP PAC contributions will be directed to those candidates who serve on committees with jurisdiction over healthcare or regulatory issues. The committees can be designated as either a "key" committee (a committee with primary jurisdiction over healthcare issues), or a "secondary" committee (a committee with jurisdiction over some aspects of healthcare legislation).

Occasionally, GAFP PAC will need to consider making contributions to those candidates (again, primarily incumbent Senators and Representatives) with whom GAFP would like to develop a relationship to promote our legislative agenda. These will generally be for members of the leadership or key committees and are designed to "get a foot in the door" and to make them aware of GAFP's positions on the issues. In those cases, the candidate may not have been a supporter on all GAFP issues but is recommended for a contribution because there is reason to believe he/she may nonetheless be helpful to GAFP on a specific issue in the future.

Relationship/Interactions with GAFP Members and Staff

The relationship a candidate, Senator or Representative has with GAFP leadership, staff and other GAFP members is another factor to consider when evaluating contribution requests. If a candidate has a good relationship with someone associated with GAFP, he or she is more likely to take the time to listen to GAFP's position on a particular issue.

Code of Conduct

The PAC Board will support Georgia's state elected officials who conduct themselves with dignity, respect, and a commitment to problem solving and bipartisanship.

Open Seat Campaign Criteria

In an “open seat” situation, where neither candidate is an incumbent, each candidate will be asked to fill out a Candidate Questionnaire. This will enable GAFP PAC to determine if the candidates’ positions on important healthcare issues are consistent with GAFP policy.

The Questionnaire will also help GAFP PAC determine the level of possible support. If a GAFP member asks the PAC Board to consider a donation, and the candidate completes the questionnaire, the member will also be asked if they have made a personal donation to the candidate and that will be a part of the discussion for support.

Caucus Campaign Committees

GAFP PAC will not make contributions to the House and Senate campaign committees of any political party, nor support a specific Caucus that raises campaign monies.

Solicitation of GAFP PAC Donations

The GAFP PAC Board will annually be asked to make a voluntary contribution of significance to the GAFP PAC. There will also be invoices sent to GAFP active and life members to make a voluntary contribution to the PAC. GAFP PAC Board will oversee staff to hold PAC-donor only events and regional advocacy dinners or events so our members can meet with their local elected state officials.

Transparency

Donations given to elected officials or to candidates running for office will be made public to the membership, upon request, within PAC Board minutes, and annually at the PAC Board’s report to the GAFP’s Congress of Delegates. GAFP members have access to attend GAFP PAC Board meetings (typically held in-person in March, June, and August). Any GAFP member can seek support by a state candidate (or incumbent) by outreaching to staff who can send the candidate a campaign questionnaire.

All contributions from all contributors including The Georgia Academy of Family Physicians can be found in the public record at:

https://media.ethics.ga.gov/search/Campaign/Campaign_ByContributions.aspx

September 2023
Practice Management Committee
Report to the GAFP Congress of Delegates

The Practice Management Committee met three times this year and dealt with several issues at our meetings and during the interim. This year, the Practice Management Committee focused much of its work on issues related to physician contracts, COVID-19, Medicaid Redetermination, payor policies affecting family physician patients and educating the membership on the business of family medicine.

Meeting dates both in-person and virtual:

March 11 – Atlanta

June 8 – Wild Dunes, SC

August 12 – Young Harris

The following are some of the highlights that the Committee worked on this past year:

Business of Family Medicine Education

A. Newsletters

Through August, the following business-related articles were published in the GAFP newsletter that is sent to all members and archived on our website:

January 3 Newsletter – *DPH COVID-19 Therapeutics Webinar Recording Now Available*

March 1 Newsletter – *AHRQ Offers Free Program for Primary Care Practices on Telemedicine*

- April 3 Newsletter - *GAFP Joins AAFP to Support Proposed Prior Authorization Rules to Lessen Administrative Burden*
- April 3 Newsletter - *Medicaid Renewals to Begin in April. Encourage Your Medicaid Enrolled Patients to Confirm their Eligibility.*
- April 14 Newsletter – *The Importance of Family Medicine*
- May 1 Newsletter - *Open Payments Data Available for Review Until May 15*
- May 1 Newsletter - *AAFP Checklist for Physician Employment Contracts*
- May 1 Newsletter - *Reprint: The End of the Public Health Emergency: What You Need to Know*
- May 1 Newsletter - *Reprint: Addressing COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy: Eight Tips for a Better Conversation*
- May 15 - *Raise Awareness of the Burdens of Prior Authorization*
- June 15 - *Stopping a Medication? Why and How to ePrescribe a Cancel Message to the Pharmacy*
- June 15 - *Update on COVID-19 Test Results Reporting Guidance from Georgia DPH Epidemiology Unit*
- July 6 - *Update on COVID-19 Test Results Reporting Guidance from Georgia DPH Epidemiology Unit*
- July 6 - *AAFP Reprint: Telehealth After the COVID-19 PHE*
- July 6 - *AAFP Reprint: Improving Adult Immunization Rates Within Racial and Ethnic Minority Communities*
- July 17 - *Georgia Pathways to Coverage,™ New Medicaid Eligibility Category in Georgia*
- August 1 - *Attention Residents – Member Benefit: Employment Contract Review*
- August 15 - *Georgia Medicaid to Revalidate 84,000 Facility & Provider Locations by September 15, 2023*
- August 15 - *COVID-19 Vaccine Commercialization Transition Guide – Update from Georgia Department of Public Health*

All Member Lecture on Employment Lectures

Last fall, the GAFP engaged an attorney to host free contract negotiations webinar for GAFP members. The webinar featured Ericka L. Adler, who is a lawyer, shareholder, and health law group practice leader with Roetzel & Andress in Chicago.

She addressed how to address contract negotiations from numerous key perspectives, including...

- Call
- Location
- Schedule
- Duties
- Patient Allocation/Volume
- Benefits
- Salaries

Pearls of Practice Management Wisdom

The Practice Management Committee will be compiling “Pearls” to be placed on transition slides for our members to review during the Annual meeting in November as another way to easily transmit some of our best practices pulled from AAFP publications, and GAFP members.

Business related CME lectures that have been offered through 2023 (or will be presented before the end of the year) include the following:

- Laws and Regulations Surrounding Staff Cannabis Use
- Legal Ramification for Workplace Violence
- Developing a Healthy Organizational Culture
- Work-Life Balance
- Taking the Stress Out of Managing Patient Complaints
- Composite Medical Board Update
- Practical Strategies for Applying Evidence and Patient Perspectives to Improve Obesity Management
- ABFM Prime Registry – How to Implement for Ease of Data extraction
- Primary Care Updates for Medicare 2024

B. COVID-19 Support

The GAFP was asked by our Congress of Delegates to keep the COVID pandemic as an ongoing issue to review and address. Ongoing information has been sent to our membership on COVID vaccine information.

Summary

Thank you to our Practice Management Committee for their participation and support of the GAFP practice improvement initiatives.

Sherma Peter, MD – Vice Chair

Michelle Cooke, MD

Cedrice Davis, MD

Omofolarin Fasuyi, MD

Daryl McCartney, MD

Ralph Peeler, MD

Kevin Stephens Jr, MD

Nandini Sunkireddy, MD

Samantha Wagner, MD

Gabrielle Williams, MD

Meenal Joshi – medical student

Sharon Rabinovitz, MD

RECOMMENDATIONS: - We recommend that further education to members (possible CME lectures) focusing on different practice models in Family Medicine to show the wide breadth of scope in Family Medicine and career options- i.e. Direct Primary Care, telemedicine, hospitalist, urgent care, obesity medicine, emergency room, wound care, etc.

Respectfully Submitted

Christina Douglass, MD - Chair

September 2023
Public Health Committee 2023 Report to the GAFP Congress of Delegates

Committee Meetings:

The Public Health Committee convened on the following dates:

- March 11, 2023
- June 8, 2023
- August 12, 2023

Strategic Plan Review and Activity Planning:

The Committee reviewed the current 2021-2024 strategic plan of the Georgia Academy and discussed the goals that related closely to public health and discussed opportunities to support these initiatives.

Public Health Education and Resources:

The Committee continues to discuss opportunities to highlight public health issues and frequently recommends newsletter content to keep the membership informed. Areas of interest in 2023 included the end of the COVID-19 public health emergency and the recent Georgia Medicaid updates. Throughout the year, the Committee also participated in discussions with guest speakers on topics such as the Georgia Mental Health Access in Pediatrics (GMAP) Program and the philosophy around and applications for implicit bias training for family physicians.

AAP Grant on Pediatric Mental Health Care Access Program Utilization: The Georgia Academy of Family Physicians (GAFP) received a grant from the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) to promote Georgia's Mental Health Access in Pediatrics (GMAP) Program. The goal of the grant is to promote awareness of the program, provide related education and training, as well as various efforts to help family physicians build capacity to support the mental and relational needs of children, adolescents, and families. A number of initiatives were completed this year to support these goals including additional initiatives and resources shared via the newsletter and website, an educational session at the Summer 2023 CME Meeting and a coding project that will research key CPT codes used for screening, diagnosing, and treating pediatric mental concerns.

Georgia Department of Public Health Contract:

Georgia Academy of Family Physicians (GAFP) has continued its partnership with the Georgia Department of Public Health (GA DPH) to offer educational public health activities. GAFP offered two public health lectures during the 2023 Summer CME Meeting and will offer an additional two lectures at the 2023 Annual CME Meeting. Other offerings throughout the year include resident education, leadership training, and promotion of various DPH programs and initiatives. DPH program areas include maternal and child health, newborn screening, children and youth with special health care needs, oral health, and women's health. The Public Health Committee helps to review and recommend content and education that would be most beneficial to family physicians.

Summary of 2022-2023 Contract Below:

3 website updates on Maternal and Child Health services	Georgia eWIC info MPox Updates Georgia Mental Health Access in Pediatrics (GMAP) Program
Training on the early identification, developmental screening and surveillance and the child health referral system at Conclaves	August 2022: Early Identification of Developmental Disabilities: An Overview of Updates to CDC's Developmental Milestones by Jennifer Zubler, MD, FAAP March 2023: Child Developmental Screenings: Key Reminders for Family Physicians Update by Leslie David, MD
Assessment tool regarding early identification and referral system for children	Survey completed April 2023
1 Newborn Screening lecture for family medicine residency programs	May 2023: Child Developmental Screenings: Key Reminders for Family Physicians Update by Leslie David, MD
3 newsletter articles on Newborn Screening Topics	Healthcare professionals training on adaptive communication HIV and Syphilis testing requirements during pregnancy DECAL
2 Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs lectures for the Fall and Summer meetings	Fall 2022 Meeting: Children's Medical Services and the Georgia Autism Initiative by DPH Staff Summer 2023 Meeting: Development Disabilities Sensitivity Training by Janice Nodvin
3 Health Care Transition for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs lectures for family medicine residency programs	Accessible Healthcare for People with Disabilities Webinars – Review of Barriers to Accessible Care, Supporting Healthcare Decision-Making, and Optimizing Health Equity by Dana Lloyd, Georgia Advocacy Office
1 webinar on Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs	All Things Connect: Suicide, Bullying and Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention by Nykita Howell, DPH Staff
Annual assessment to its membership for Children and Youth with Special Health Care	Survey completed May 2023
3 updates on transitioning youth and young adults from pediatric to adult care	SERN Lunch and Learn 2022 Transition coding and reimbursement tip sheet GMAP info
2 Oral Health lectures for family residency programs	Piedmont Columbus and WellStar Kennestone with Dr. Judy Greenlea Taylor

1 Chapter newsletter article on Oral Health program	Tooth Bytes article by Dr. Judy Greenlea Taylor
2 Women's Health lectures at the Fall and Summer meetings	Fall 2022 Meeting: Evolution of Maternal Mortality Review in Georgia by Michael Lindsay, MD Summer 2023 Meeting: Women's Mental Health care During Preconception, Pregnancy, and Postpartum by Christina Kelly, MD
3 Women Health lectures for family medicine residency programs	Women's Mental Health care During Preconception, Pregnancy, and Postpartum by Christina Kelly, MD
1 newsletter article on promoting a Women's Health topic	Prenatal testing for Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, HIV, and syphilis

Thank you to our Public Health Committee for their participation and support of the GAFP educational initiatives.

Renee Corley, MD
 Stalina Gowdie, MD
 Mindy Guo, MD
 Adena Hicks, MD
 D'Amico Johnson, MD
 Lorraine McRae, MD
 Jessica Miller, MD

St. Claire Sumaili, MD
 Hogai Nassery, MD
 Hima Chopra, MD
 Resident Siri Chirumamilla, MD
 Student Spring Davis
 Michael Busman, MD-Executive Committee
 Liaison

Respectfully submitted,

Angeline Ti, MD
 Public Health Committee Chair

Dan Singleton, MD
 Public Health Committee Vice Chair

Recommendations: None

Report of the Student and Resident Recruitment Committee

September 2023
Congress of Delegates
Georgia Academy of Family Physicians

Meeting dates:

Wednesday, January 23, 2023

Friday, June 9, 2023

Saturday, August 12, 2023

The Student and Resident Recruitment Committee met three times this year and focused on multiple activities in which to engage the students and residents at our meetings, how to involve members with family medicine volunteer opportunities, and leadership activities.

The following are some of the projects that the Committee worked on this past year:

Family Medicine Day for Medical Students

In March, GAFP hosted the popular in-person student workshop, which is a day full of procedures, small group discussions with family physician leaders, and short lectures featuring topics to highlight the family medicine specialty, and how to move forward with your medical career.

The Georgia Residency Fair once again took place in conjunction with the Medical Student Workshop at our March Committee Conclave.

This year's meeting was very successful. Twenty-eight medical students attended, and an additional 52 medical students joined the medical student meeting at the Residency Fair.

Student Meeting Agenda

7:30 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.: Registration and Continental Breakfast

8:15 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.: Welcome
GAFP President- Dr. Sharon Rabinovitz

8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.: Student Themed “Ted Talks”

- Finding a Family Medicine Mentor – Harry Strothers, MD
- Tips & Tricks, & How to Stand Out During your Residency Interviews – Monica Newton, DO
- Selecting a Family Medicine Specialty – Christina Kelly, MD
- Resiliency & Joy in Family Medicine – Alice House, MD

10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. |Break

10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.: Speed Dating (15 minutes per topic)

- Navigating Residency Selection– Najeeb Siddiq, MD
- How to Shine during your Clerkships – Macy McNair, MD
- Fellowships: Sports Medicine & Obstetrics – Mike Busman, MD & Christina Kelly, MD
- Advocacy for Family Medicine & Our Patients – Chip Cowart, MD

11:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. |Break

11:35 a.m. – 12:35 p.m.: Lunch– Loan Repayment & Financial Guidance – Paige Kim & Dr. Julie Dahl-Smith – Georgia Health Care Workforce Board

12:30 p.m. – 12:45 p.m. |Break

12:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.: Hands-on Workshops – (3) 45-minute rotations

Program	Workshop
Medical College of GA	Acupuncture
Morehouse School of Medicine	Knee & Shoulder Injections
Houston Healthcare Family Medicine Residency	IUD Insertion
Gwinnett Northside Family Medicine Residency	OMT Workshop
Emory Family Medicine Residency Program	Nexplanon insertion
Floyd Family Medicine Residency	POCUS
Northeast Georgia Medical Center	Toenail removal/skin procedures
Hamilton Healthcare	Before Suturing

3: 00 p.m. – 3: 15 p.m. Break

3:15 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.: Georgia Residency Fair

Programs	
Emory Family Medicine Residency	Mercer School of Family Medicine
Floyd Family Medicine Residency	Morehouse School of Medicine
Gwinnett Northside Family Medicine	WellStar Douglas
Houston Healthcare Family Medicine	WellStar Kennesaw
Medical College of GA	Northeast Georgia Medical Center
Hamilton Healthcare	

5:00 pm – 6:30 pm.: Networking Reception with Medical Students

6:30 pm – 8:30 pm: Family Physicians: Magic Moments in Family Medicine Dinner

Employment Contract Review Assistance for Resident Members

The Georgia Academy of Family Physicians continued a program providing funding for GAFP PGY3 family physician residents who are planning to remain in Georgia upon graduation to have their employment contracts reviewed by Southern Health Lawyers. Residents not planning to stay in Georgia receive discounted funding for the same review. Residents eligible for full funding must be current members of the AAFP/GAFP, must be enrolled as a PGY3 in training at a Georgia family medicine residency program, and must remain in Georgia upon graduation. As of August 31, 2023, 15 residents have used the contract review benefit in 2023.

T. A. Sappington Student Award Winners

Congratulations to the 2023 recipients of the T. A. Sappington Award. This prestigious award is given to medical student members who have demonstrated their commitment to family medicine by choosing to attend a Georgia Family Medicine Residency Program. We had a strong year with many of our graduates electing to remain in Georgia for residency.

This year we recognized seven T. A. Sappington Award winners:

James Trent Griner – Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine- Atrium Health Floyd Family Medicine Residency

Brejon Childers – Morehouse School of Medicine – Emory University School of Medicine Family Medicine

Chase Shook – Mercer University School of Medicine – Atrium Health Macon Family Medicine Residency

Benjamin Bridges – Mercer University School of Medicine – HCA Memorial Health Savannah

T Martin Wood – Mercer University School of Medicine – Piedmont Midtown Medical Center Columbus

Tristian Ruiz – Augusta University – Eisenhower Army Medical Center

Shiori Ucheya – Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine – Emory Family Medicine Residency

Congratulations to all!

Pathway to Medical School Program

The GAFP Board of Directors voted to continue to support the Pathway to Medical School program with a donation of \$2,000 to the Southwest Georgia Area Health Education Center (SOWEGA-AHEC) and \$2,000 to the Foothills Area Health Education Center (Foothills AHEC). The Pathway to Medical School program was developed to target Georgia pre-med college students who plan to pursue a medical career in primary care and to encourage participants to return to rural and underserved areas as primary care physicians. Students accepted into the program shadow primary care physicians, develop research projects, and attend seminars over a four-week period.

Southwest Georgia (SOWEGA) AHEC Pathway to Medical School (PTMS) Program

The SOWEGA-AHEC PTMS Committee is extremely grateful for the generous funding the GAFP has provided since 2007. Your gift helps with the costs associated with hosting PTMS. Your generosity also helps offset the cost for the students to attend and compete with their research projects at the GAFP Scientific Assembly in the fall, in addition to our students' medical school campus and simulation lab visits in Georgia.

The response we received for the 2023 Pathway to Med School Program was again encouraging, and the competition was impressive. We are excited to follow the journeys of the 9 talented and diverse students who completed the 2023 SOWEGA-AHEC Pathway to Med School program. The 2023 PTMS Program was held May 22 - June 23 and included the following:

Toyaunna Hamm	Cuthbert	Albany State University
Loulie Hattaway	Damascus	University of Georgia
Hannah Hood	Norman Park	University of Georgia
Gracen Kirkland	Donalsonville	Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College
Alexandra McComas	Albany	Mercer University
EmilieAnne Misamore	Albany	University of Georgia
Zahra Nurbhai	Albany	Georgia Institute of Technology
Jamya Peters	Albany	Claflin University
Jeramie Stokes	Albany	Albany State University

As noted below, the program is jam-packed with clinical learning opportunities, training, and coaching that will make them more competitive applicants. The community-based research projects are one of the most intense parts of the program, considering the students' short time frame and lack of experience. But while time-consuming, it is also one of the significant learning experiences. It provides a rare and impactful opportunity for our pre-med students to experience the potential of their future at such an early stage of their journey.

We are incredibly proud of the success of our award-winning Pathway to Med School Program and look forward to continuing to increase the number of students from southwest Georgia attending Georgia medical schools in hopes that they return to practice in the area. The program works through the successful collaboration of our partners and contributors, such as GAFP. Thank you again for your

continued support of the Pathway to Med School program! We look forward to continuing our relationship with the Georgia Academy of Family Physicians.

2023 SOWEGA-AHEC

Pathway to Med School

Facts and Figures from PTMS 2023:

- 31 pre-medical undergraduate students applied to the program.
- 10 students were selected to participate from 6 different southwest Georgia counties: Colquitt, Dougherty, Early, Mitchell, Randolph, and Seminole from 6 undergraduate institutions: Abraham Baldwin Agriculture College, Albany State University, Claflin University, Georgia Institute of Technology, Mercer University, and the University of Georgia.

Each 2023 Participant Completed:

- 70 hours of physician shadowing.
- 8 hours of simulation learning.
- Completed a community-based research project and posters to be submitted to the 2023 GAFP Annual Scientific Assembly. The team-based project required all participants to be trained in REDCap, complete 5 days of patient surveys at an FQHC, and produce 3 posters.
- Participated in 2 Mock Interview sessions with accompanying feedback.
- Completed two On-Demand Continuing Education trainings: Motivational Interviewing (3-part series) and Population Health (3-part series).
- Participated in Round Table Discussions, including the following topics: Applying to Medical School and The Future of Primary Care.

Participated in the Annual Admissions Forum with representatives from the 5 Georgia Medical Schools. This event is open to the public, with 35 people participating in the forum in person or online. The Admissions Forum continues to be available to view On-Demand

FOOTHILLS (Northeast Georgia) AHEC Pathway to Medical School Program

The Foothills AHEC Pathway to Medical School is modeled after the Southwest Georgia (SOWEGA) AHEC's Pathway program in Albany. The Foothills AHEC began with its first program in 2015. As of July 2023, 72 students have completed the Foothills AHEC Pathway to Med School program.

In 2023, eight students graduated from the Pathway to Med School (PTMS) program. The PTMS is a 4-week residential program for undergraduate pre-medical students who attend Georgia institutions and intend on staying in the state to practice primary care. During the PTMS program, students spend most of their time with primary care physicians who volunteer their time to serve as hosts for clinical shadowing. These physicians offer their students an opportunity to experience a "day in the life" of their practice and specialty. Program participants spent more than 60 hours exploring practice-based research topic that examines healthcare processes and patient populations in community-based clinical settings to improve care and patient outcomes. Students worked with research mentors from Piedmont Athens Regional Internal Medicine GME Department and Georgia Department of Public Health District 2.

The remaining 40 hours consisted of instructional sessions meant to help participants navigate their pathway to med school and beyond, which included research project preparation, medical school campus visits to the AU/UGA Medical Partnership Campus and PCOM-GA, and a mock interview day.

The Student and Resident Recruitment Committee looks forward to supporting both PTMS programs, particularly in the recruitment of GAFP member leaders for shadowing hours.

AAFP National Conference for Medical Students/Residents

The AAFP's National Conference for Medical Students & Residents returned to a live format this year in Kansas City with ten Georgia residency programs in attendance at their own booths, grouped together as a Georgia family medicine residency program block. These included the Augusta University, Columbus Family Medicine Residency Program, Emory Family Medicine Residency, Floyd Family Medicine Residency Program, Northside Gwinnett Medical Center Family Medicine Residency Program, Medical

Center of Central Georgia/Navicent/Atrium Health, Northeast Georgia Family Medicine Residency Program, Savannah FMRP Memorial Medical WellStar Douglas Family Medicine Residency Program, and WellStar Kennestone Family Medicine Residency Program.

The GAFP encourages student and resident members to participate in the conference by offering scholarships, particularly among our student and resident leadership members. This year the GAFP offered a \$1,000 stipend to offset the expense of traveling for two residents and two medical students serving as our delegates.

The GAFP had representation in both the resident and student delegate categories. These individuals served this year: Teresa Colon-Asumu, MD from the Emory University School of Medicine, served as the resident delegate, and Najeeb Siddiq, MD from the WellStar Douglas Medical Center Family Medicine Residency, served as our resident alternate delegate. Shant Ohanian, from the Medical College of Georgia – Athens, served as the GAFP student delegate, and Katie Lively, from the Medical College of Georgia, Augusta University Family served as our student alternate delegate.

Recognition of Volunteers on Behalf of the Committee

The Committee would like to acknowledge all who have advocated for family medicine to groups throughout the state, as part of a family medicine interest group meeting.

I would like to thank my Vice Chair, Jody Bahnmler, MD, and the following members who have served on this committee: Macy McNair, MD, Khaja Kamal Mohiuddin, MD, Najeeb Siddiq MD (resident), Sharon Ekume (student), Shrestha Dubey (student), Jantzen Michael (student) and Executive Committee Liaison, Susana Alfonso, MD.

Respectfully Submitted for the Committee by,

Julie Dahl-Smith, DO

Chair

RECOMMENDATIONS: None

PLACEHOLDER

AAFP Delegates

REPORT

To come after

AAFP COD

October 25-27, 2023

2023 Georgia Healthy Family Alliance Activity Update

September 2023

By *Mitzi Rubin, MD, FAAFP – President*

On behalf of the Georgia Healthy Family Alliance (GHFA) Board of Trustees, I am pleased to present the following report of the Alliance's activities over the past year for your review.

I must first express thanks to the GHFA Board of Trustees for their unwavering support of the Alliance over the past year as **we reached our initial \$4 million *Your Giving is Great Medicine* Capital Campaign goal** and made great strides toward fulfilling our mission to enhance the well-being of Georgians through educational and outreach programs that promote healthy practices consistent with the principles of family medicine.

In 2023, the Alliance Board will hold a total of three Board meetings, and we currently have two staff members devoted to programming and expanding the impact of the Community Health and Immediate Needs grant programs as well as the Tar Wars tobacco and vaping prevention Strike Force initiatives in Macon/ Middle Georgia, Rome/Northwest Georgia, Gainesville/ Northeast Georgia and Savannah/Southeast Georgia.

The two major goals of the Alliance are improving the health of Georgians and increasing the financial wellness of the Alliance. To continue to better connect our mission and vision for GHFA's future with our purpose, a new strategic plan is currently in development.

GHFA Current Strategic Plan

- Initiate and develop Tar Wars Strike Forces in Georgia-based regional locations to educate school-aged children on anti-tobacco and vaping materials utilizing the AAFP's nationally recognized Tar Wars program.
- Expand Community Health and Immediate Need grant giving throughout Georgia.
- Launch new Capital Campaign initiatives to continue to build a fund that will allow for an endowment to support grant giving.
- Continue to expand initiatives while validating the soundness and resiliency of the Alliance.

The 2023 Community Health Grant Awards

In January 2023, the Georgia Healthy Family Alliance (GHFA) celebrated our eleventh year of providing Community Health Grants to GAFP members across Georgia. Since launching the Community Health Grant program in 2012- **132 GAFP member-sponsored healthcare grants** totaling \$665,000 have been awarded to improve the overall health of Georgians.

Community Health Grants awarded to date in 2023 include:

Thien-Kim Le, MD "**Emory Farmworker Health Clinic Project,**" South Georgia

Allison Turk, MD "**Healthy Hearts Project,**" Lumpkin County

Adrienne Mims, MD "**CBWW Chronic Disease Management,**" Dekalb County

Kait Meixner, MD "**Interventions For Smoking Cessation and Barriers To Care,**" Athens

Hannah Huang, MCG Student “**Asian Clinic Transitioning Back to In-Person,**” Augusta
 Zita Magloire, MD “**Stargazer Academy Clean Air and Hands Project,**” Cairo
 Ron Alleyne, MD “**Weight Management for A Healthier You Project,**” Marietta
 Sarah Barr, MD “**Expanding Access to Affordable Primary Healthcare,**” Columbus
 Susana Alfonso, MD “**Portal de Salud Wellness Program,**” Lilburn
 Angeline Ti, MD “**Behavioral Health Workforce Diversity in FM Residency,**” Morrow
 Jasbir Kaur, MD “**Walk With A Doc Project,**” Gainesville
 Richard Sams, MD “**Student Clinic Supplies & Patient Outreach Expansion,**” Augusta
 Andrea Videlefsky, MD “**ADMH Get Fit & Be Healthy In My Community,**” Marietta
 Patrice Shongo, MD “**Clarkston Health Center Breast Health Initiative,**” Clarkston
 Lyndsay Claroni, DO “**Cancer Counseling, Transportation & Nutrition Project,**” Rome
 Brian DeLoach, MD “**Hearts & Hands Patient Lab Tests Project 2022**” Statesboro
 Antonio Williams, MD “**Camp Breakthrough For The Homeless**” Clayton County
 Donald Fordham, MD “**Healthy Families in Northeast Georgia**” Demorest

Current GAFFP members including medical students, residents and active/life members are eligible to sponsor applications for grant funding with the next deadline of February 1, 2024. First cycle grant awards will be announced in March 2024. Application information is available online at www.georgiahealthyfamilyalliance.org.



ADMH 2023 “Run For Health” Participants with GAFFP Member Andrea Videlefsky, MD

Immediate Needs Grants

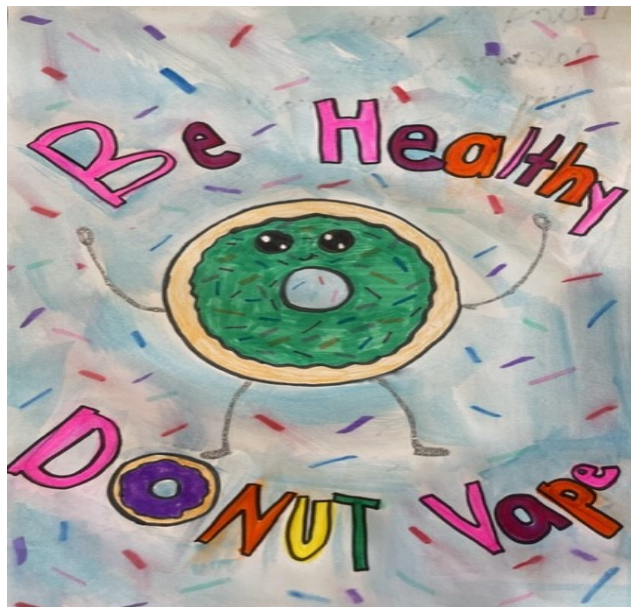
With the knowledge that family physicians are on the front lines of public health issues affecting our communities, in 2020 the Alliance launched the Immediate Needs Grant program to provide urgent needs assistance in communities throughout the state. Since that time \$60,000 has been awarded to address urgent needs statewide.

The Immediate Needs Grants continue to provide assistance to GAFFP member communities in 2023. Some examples of 2023 grant projects include urgent housing, transportation, food and

medicine for individuals that are in a fragile or unstable environment. Grant applications have been streamlined and an approval process has been implemented so we can transmit funds within 3-5 days. The application period will remain open through the end of the year. A downloadable application can be found on the GHFA website at www.georgiahealthyfamilyalliance.org. Contact Kara Sinkule – ksinkule@gafp.org or call 404-321-7445 with any questions. 2023 Immediate Needs Grants awarded to date include:

2023 Immediate Need Grant Recipients (as of September 7th):

Medical Student Meenal Joshi, Columbus, **Safe House Homeless Assistance Supplies**
Dr. Rose Anzele, Macon, **Support for Girls STEM Programming in Middle Georgia**
Dr. Alexis Bateman, Macon, **Vegetable Garden for Middle GA Food Insecure Patients**
Dr. Shikha Shah, Columbus, **Home Accessibility Project for Jamaris “Jelly” Snipes**
Dr. Beverly Ann Townsend, Columbus, **Mercer Medical Student Teddy Bear Clinic**
Dr. Antonio Williams, Clayton County, **Homeless Assistance Outreach Project**
Dr. John Vu, Griffin, **Grocery Assistance for Employees of Displaced Small Business**



2023 Statewide Tar Wars First Place Poster Winner 4th Grader Lucy Morgan of Flowery Branch

Tar Wars Kicks off 2023-24 School Year

We are pleased to share that Tar Wars **reached a record 50,000 Georgia** students across 23 counties last school. Tar Wars was also implemented in several new counties last school year including Banks, Bibb, Cherokee, Chatham, Lumpkin and Rabun. In addition, over 100 Georgia educators and presenters have been trained to present Tar Wars including individual residents, medical students, teachers and Physical Education and Health Educators in Hall, Chatham and Bibb counties. Tar Wars Presenter Trainings are held regularly or can be scheduled at another time convenient for presenters.



Tar Wars implementation in the four current Strike Force regions: Macon/ Middle Georgia, Rome/Northwest Georgia, Gainesville/ Northeast Georgia and Savannah/Southeast Georgia is currently underway for the 2023-24 school year. If you are interested in presenting Tar Wars to a school, youth organization or parent group in your community, contact Tar Wars Statewide Manager Danielle Towns at dtowns@gafp.org for more information or visit www.georgiahealthyfamilyalliance.org.



Your Giving is Great Medicine Past and Current Campaign Leaders

GHFA Capital Campaign - Your Giving is Great Medicine

I am pleased to share that **GHFA reached the initial \$4 million *Your Giving is Great Medicine Capital Campaign* goal** in June and celebrated this accomplishment with a Luau Donor Celebration during the GAFF Summer meeting in Isle of Palms, SC. As you may recall, three years ago the Capital Campaign shifted to focus on specific *Tar Wars Strike Force* communities to raise \$250,000 in each community to implement our Tar Wars program for a minimum of three years in schools in an ongoing effort to curb the extraordinary increase in vaping among school aged children.

With four Tar Wars Strike Forces running concurrently, the initial fundraising phase is now complete for three of the four regions with program implementation now underway.

With Dr. Patrick “PJ” Lynn as Chair of the Rome Strike Force and Dr. Leonard Reeves as Co-Chair, staff worked in this community with these physicians and the Strike Force team and was

able to increase support to \$234,075 from individuals and industry partners like Amerigroup. We will continue to work in this community to reach the full \$250,000 by the end of 2023.

GAFF member and Gainesville resident, Dr. Monica Newton, serves as Chair of the Gainesville/Northeast Strike Force and Dr. Donald Fordham is serving as Vice Chair. In this

community, the Northeast Georgia Hospital System donated \$50,000 and a recent gift from Humana helped us reach our full goal of \$250,000.

GHFA Board member and Statesboro resident Dr. Chip Cowart is serving as Chair of the Southeast Georgia Strike Force and Dr. Bonzo Reddick as Vice Chair. Despite launching in the middle of the pandemic, this region exceeded the \$250,000 goal largely through the support of a community partners, CareSource and Memorial Health.

GHFA Board member Dr. Harry Strothers and Dr. Monique Davis-Smith serve as Co-Chairs of the Middle Georgia/ Macon Strike Force. In this region Navicent Health Foundation and Fairview Park Hospital of Dublin eagerly supported bringing the Tar Wars program to schools in their community. Recent gifts from Houston Healthcare and CareSource helped us reach our goal of \$250,000.

In addition to working in the Strike Force communities, GHFA staff has also continued raising Capital Campaign funds among our members and industry partners as well as through outside grant applications.

Our goals for 2024 include developing “what’s next” strategies and objectives after phase one of the capital campaign funded the launch of four Tar Wars Strike Force initiatives across Georgia and increased and expanded the nationally recognized Community Health and Immediate Needs Grant programs. In addition, completing the remaining Strike Force fundraising phase for Rome this year will allow GHFA to launch Strike Forces in additional targeted communities in 2024.



2023 Your Giving is Great Medicine Donor Recognition Events

In addition to the *Your Giving is Great Medicine* Capital Campaign celebration during the GAFP Summer meeting in June, a year end donor recognition event honoring *Your Giving is*

Great Medicine top campaign donors is being planned in November in conjunction with the GAFFP's annual meeting.

2023 Capital Campaign Leadership Cabinet Members:

2023 Chair: Loy "Chip" Cowart, MD

Dr. Mike Busman, Americus

Dr. Evelyn Lewis & Clark, Newnan

Dr. Donald Fordham, Demorest

Dr. Patrick "P.J." Lynn, Rome

Dr. Eddie Richardson, Eatonton

Dr. Mitzi Rubin, Atlanta

Dr. Collyn Steele, McDonough

Dr. Harry Strothers, Macon

Dr. Rick Wherry, Dahlonega

GHFA Capital Campaign Donors

In celebration of the GAFFP's 75th Anniversary last November a new "Caduceus Diamond" giving level was announced to recognize donors with an accumulated gift amount between \$25,000 - \$49,999. I would be remiss not to mention that, as some of our members reach the full pledge payments due, they have doubled down and committed to a new cycle of giving. We appreciate these generous supporters who have moved from one level of giving to a new higher level. As of September 7, 2023, the *Your Giving is Great Medicine* Capital Campaign pledges include:

\$1,000,000

Georgia Academy of Family Physicians

\$50,000-\$100,000

Amerigroup

CareSource

Fairview Park Hospital

Floyd Healthcare Foundation

Floyd Medical Center

Georgia Community Foundation

Humana

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Navicent Health Foundation

Northeast Georgia Health System

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Committee to Elect Matthew Dubnik

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Committee to Elect Butch Miller
Georgia Skin Center
Mr. Allen Butts Jr.
Dr. Andre Kallab

Mr. Daniel Thompson
Mr. John Hornor
Dr. Leslie A David
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Dr. Andy Paul Morley
Ms. Anslee Wilson
Carroll Daniel Construction
Committee to Elect Lee Hawkins
Ms. Fay Fulton
Mr. Frank G. Lake III
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Dr. Margaret L Schutte
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Ms. Marian Reed
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Drs. John and Angela Gerguis	Dr. Robert "Butch" Pally
Ms. Fay Fulton	Dr. Tia Bingham
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Alexandria Poitier, MD
Jaye George, MD

In closing, I must recognize our donors, grantees and Tar Wars Strike Force partners who poured their expertise, passion and hard work into these programs allowing us to reach our initial ***Your Giving is Great Medicine*** campaign goal while growing our grant programs and four Tar Wars Strike Force initiatives throughout Georgia! I must also thank departing GHFA Trustees Dr. Loy “Chip” Cowart and Dr. Priya Shah for their exceptional leadership and years of service to the Alliance.

I am proud to be a member of the GAFFP and President of the Alliance. Philanthropy is a Greek word which etymologically means “love of humanity” in the sense of caring, developing and enhancing what it is to be human for both the benefactors and beneficiaries. Our collective philanthropic efforts this year have truly demonstrated the love Family Physicians have for our patients and the communities in which we work and live. Thank you all again for your ongoing support of the Alliance.

Sincerely,

Mitzi Rubin MD, FAAFP
President

Recommendations: None

Resident Directors Report

September 2023
Congress of Delegates
Georgia Academy of Family Physicians

2023 Resident Directors and Alternates to the Board
Resident Director – Nijah Burris, MD
Resident Director – Shantrice Appleby, MD
Resident Alternate Director – Teresa Colon-Asumu, MD
Resident Alternate Director - Sydney Koenig-McRae, MD

Resident Award Winners:

Georgia Academy Resident of the Year

Awarded to Dr. Samuel Nwaobi – Piedmont Columbus Regional Midtown in Columbus, Georgia

Georgia Academy Keith Ellis Award

Awarded to Dr. Macy Tabb – Northeast Georgia Medical Center in Gainesville, Georgia.

AAFP Resident and Student National Conference:

Dr. Teresa Colon-Asumu and Dr. Najeeb Siddiq attended the 2023 AAFP National Conference for Students and Residents. Georgia was well represented. Ten residency programs attended and six held a Georgia reception to speak one-on-one with medical students interested in attending a residency program in Georgia.

Dr. Teresa Colon-Asumu attended the AAFP National Conference as chapter delegate. She was able to receive registration and travel scholarships in order to attend in person. There were other medical students and residents present from several Georgia programs. She was able to learn about the handlings of Congress and how to vote on resolutions. She had the privilege to attend a resolutions discussion session during which she gave testimony in favor of a resolution regarding IMGs. She then learned how voting occurred for resolutions along with debate during the Congress session and was proud to see how fervently residents raised their voices for what they believed in. She was able to vote on new resident leadership positions for the upcoming year and heard about possible agenda topics for these leaders such as resident wellness and burnout, diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives and IMG acceptance. There was an expo hall that allowed her to network with potential employers, healthcare organizations that help provide further training, new healthcare models like Direct Primary Care, and even got her resume evaluated by an AAFP employment consultant. This was the first time she had ever attended the National Conference and it was an invaluable experience that she will never forget.

Dr. Colon-Asumu was able to go back to her residency and not only share her experience but also encourage her fellow co-residents to consider getting involved in advocacy.

Recommendations:

GAFP should encourage and empower its residents to apply for AAFP leadership positions. They should also facilitate having more sessions where residents can learn about the events occurring during the year, i.e., Day at the Capitol, volunteer events, or other advocacy sessions.

Respectfully submitted,
Resident Directors, Drs. Appleby, Burris, Colon-Asumu, and Koenig-McRae

2023 Congress of Delegates Student Directors' Report

2022-2023 Student Directors & Alternates to the Board

Katie Lively | Medical College of Georgia | Voting Director
Michael Brackett | Medical College of Georgia | Voting Director Zachary
Harrison | Medical College of Georgia | Voting Director
Shant Ohanian | Medical College of Georgia, Athens | Alternate
Amanda Lilley | Medical College of Georgia, Athens | Alternate
Tucker Hickox | Medical College of Georgia, Athens | Alternate

Attendance to AAFP National Conference for Medical Students/Residents

Shant Ohanian – Delegate and Katie Lively- Alternate Delegate attended the AAFP National Conference and served as student representatives.

Attendance at the GAFP Board of Directors Meeting

- March – Michael Brackett, Zachary Harrison, Amanda Lilley, and Katie Lively
- June – Michael Brackett, Zachary Harrison, and Katie Lively
- August – Michael Brackett, Zachary Harrison, Amanda Lilley, and Katie Lively

Georgia Academy of Family Physicians Activities

- Zachary Harrison, Amanda Lilley, Katie Lively, and Shant Ohanian attended the 2023 March Student Meeting at the March Conclave. The student meeting was a huge success with 28 students attending, and an additional 52 medical students attending the Residency Fair.

MCG FMIG Updates

Medical College of Georgia – Augusta– Submitted by Zachary Harrison – Director

- Activities have included a suture/casting/splinting workshop, “What is Family Medicine?” introductory panel for M1s, post-match M4 virtual panel.

Medical College of Georgia – Athens – Submitted by Amanda Lilley – Alt. Director

- FMIG activities have included a family medicine dinner at a professor’s house for about 30 students. Family medicine physicians, M4s committed to family medicine, the family medicine department chair, family medicine clerkship director, and the family medicine clinical rotation coordinator joined the students. Students got to hear why they chose family medicine and learned tips and tricks for clerkships and residency in family medicine. Finally, FMIG hosted a family medicine picnic for about 40 students. Family physicians came and talked to the students about what family medicine is like, fellowship opportunities, tips for choosing residencies, having a family while in the medical field, and more.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Brackett, Zachary Harrison, Tucker Hickox, Amanda Lilley, Katie Lively, and Shant Ohanian

Recommendations:

-The GAFP March Student Meeting and Residency Fair were excellent events for both prospective and declared applicants to Family Medicine. We recommend that the GAFP continue this event for students and increase the capacity for the Student Meeting to even more students to promote student engagement with the Academy.

-We recommend the GAFP continue to provide scholarship opportunities for students to participate in the AAFP National Conference for Medical Students and Residents. This conference offers students the opportunity to represent Georgia on the national platform and engage with other students, residents, and Family Physicians throughout the country.

September 20, 2023
2022-2023 Annual Report to the GAFP

Atrium Health Navicent/Mercer University School of Medicine Family Medicine Residency

The residency program had an exciting and productive year.

The facility received a makeover. We have new carpet, painting and abatement of mold and asbestoses. The resident office space is expanding, and we are creating a new space for the third-year clerkship students.

Dr. Hugh McLaurin retired after over thirty years of service as a core faculty member and medical director of the residency family medicine practice. He has plans to join us for occasional precepting in the clinic after enjoying a few months of retirement.

We had a 100% ABFM take and pass rate with our graduating class. 100% of the class will remain in Georgia for practice (with two participating in the geriatric fellowship).

The Walk with A Doc community service program continues to serve the Middle GA community with expansion to Baldwin and Peach counties.

The residents enjoy our robust SIM lab experience that occurs on the third Tuesday of the month. This experience has improved competency of the residents in ambulatory and inpatient procedures as well as proficiency in POCUS.

We have a quarterly OMT workshop with faculty from Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine. This experience exposes the residents (many who are not trained in osteopathic medicine) to OMT and provides an opportunity for them to gain experience and develop competence in some OMT manipulations.

The residents work with the Middle Georgia Food Bank to provide food give away events to help mitigate the food insecurity challenges in our community.

The residency program is approved for 11/11/11 with hopes to develop a rural tract. This expansion is dependent on the ability of the organization to attract and retain core faculty.

The program continues to have full accreditation with no citations.

The Hospice Palliative Medicine fellowship did not accept any applicants this year due to limited faculty in the fellowship.

The Geriatric Fellowship and residency program are negotiating terms with a new Long-Term Care facility. If an agreement is not obtained both programs will be in jeopardy of citations and educational limitations.

Issues facing our training program include but are not limited to the following:

- Integration into a health system that spans 5 states
- The critical need for talented, committed, and passionate Residency faculty

- Resources for volunteer specialty faculty (tax-credit option for teaching time)
- Improving research infrastructure in the organization
- Developing an effective/efficient coding/billing experience for the residents

Respectfully submitted,

Y. Monique Davis-Smith, MD, FAAFP
Program Director
AHN/MUSM Family Medicine Residency
Macon, GA

Emory Family Medicine Residency Program
Annual Report
July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

General

The Emory Family Medicine Residency Program (EFMRP) completed its 28th year of training residents. During the 2022-2023 academic year, 30 residents were in training. Ten of our residents completed the program, of whom eight went into practice in Georgia.

The program continues to staff its Family Medicine Service (FMS) at Emory University Hospital Midtown, the sponsoring hospital for the Emory Family Medicine Residency Program. It is an excellent teaching service with full academic training and clinical support services of Emory Healthcare. It is also ranked nationally in the top 10% for outstanding quality for academic medical centers.

Our faculty and residents continue to be recognized for their leadership and outstanding work in medical education, residency training, and clinical research.

All faculty and residents are actively engaged in teaching and lecturing within the Department and the School of Medicine and Physician Assistant Program. Our residents remain engaged in Global Health electives, with residents and faculty traveling to Ethiopia during the academic year to continue developing the country's first Family Medicine residency program.

Our residency program continues to attract large numbers of applicants, both nationally and internationally. The program has engaged in several initiatives to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion in our recruitment efforts. This year, we had close to 2,000 applicants. The program successfully matched all ten positions in March 2023.

Our involvement with the Emory Family Medicine Interest Group attracts medical students and undergraduates to Family Medicine. In addition, the residency program faculty and residents regularly engage in workshops with medical students. The program's website is <https://med.emory.edu/departments/family-preventive/divisions-programs/family-medicine/residency/index.html>.

Faculty/ Staff Changes

No Staff Changes

2023 Graduates

Graduate	Practice Location
Victoria Anderson	Primary Care, Atlanta, GA
Sarah Chang	Kaiser Permanente Primary Care, Atlanta, GA
Nercie Danger	Kaiser Permanente Primary Care, Atlanta, GA
Yiam Dieppa Garay	Piedmont Primary Care, Atlanta, GA
Kimberly Eide	Primary Care, Atlanta, GA
Sophia Rashid	Primary Care, Atlanta, GA
Jasmine Shackelford	Upson Regional Medical Center-Family Physicians Group, Thomaston, GA
Briana Toatley	Piedmont Primary Care, Atlanta, GA
Selena Trichel Payne	Ballad Health Family Medicine Residency at Johnston Memorial Hospital, Abingdon, VA
Michael Zimmerman	UNC Health Orange Family Medical Group, Hillsborough, NC

Family Medicine Center

All Family Medicine residents practice in the Emory Family Medicine Clinic at Dunwoody. We provide inpatient care at Emory University Hospital Midtown. The Dunwoody site offers full-service primary care and various office procedures. In addition, we offer behavioral counseling on-site. The Dunwoody Clinic provides teaching and training to Family Medicine residents, medical students, and PA students in Ambulatory Care at the Emory University School of Medicine. We continue to incorporate e-visits to improve patient access and quality of care. \

The clinic website is

<https://www.emoryhealthcare.org/locations/primary-care/emory-at-dunwoody-family-medicine/>

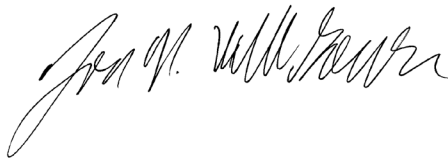
Graduates

We currently have over 200 graduates in practice. Approximately 60% are practicing in the state of Georgia.

Future Directions

1. We continue to expand our quality improvement projects in chronic diseases like diabetes, hypertension, obesity, and wellness.
2. We continue to recruit faculty members to our residency program.
3. Our Point of Care Ultrasound (POCUS) Curriculum continues to grow. We provide a longitudinal experience during the PGY2 and PGY3 years. We started a full musculoskeletal POCUS curriculum this year in collaboration with the Sports Medicine faculty.
4. We created a hospital medicine track for residents interested in developing further inpatient medicine skills.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jose M. Villalon-Gomez". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jose" being particularly prominent.

Jose M. Villalon-Gomez, MD, MPH

Associate Professor

Program Director, Emory Family Medicine Residency Program

Department of Family & Preventive Medicine

Emory University School of Medicine

jose.villalon-gomez@emory.edu



Atrium Health Floyd Family Medicine Residency

2023 Annual Report to the Georgia Academy of Family Physicians Congress of Delegates

We are excited about our integration with Advocate Health System, going forward we will still be known as Atrium Health Floyd. We will continue our legacy of training excellent physicians and expand our educational resources by partnering with this healthcare organization.

We increased our residents from eight physicians to nine physicians. We had a successful recruitment season last year, as we matched nine new physicians. Five of our nine physicians come from Georgia medical schools.

We are also proud of our graduates for the 2023 year who will all be working in an outpatient primary care setting to help fulfill the mission of expanding primary care to patients. Our graduates are listed below as follows:

Adriana Lynn Delmonico, M.D. – Faculty at Lakeland Regional Health Medical Center, Lakeland, FL
Edward Lawson Held, M.D. – CaroMont Health Family Medicine, Lake Wiley, NC
Nathan Scott Henry, D.O. – Family Medicine Center, Orlando, FL
Kristopher Andrew Nelson, D.O. – Emory Healthcare Primary Care, LaGrange, GA
Nzota Pelagie Nsona Koyagialo, M.D. – Aylo Health Primary Care, Canton, GA
Gregory John Rusiecki, D.O. – Atrium Health Floyd Primary Care, Rome, GA
Yassmin Sharrif, D.O. – Northside Hospital Primary Care, Peachtree Corners, GA

We continue to look for ways to grow and to improve our program. We have developed a simulation lab at our clinic and are in the process of renovating our current space to support our program.

We have transitioned to a 4-week 13-block schedule to accommodate our expanding residency and to allow for more opportunity for electives. In addition to adding new physicians to our residency, we are seeking a new D.O. faculty member to contribute to our robust osteopathic program.

We appreciate the support we receive from the Georgia Academy of Family Physicians, and their encouragement to medical schools to pursue our specialty.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kelly Vlass Culbertson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Kelly Vlass Culbertson, MD
Program Director/Designated Institutional Official
Atrium Health Floyd Family Medicine Residency
Office: 706.509.3300 ext: 3349 | Fax: 706.509.3301
304 Shorter Ave., Ste. 201 Rome, GA 30165

General

Georgia South Family Medicine Residency Program at Colquitt Regional Medical Center launched its residency in July 2016, and we will soon begin recruitment for our ninth class of residents. We are a 4-4-4 program and we have matched a full complement each year of our existence.

Residents

In June of 2023 we graduated our fourth class of Family Physicians, William Seemer, D.O., who has accepted a nocturnist position with an HCA in Jacksonville, Fl, Dr. Hyder Naqvi, D.O., who will be practicing outpatient medicine at Emory Services in Atlanta, Ga, and Rickey Patel, M.D. who is currently exploring his career options post-residency. Our newest class of residents include Carol Medina, M.D., Shelby Flowers, D.O., Allison Tresner, D.O., and Chrisitan Edwards, D.O.

Faculty

Georgia South maintains a dedicated group of three full time core faculty members and one Behavioral Health faculty member. To guide and support our residents throughout their training, we take pride in acquiring faculty members who are well-versed in areas that are pertinent to our program's experience. All core faculty members are graduates from the Georgia South Family Medicine Program, while Nick Carden, PhD, the program's Behavioral Health faculty, provides tremendous resource for faculty and resident wellness, in addition to administering a rigorous BH curriculum for the program.

Service

Our hospital offers education in the broad spectrum of family medicine, including family medicine residency services in which residents work alongside board certified hospitalists in the care of adult medicine and dedicated full-time inpatient pediatric hospitalists who assist the residents with obtaining a robust inpatient pediatric rotation and night float service. In addition to this, the Georgia South residents continue to care for patients in the outpatient clinic which will soon be expanding its facility with 22 patient exam rooms, 2 procedure rooms, and a virtual medicine room.

Future Direction

In May 2023, the South Georgia Medical Education and Research Consortium, our program's sponsoring institution, introduced a Regional Graduate Medical Education Conference for the residency programs in the surrounding region with the hope of fostering collaboration through joint faculty development and scholarly activity endeavors. During this regional conference, faculty members, residents, and GME staff from all programs in attendance engaged in various presentations conducted by faculty members for professional and educational purposes. With the continuation of this conference, our program strives to increase opportunities for collaboration with programs in the South Georgia region. Finally, Colquitt Regional Medical Center has witnessed the significant growth of its educational services and is set to open the doors to a state-of-the-art education building that will house the Georgia South Family Medicine Residency Program, the Georgia South Psychiatry Residency Program this Winter. The new Graduate Medical Education building highlights the hospital's commitment to increasing opportunities for residents to expand their training with new simulation labs, additional didactic classrooms, and a substantial increase in facility size that will accommodate a larger patient volume.

Respectfully,

Kirby Smith, DO.



Program Director
Georgia South Family Medicine Residency Program

Annual Report of the Family Medicine Residency Program at Hamilton Medical Center

As a relatively new program, we have been fortunate again to match our third class of residents on the first round of the match. We currently have 18 residents (6/6/6) in our Family Medicine Residency. Hamilton Medical Center in Dalton is our Sponsoring Institution, and our Family Residency Clinic is in Chatsworth, Georgia/Murray County where our residents are able to provide care to an underserved population. Since our inception, we established a relationship with Erlanger Children's Hospital in Chattanooga, Tennessee which is the tertiary pediatric hospital for our region. This has given our residents an excellent inpatient pediatric experience. Our Sponsoring Institution owns and operates several LTHC facilities which gives our residents a strong geriatric experience and the ability to easily meet the new ACGME guidelines for geriatrics. The Whitfield County Health Department has several public health clinics that our residents are able to rotate through including: Women's Health, Maternity Care Clinic, Pediatric Clinic and a Public Health Clinic for STDs, HIV, Hep C and TB.

Past Year Accomplishments:

1. Successfully matched our third class of 6 residents to complete our program with 18 residents
2. Added Dr Nicole Hardeman and Dr Suresh Akmal as core faculty in our residency clinic
3. Initiated Family Medicine Inpatient and Night Float teams with Dr Kelvin Moss and Benjamin Smith as our attending faculty (previously our residents worked with the Internal Medicine teams)
4. Initiated Maternity Care Rotation with OB/GYN group at our Sponsoring Institution. This has been reported as an excellent experience for both our residents and attending faculty.
5. We have institutional and faculty alignment with MCG and PCOM which allows us to rotate medical students through our residency clinic and inpatient teams adding to the residents' educational experience as teachers and mentors.
6. We are continuing to develop our resident and faculty scholarly activity opportunities including a national Obesity research study that Dr Hardeman and several residents are participating in.
7. Continuing to expand and enhance our SIM lab experiences which has been a strength of the resident and medical student educational opportunities on our campus

Recommendations for GAFFP:

1. Continue to encourage and support Family Medicine training and fellowships in Georgia
2. Support opportunities and funding for scholarly activity
3. Support efforts for Family Medicine Residency program collaboration opportunities.
4. Support and encourage opportunities for GAFFP member involvement in the teaching/training of medical students and residents
5. Support and encourage funding opportunities for family medicine physician and resident recruitment and retention in Georgia, especially in the underserved and rural communities.

Bryan D. Cheever, MD, FAAFP

Family Medicine Residency Program Director Hamilton Medical Center

1200 Memorial Drive, Dalton, GA 30720

TO: GAFP, Congress of Delegates
FROM: HCA Healthcare/Mercer University School of Medicine/Memorial Satilla Health
 1900 Tebeau St., Waycross, GA 31501
DATE: 09/19/2023
RE: Annual Report

Accomplishments: During the AY 2022-2023, the Rural Family Medicine Residency Program in Waycross, Georgia, previously sponsored by Medical College of Georgia/Augusta University, joined the HCA Healthcare/Mercer University School of Medicine consortium. Beginning in the new AY 2023-2024, the PGY1 residents will spend their first year of training in Savannah GA at Memorial Health University and then they will spend their PGY2/3 year in Waycross at Memorial Satilla Health. Also, the program received ACGME approval to increase the complement from 6 to 9 residents.

Results from our Graduates Practice Location Report for the past 5 years reflect 10 out of 12 graduates remaining in Georgia. Below is a detailed summary of those graduates and their current practice.

<u>Year of Graduation</u>	<u>Resident</u>	<u>Practice Type</u>	<u>Location</u>
2018	Charlotte Coggins, MD	Hospitalist	Douglas, GA
2018	John Riggs, MD	Outpatient	California
2019	David Carstens, MD	Outpatient	Waycross, GA
2019	Ashley Norman, MD	Urgent Care	Warner Robbins, GA
2020	Kalpesh Mistry, MD	Urgent Care	Toccoa, GA
2020	Robert Quick, MD	Outpatient	Toccoa, GA
2021	Sonya Chelliah, MD	Outpatient	Carrolton, GA
2021	William Cantrell, MD	Hospitalist	Statesboro, GA
2022	Jenson Mathew, MD	Hospitalist	Carrolton, GA
2022	Mariama Barry, MD	GME-Fellowship/OB	Savannah
2023	Nand Patel, MD	Hospitalist	Columbus GA
2023	Viviam Trejo, MD	EM Fellowship	Maine

The board pass rate was 100% for this AY 2022-2023.

Leadership for the residency program changed after the program joined the HCA Healthcare consortium and Dr. Candace Murbach is the Program Director with Dr. Brent Waters still the Program Site Director. Sharon Fulford, the residency coordinator retired in June 2023. Terri Elftmann, Administrative Director of GME joined the program in April 2023 and is acting as residency coordinator at this time.

Community involvement – Both PGY3 residents assisted Dr. Brent Waters with the special Olympic physicals. Additionally, they also volunteered with Teen MAZE at the local high school to promote avoiding bad decisions such as drinking/driving, teenage pregnancy, drugs, etc.

Recommendations for GAFP: *none at this time.*



HOUSTON HEALTHCARE
Connecting People, Community and Care

Family Medicine Residency Program

2022-23 COD Program Report

Houston Healthcare Family medicine residency began our 10th year as a residency by welcoming 6 new residents from five medical schools. We did well and matched all 6 positions from the prior interview season. In August Dr. Danielle Andrews transitioned away from faculty life and continued her work in Behavioral Health at a local mental health facility. We began a new rotation experience in Inpatient Pediatrics with our colleagues to our north at Atrium Navicent Beverly Knight Olson Children's hospital. This collaboration is intended to improve our resident's inpatient pediatric experience and volume. Our Institution welcomed general surgery residents from Atrium Navicent Health center to broaden the surgical exposure of their resident's education in the greater Warner Robins community. Houston Healthcare over the academic year became one hospital in 2 locations. Instead of operating under 2 Medicare numbers, Warner Robins and Perry, Ga. We are now one hospital in 2 locations now known as Houston Healthcare-Warner Robins and Houston Healthcare-Perry. This change combined both medical staffs with the goal of providing increased services and medical education to both residents, medical and other allied health students. Our residents experienced continued opportunities for procedures via Osteopathic Manipulative Therapy, women's health, and ultrasonography. Our FM-OB physician Dr. Lauren Carpenter became an ALSO certified instructor and began a collaborative with the Houston County Health Department to increase access to care for Women seeking OB and GYN services who are insured and uninsured. This collaboration has increased access to care for many of our patients who otherwise do not qualify for Medicaid when pregnant. Our hospital also entered a strategic partnership with Atrium Navicent Health. Residents continue to enjoy wellness activities that are scheduled quarterly in addition to their individual chosen wellness half days as a time for them to focus on mental and physical well being.

This past year we offered both virtual and in person interviews for residency candidates. We implemented a new Didactics format that focused on repetition to improve longitudinal information retention to improve in-training exam (ITE) and in- service exam (ISE) scores, and Family Medicine Board pass rates.

Our program continues to support those underserved patients in our community and our residency program with attention to educating our students and residents on the importance of diversity and understanding bias as well as how it leads to healthcare disparities. We take pride in the unique diversity of our faculty and residents. Our clinic is an approved National Health Service Corps (NHSC) site for scholars and loan repayors. While our program complement between DO and MD residents has changed since the inception of the program, we continue to teach all our residents Osteopathic Principles and Practice and Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine. Our Osteopathic Manipulative Therapy (OMT) clinic

continues to grow and is in high demand amongst our patients. We have been working to recruit more residents seeking to attain Osteopathic recognition in addition to Osteopathic faculty to fulfill the requirements of Osteopathic Recognition under the ACGME. Our ACGME inspection this academic year did not yield the results we desired, further highlighting the challenge of finding Osteopathic faculty, but we will continue to work to resolve our citations in the next ACGME OR inspection.

The Match went well this past academic year and we successfully filled six positions in the main Match, we were awarded an increase in our CMS funding for additional residency positions after we applied for the increase last year.

As the year ended, we had our faculty and resident retreats where we focused on program planning and team building, respectively. We again offered our 6-week Intern Boot Camp via Zoom to our incoming PGY-1 class to help engage them in education and a small glimpse into residency and preparation for the wards.

Finally, on June 23, 2023, our senior residents graduated. Our seven honorees Drs. Monica Gifford, Andrew Gubler, Abdul Hussain, Nazira Mojadidi, Christopher Orlando, Stephen Tobin, and Lindsay Watson were honored as graduates of our program. We were joined by our faculty, staff, Board of Trustees, Executive team, and community physicians to celebrate their three-year journey to becoming board certified Family physicians. During the ceremony Dr. Monica Gifford was recognized with the Resident of the year award and one of our 2020 graduates of the Houston Healthcare Family Medicine Residency program, Dr. Jacinta Tran, delivered the graduation message to encourage us all as we continue care for patients, ourselves, and foster physicians in the field of Family Medicine. As our senior residents prepared to leave, we welcomed our new interns at our annual white coat ceremony on June 27, 2023.

As we continue to educate residents and students to prepare them for their futures in medicine we will continue to answer the call to provide healthcare to our communities to as well as physician leaders to represent our interest locally, regionally, and nationally. Thank you to those who continue to support graduate medical education and Family medicine.

We anticipate a great academic year, successful match season, and look to promote the field of Family Medicine and physicians to serve the state of Georgia, the U.S., and abroad.

Respectfully submitted,

La Toya D. Jackson, MS, DO, FAAFP
Family Medicine Residency Program Director/Director of Osteopathic Education
ACGME Designated Institutional Officer

2022-2023 Congress of Delegates Annual Report

Family Medicine Residency Program

Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University

Accomplishments and Activities:

- 1) Augusta University Health has partnered with Wellstar to form Wellstar MCG Health. This new entity will manage the medical center where our residency is based.
- 2) Hired multiple new faculty members to include:
 - a. Dr. Jason Lanham, recently retired from the Army and new Program Director
 - b. Dr. John Earwood, recently retired from the Department of Defense and joined our program as our second Assistant Program Director.
 - c. Dr. Will Evans, recently separated from the Army and joined our program as our third Assistant Program Director and also Sports Medicine faculty
 - d. Dr. Brandon Bently, new Sports Medicine faculty
- 3) Dr. Shirly Sharp, who is continuing in her role as an Assistant Program Director, began a Faculty Development Fellowship at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.
- 4) Hired Dr. Tom Garrigan, retired Army, to head a new point-of-care ultrasound curriculum. Purchased 3 new Sono site ultrasound machines for the family medicine clinic
- 5) The Department hired a new Educational Curriculum Specialist, Dr. Becky Etheridge, to help redesign our current curricular offerings.
- 6) Our first Georgia 3+ medical student, Dr. Arika Shaikh, joined our PGY1 class
- 7) Dr. Nathan Schlies and Dr. Soren Estvold helped Dr. Julie Dahl-Smith teach an Acupuncture Lecture at the GAFP Student Workshop.
- 8) Graduating residents moving to fellowship:
 - Dr. Soren Estvold – Air Force Sports Medicine Fellowship, Travis Air Force Base, California
 - Dr. Tracy Phan- Sports Medicine Fellowship, Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University
 - Dr. Danny Montenegro- ER Fellowship, Jackson, Tennessee
- 9) Dr. Terrance Johnson presented an Infectious Disease case (Amoeba Meningoencephalitis) for city-wide ID Grand Rounds with Dr. Ingrid Camelo. This case was nationally recognized.
- 10) Drs. Yusheng Dong, Muhammad Ashraf, and Brian Uzomba were accepted to present their poster, “Breaking the Cycle: Exploring Strategies to Reduce Sickle Cell Disease readmissions” at the 2023 NAPCRG meeting.
- 11) Added Bacon County Hospital as a rotational site for Obstetrics
- 12) Continued with a 100% board pass rate among graduates.

Issues:

ACGME issued new program requirements for residency programs on July 1st. Two requirements present a challenge for our program. First, all FM graduates must have 20 vaginal deliveries and 8 weeks of obstetrical experience. We continue to have difficulty finding sites that will accept our FM residents. As of now, the program cannot meet this requirement with only the Bacon County Hospital site.

Second, ACGME now requires that 10% of all resident continuity panels consist of children under the age of 18. For a variety of reasons, some being long standing institutional practices, resident continuity panels currently consist of less than 1% children under the age of 18.

Policy Recommendations:

None currently

Respectfully submitted,



Jason S. Lanham
Associate Professor
Family Medicine Residency Program Director
Department of Family and Community Medicine
Medical College of Georgia
Augusta University
jlanham@augusta.edu

2023 Annual Report of the Morehouse School of Medicine Residency Program to the GAFP Congress of Delegates

The Morehouse School of Medicine (MSM) Family Medicine Residency Program was established in 1981 as MSM's first graduate medical education program. Our primary ambulatory training site is the Morehouse Healthcare Comprehensive Family Healthcare Center where the full scope of Family Medicine is practiced and a range of procedures are performed. Since its inception, the program has graduated 195 residents, 67% of whom are practicing in the state of Georgia. Our program maintains Continued Accreditation by the ACGME with no citations and 97% of our residents over the last five years have passed the ABFM Board Certification Examination.

Residents and Graduates

2023 Program graduates are listed below with their practice sites.

Chelsea Cohen, MD	Morehouse Healthcare Atlanta, GA
David Daniels, MD	Morehouse School of Medicine/Morehouse Healthcare Atlanta, GA
Nwamaka Dike, MD	Kaiser Permanente Fayetteville, GA
Chinonso Ezike, DO	Pinnacle Treatment Center Canton, GA
Chinwendu Korie, DO	Piedmont Healthcare (Ambulatory) Atlanta, GA
Olajumoke Ladapo, MD	Cape Fear Valley Health Elizabethtown, NC

The program successfully filled the full complement of six slots for the PGY 1 class. The following interns were welcomed to the program on July 1, 2023:

Ryan Alevy, MD	Morehouse School of Medicine
Lauren Cooper, DO	Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine- Auburn Campus
Christopher Jackson, MD	Morehouse School of Medicine
Michele Mack, MD	Ross University School of Medicine
Ashley McCall, MD	Ross University School of Medicine
Zari Watts, MD	Howard University College of Medicine

Resident Scholarly Activity:

Our residents were actively engaged in scholarly activity during the 2022– 2023 academic year. The following lists select highlights of their activities:

Poster Presentations

Chelsea Cohen, MD and David Daniels, MD

“Increasing Screening of Social Determinants of Health in the Outpatient Setting”

Olajumoke Ladapo, MD; Chinonso Ezike, DO; Chinwendu Korie, DO

“Weight to Sleep: A Cross-Sectional Study to Explore the Association Between Insomnia and Obesity”

Nwamaka Dike, MD

“Analysis of Attitudes and Drivers of HIV Stigma among Health Care Facility Workers in Lusaka, Zambia”

Dawn Mabra, MD, MPH; Ashley Absolu, MD; Shantrice Appleby, MD; Jaye George, MD; Rothenarda Joseph, DO; Karline Saintus, MD

“To go or to no-show: Understanding reasons for no-shows in an urban resident continuity clinic and the utility of text message reminders”

Awards and Recognitions:

Our residents and faculty strive for excellence in all their endeavors. As such, they received numerous awards and recognitions during the 2022-2023 academic year. Highlights include the MSM Resident of the Year Award earned by PGY2 Dr. Alexandria Poitier and the GAFFP Family Medicine Educator of the Year awarded to Dr. Kelsey. Dr. Folashade Omole received the Morehouse School of Medicine Distinguished Alumnus Award.

Leadership

MSM Family Medicine residents continue to demonstrate leadership and service to our discipline through active participation in the Georgia Academy of Family Physicians. During the 2022-2023 academic year, Dr. Nijah Burris and Dr. Shantrice Appleby served as GAFFP Resident Board members and Dr. Jaye George and Dr. Alexandria Poitier served as Georgia Health Family Alliance Resident Trustees.

Community Service:

Morehouse School of Medicine Family Medicine faculty and residents show their commitment to the MSM mission to “improve the health and well-being of individuals and communities” and vision to lead in the “creation and advancement of health equity” through involvement in numerous community service activities. Activities with the highest participation include volunteering at the Morehouse School of Medicine student run HEAL Clinic and numerous health fairs. Residents also taught LARC procedures during the MSM Procedure Palooza event and joint injections during the GAFFP Spring hands-on workshop for medical students. This year, the Reach out and Read program to encourage early childhood literacy was initiated in our Family Medicine Practice, spearheaded by PGY2 Corey Boggs, MD. Residents also performed free pre-participation sports physicals for Atlanta Public Schools high school athletes. Residency faculty continue to serve as mentors to students at the elementary, high school, collegiate, and medical school levels individually and as a part of collective pipeline efforts.

Residents and residency faculty have continued to provide community education on COVID-19 and its vaccine.

The program continues to demonstrate excellence in education, scholarly activity, patient care, leadership, and community engagement.

This report is presented for information only. We have no formal recommendations for the reference committee.

Riba C. Kelsey, MD, FAAFP
Associate Professor of Clinical Family Medicine
Residency Program Director
Assistant Dean of Graduate Medical Education
Morehouse School of Medicine

Northeast Georgia Medical Center Family Medicine Residency Annual Report AY 2023

We are a 12/12/12 residency about one hour and 15 minutes north of Atlanta in Gainesville, GA. Our GME department currently includes General Surgery and Internal Medicine, Emergency Medicine (2022), Psychiatry (2022), with TY, and Palliative and Cardiovascular fellowships with their first fellows this year. After achieving initial accreditation in February of 2019, we have continued to build the structure needed to have a successful program. We continue to match a strong number of Georgia natives and those with Georgia connections. I will give you a few highlights and cover our amazing faculty, many of which you know. We currently have 140 preceptors participating in our Family medicine experiences. And now with 12 graduates and details of where they are now in practice.

Core Faculty

Dr. Leslie David—APD
Dr. Abhishek Singh- APD
Dr. Jody Bahnmliller-Brasil
Dr. Amy Bailey
Dr. William Bostock
Dr. Tembele- FM/OB
Dr. Brittany Parker- FM/OB
Michele Kelly, CNM
Dr. Le Church
Dr. John Delzell
Dr. Linu Joseph
Dr. Nhi-Kieu Nguyen
Dr. Devin Vicknair (Behavioralist)
Dr. Mandy Reece (PharmD)
Dr. Luis Rojas

Program Faculty

Dr. David Westfall
Dr. George Faile
Dr. Donny Fordham
Dr. Aaron Purser
Dr. Paul Klas



Graduating Class of 2023

Our Graduates:

We are very proud of our first twelve board certified family physicians. All twelve passed their boards on their first attempt and are going out changing their communities with the skills they have learned. Fifty percent have started practice in Georgia or will return after a commitment in one year.

Residents and their practice sites

Dr. Maria Angel - Oakwood, GA

Dr. Sergio Angel – Oakwood, GA

Dr. Brittany Barthelemy - Houston, TX Geriatrics Fellowship @ Baylor

Dr. Christian Baumgartner – Edmonds, WA

Dr. Maria Baumgartner – Edmonds, WA

Dr. Samantha Grant- Hubertus, WI (returning to GA after husband’s fellowship)

Dr. Adrianna Kordek – Buford, GA

Dr. Muhareb Mustafa - Canton, MI

Dr. Abdullah Panchybhaya- Rochester, NY

Dr. Macy Tabb – Bainbridge, GA

Dr. Victoria Timmermans- Cleveland, GA

Dr. Celeste Vickery - Orange City, FL

Hard work and Lots of fun

Seems like there is a lot of life to celebrate in the residency from Mothers Day, Fathers Day, Match Day, even end of rotation day! We had our first Fellowship Match day party as one of our residents matched into Geriatrics.

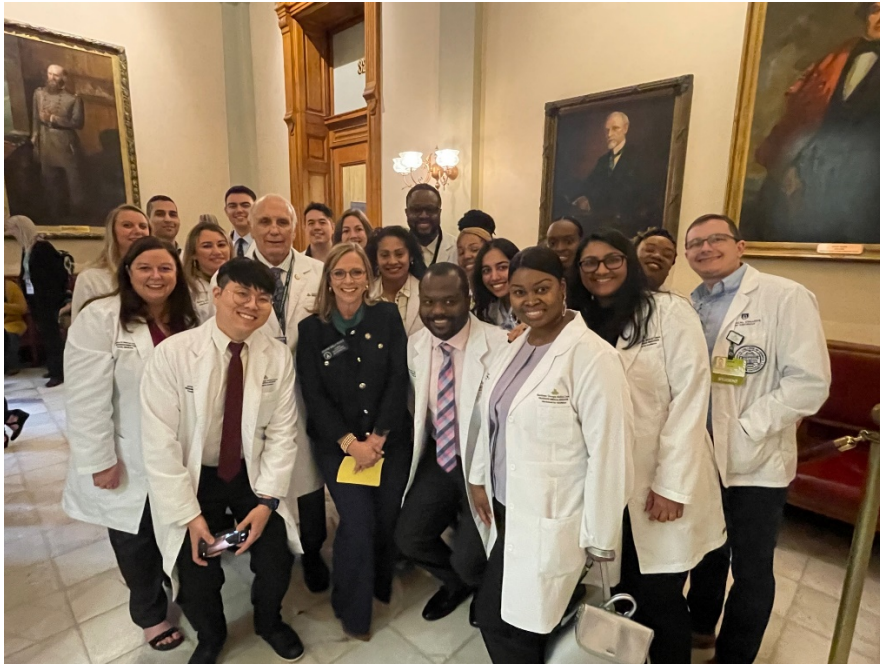
Residency is a lot of work but residents make it look easy and we sure enjoy seeing them enjoy themselves with their families. In the spring we hosted the Second Annual Easter Egg hunt with mini petting zoo. Who doesn’t love bunnies and goats? The adult easter egg hunt had over 100 eager participants for cash/lottery ticket eggs. Each year it gets bigger.



Advocating for our patients:

We believe all family doctors are leaders and our residents took it to the next level now that the legislature is back in session and people can visit the Capitol in person. On the Medical Association of Georgia’s Physician Day at the Capitol, the NGMC FM residents had a chance to put their advocacy skills

to the test. They learned from some of one of the best lobbyists around, none other than Fay Fulton. Leaders like Dr. Bostock who is chairing the state medical board this year, and role models like Dr. Church don't hurt either. Can't wait to see them at the ropes again next year.



Community Medicine is the heart of what we do/ Leaving a legacy

Drum roll, please! Last year the community chose “Group Prenatal Care” as a project impact our community and the perinatal morbidity and mortality we see. This year, our capable group of leadership residents have decided to promote physical activity and wellbeing through the “Walk with a Doc” program. Starting a chapter in NEGA they will be focusing on bringing their message of activity to neighborhoods with health disparities. The “Walk and Talk” and I’m the Doc, lets walk messages will help encourage folks that better health starts with simple choices.

2022-2023 Annual report

Northside Hospital- Gwinnett Family Medicine Residency Program

Accomplishments and activities

We are pleased to announce several major accomplishments and milestones for the program for the 2022-2023 academic year.

1. We have graduated our 7th class of residents and retained 25/34 (73%) of graduates since inception within the state of Georgia.
2. We continue to have a 100% board passage rate for both ABFM and AOBFP board.
3. Following approval from the ACGME and CMS, we have expanded our residency slots to 8 per year, the first class of 8 started in 2023 and we look forward to continue to recruit for 8 residents per year.

Faculty staffing

The Founding Program Director relocated out of state after 8 years and the program was successfully able to hire an internal candidate. The former Associate Program Director for the last 6 years, was hired as the new Program Director and continues to provide guidance to the program.

The Family Medicine Program has hired and retained an additional 2.6 FTE bringing our current faculty complement to 6.9 FTE which is meeting requirements for ACGME core faculty ratio and RPS recommendations for faculty ratio. We currently have faculty practicing in all areas including OB, pediatrics/newborn care, and inpatient medicine, and do not have any gaps in required coverage at this time. We still have one additional FTE opening and are actively recruiting.

Accreditation: ACGME, FM-RRC, SM-RRC

- Family Medicine: Continuing accreditation status,
- Osteopathic Recognition program- Continuing accreditation status
- Sports Medicine Continuing accreditation status
- All programs have zero citations at this time

Research and Scholarly activity:

For the academic year, the program had 3 journal article publications, 4 oral presentations at regional conferences, and 2 National poster presentations. All graduates met requirements for practice improvement and research.

Expansion of care.

We continue to provide care to the underserved in Gwinnett county, with resident clinical exposure being expanded to provision of home visits to patients who are unable to come out to our clinics.

We have also incorporated a practice management rotation among which goals are working with local physicians to understand their practice and form relationships in order to promote physician retention within the state.

Follow up of identified areas of improvement from 2021-22 report

We have been able to address some of the major areas for improvement from last year and subsequently we have fully developed Areas of Concentration (AOC) for resident's electives and been able to provide them with a more personalized learning plan.

We have tripled our patient volumes following the consolidation of our practice sites and reorganization of the rotation schedules now prioritizing continuity of patient care. Rotations are now scheduled around the resident's Family Medicine Practice (FMP) continuity clinics in order for patients to have easier access to the providers, in addition physicians now see all patients at the one location, resulting less disruptions to continuity.

We now have a fully functional Point of Care (POCUS) curriculum and rotations providing opportunities for hands on POCUS training.

The PGY-1 schedule has been modified such that they are paired with a senior level resident and receive upper level support as they transition into independent night float.

Issues identified by this year's surveys and assessment

Clinical responsibilities, workload and wellness despite remained compliance by the program, were identified areas of improvement. In response we now have assigned administrative time for clinical responsibilities and wellbeing incorporated into their rotations and have reached out to 2 physician practices in the Lawrenceville, area who now as a courtesy, provide accommodations within their schedule to care for our sick residents or those in need of well visit.

For the 2022-23 year, only 40% of our graduating residents remained in Georgia. We are partnering with local physicians and our sponsoring institution to look into competitive hiring packages for our FM graduates.

2022-23 Match results this year were disappointing from a Georgia state perspective

For the 8 residents who matched

- 12% GA Medical School Graduate
- 12.5% Osteopathic Graduate
- 87.5% Allopathic Graduate
- 40% US Medical School LCME/COCA Graduates

Ongoing issues: The following challenges exist for the 2023-24 Academic Year

Long Term Care experience:

The Northside Hospital Gwinnett Extended Care Center, the site for our Geriatric and Long-Term Care (LTC) patients was closed down and replaced by the sponsoring institution annex in

a bid to accommodate the expanding hospital. We have been able to meet some of our Geriatric requirements by having residents rotate at the Northside-Glancy Rehabilitation Center

FMP space

Following the program expansion and consolidation of our clinic sites, we are limited by space within our Family Medicine Practice site and continue to look at options to accommodate the growing number of residents inclusive of extended hours of operation.

Faculty

We are currently recruiting 1 FTE. This continues to be a challenge to recruit quality educators for programs nationwide.

Physician retention

Physician retention within the state of Georgia continues to be the mission of our program.

Policy recommendations/action

Dissemination to GAFP members and call to action regarding current policy on Physician Loan Repayment Program.

[Final Document Physician Loan Program To Publish 9 6 23 \(1\).pdf](#)

Very respectfully,

Amimi S. Osayande MD, FAAFP

Program director

Northside Hospital -Gwinnett Family Medicine Residency Program

Strickland Family Medicine Center,

665 Duluth Hwy, Suite 501

Lawrenceville GA 30046

email: amimi.osayande@northside.com

September 18, 2023
Congress of Delegates
Georgia Academy of Family Physicians

The Family Medicine Residency at Piedmont Columbus Regional Midtown in Columbus, Georgia respectfully submits its 2022-2023 Annual Report to the GAFP Congress of Delegates.

The Family Medicine Residency at Piedmont Columbus Regional Midtown has a long and distinguished history of providing physician Graduate Medical Education and patient care to the Columbus area. The three-year Family Medicine residency program was established in 1972. Over the past sixty years Piedmont Columbus Regional Midtown has been instrumental in supplying general practitioners and family physicians who served the needs of Georgia and particularly the Columbus area. In our immediate area, there are approximately ninety physicians who practice within a thirty-mile radius of Columbus who can claim all or part of their training at Piedmont Columbus Regional Midtown.

An important part of our Medical Education mission is providing quality medical care to the underserved. Under the guidance of full-time attending physicians, our Family Medicine residents provide care in Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, General Surgery, Pediatrics and Obstetrics and Gynecology. The teaching services enable Piedmont Columbus Regional Midtown to serve as a patient resource and referral center for citizens of Georgia and east Alabama. Residents provide care at the Columbus Health Department clinics and routinely assist on Columbus Regional's outreach medical van. During the last year, our teaching program saw over 40,000 outpatient visits in the Family Medicine Center, delivered hundreds of infants and cared for thousands of hospital admissions. With training in Advanced Cardiac and Trauma Life Support, residents help provide 24/7 care to patients referred to Piedmont Columbus Regional Midtown Intensive Care Units and Level II Trauma program.

The Family Medicine residency continues with full accreditation from the ACGME. Piedmont Columbus Regional continues its partnership with the Virginia College of Osteopathic Medicine in Auburn to serve as the sponsoring institution for their ACGME primary care Sports Medicine fellowship.

Years ago, our residency participated in the GAFP sponsored PCMH University to obtain Level 3 designation as an NCQA patient centered medical home. Our residency is grateful for GAFP's support and engineers our curriculum to maintain Level 3 NCQA certification. Our center was the first in our Piedmont network to achieve PCMH Level 3 designation. We have recertified and maintain our level 3 status.

In 2012 we became an official satellite campus for Mercer University School of Medicine as a branch campus. We are currently in our twelfth year of this successful project. Piedmont Columbus Regional Midtown and St. Francis Hospital continue a successful collaboration to provide clinical experiences about 50 MS3 and MS4 students. In addition to Mercer, our clinical faculty hold medical school appointments at the Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University, Nova Southeastern University, Georgia-PCOM and VCOM in Auburn.

An important mission of our training program is to supply physicians to meet the needs of Georgia citizens. The following physicians graduated in June, 2023 and are listed with their practice location:

2023 graduates and practice locations:

Resident	Practice or Training Location	
Sarah Crane Adams MD	Ponte Vedro, FL	Family Medicine
Nathan Anisko DO	Macon, GA	Hospitalist
Travis Blanton MD	Columbus, GA	Family Medicine
Alethia Duc DO	Macon, GA	Hospitalist
Joseph T. Johnson MD	Columbus, GA	Family Medicine
Ambreen Khan MD	Columbus, GA	Family Medicine
Sam Nwaobi MD	Boston, MA	Addiction Fellowship
Erin O'Pry DO	Alamogordo, NM	FM, US Air Force
Karan Raghavan MD	Powder Springs, GA	Family Medicine
Kadisha Rodriques MD	Alpharetta, GA	Family Medicine
Susanna Ulmer DO	Columbus, GA	Family Medicine

There are no formal recommendations for the Reference Committee. The Medical Education Department at Piedmont Columbus Regional Midtown appreciates the ongoing support of the Congress along with that of the membership of the Georgia Academy of Family Physicians.

Sincerely,

John R. Bucholtz D.O.
Director of Medical Education
Piedmont Columbus Regional Midtown
Columbus, Georgia

Phoebe FAMILY MEDICINE RESIDENCY
PHOEBE PUTNEY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
ALBANY GEORGIA
ANNUAL REPORT TO THE GAFF CONGRESS OF DELEGATES

September 18, 2023

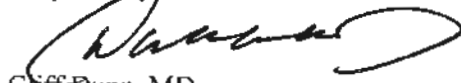
The Phoebe Family Medicine Residency was successful in recruiting seven residents for PGY 1 positions for the 2023-2024 academic year.

Below is our 2022-2023 Graduating Class:

Krystal Archer, MD	OB Fellowship, Utah
Vadley Faugue, MD	Valdosta, Georgia
Sheldon Herbert, MD	Oregon
Joshua Kinsey, MD	Newnan, Georgia
Miriam Onyegbula, MD	Conyers, Georgia
Juan Serna-Gonzalez, DO	Thomasville, Georgia
Joseph Sonntag, DO	Cordele, Georgia
Isaac Su, MD	PGY2 ER Residency, New Jersey

The 2023 match brought 7 interns to the class of 2026 for a complement of 7-8-7. This June delivered our 27th graduating class, bringing the total number of successfully trained Family Medicine physicians to 157. All the 2023 graduating residents have passed the American Board of Family Medicine Certification examination continuing our record of 100% board pass rate.

Respectfully,



Cliff Dunn, MD
Program Director, Phoebe Family Medicine Residency



September 15, 2023

RE: 2023 Annual Report to GAFF – Savannah Family Medicine Residency Program

To the GAFF Congress of Delegates:

Our program experienced many successes and accomplishments during the past academic year under the direction of Dr. Robert Pallay, who is in his 16th year as Program Director.

The program successfully recruited and filled all six slots in the March 2023 match, with four of the positions being filled by students from Mercer University School of Medicine. Three of the Mercer students had previously selected our program through the ACT program. The program continues to recruit the highest level of candidates, while ensuring it selects a diverse range of candidates in the interview process.

As indicated above, the program continues its strong relationship with Mercer University School of Medicine, whose medical students continue to rotate through our facility and clinic for their Family Medicine rotations. In addition, we partner with the residents from the Gateway Psychiatric Residency Program who rotate through our program and continue to be an integral part of the medical education training program. Our residents also continue to provide care for the homeless population in the local Savannah, Georgia community by providing Street Medicine to those that are most vulnerable. This provides a very important part of their professional training as future family medicine physicians in service to their community.

Our program successfully graduated a total of seven residents, one in April 2023 (off-cycle) and six in June 2023. Three of the graduates will continue their medical education in fellowships in Womens Health (Illinois), Sports Medicine (Georgia) and Hospice/Palliative Medicine (Florida). Three graduates will practice Family Medicine in outpatient clinical settings in Georgia, North Carolina and California. And lastly, one resident will be practicing as a Hospitalist in an academic hospital in Louisiana.

The board passage rate for our programs' graduating residents continues to be 100%. This success rate is a direct result of the focus our program places on providing residents with a high level of board preparation in its curriculum, its didactics and study materials. All PGY3 residents participate in an AAFP board preparation course in their senior year.

As a result of the updated ACGME program requirements for Family Medicine effective July 1, 2023, we made some necessary adjustments to our curriculum to ensure compliance. Our program continues to receive continued accreditation from the ACGME with no citations.

Page 1 of 3

4700 Waters Ave. | Savannah, GA 31404



The program continues its participation in the Clinic First Model, jointly developed by the AFMRD and the ABFM. We are in the last year of the multi-year pilot. This program as we have instituted it here at our Savannah residency, has markedly improved our training of the residents in outpatient medicine. Our continuity care has also significantly improved with a much larger portion of our patients being able to get their medical care from their regular medical provider. As a result, the satisfaction scores of both the residents and patients has markedly improved in the regular surveys we have done. Once the pilot concludes, we will decide, in concert with the ABFM, whether we will continue with the Clinic First program in our outpatient care.

In January 2023, HCA Memorial became the institutional sponsor for the Family Medicine Residency Program in Waycross, Georgia. As part of a rural track program, their residents will now spend their first year of training in Savannah alongside our PGY1 Family Medicine residents in Savannah, Georgia. Those residents will then complete their PGY2 and PGY3 years in the rural area of Waycross, Georgia.

We continue to work on establishing an additional rural track program in Dublin, Georgia. We are in the process of application to the ACGME with the hope of beginning this Rural Training Program in July 2024. In order to help with developing this RTP, we applied for and were awarded a HRSA RRPD grant specifically to help develop these program sites for training residents in rural healthcare, and, hopefully, graduate these residents to stay and care for the people in these communities. We have also applied for an additional HRSA grant to train and care for maternity patients with addiction issues. We expect to hear from HRSA about this grant in August.

The Sports Medicine Fellowship Program successfully graduated their fourth graduate in June 2023, and welcomed their new fellow for the 2023-2024 academic year with a graduate from our Family Medicine Residency Program.

The Family Medicine / Obstetrics Fellowship Program held its first graduation in June 2023, and has successfully filled their slots for the 2023-2024 academic year. We continue to train these Family Medicine residency graduates in advanced obstetrics, including surgical obstetrics, with the goal of placing them to practice in rural Georgia and begin to improve the outcomes of both maternal and infant care in rural Georgia.

As with most other Family Medicine residencies, one of the ongoing challenges our program faces is the recruitment of faculty. However, we were thrilled to welcome Dr. Kaleb Freeman as a faculty member in December 2022. Dr. Freeman is a graduate of a Family Medicine Obstetrics (FMOB) fellowship in Alabama and he will add his expertise to our faculty in those areas. We are also hiring an additional faculty member, also a graduate of an FMOB fellowship program, and we expect him to begin in the early fall of this year.



In summary, our program continues to provide a high level of medical training for these future Family Medicine physicians.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Pallay".

Robert Pallay, MD
Program Director, Family Medicine Residency,
Memorial University Medical Center
Professor and Chairman, Department of Family Medicine
Mercer University School of Medicine, Savannah campus
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2023 Annual Report for the WellStar Douglas Medical Center Family Medicine Residency Program

It has been a very eventful year for our program! With the closure of AMC, we made a quick move to Douglasville and have been welcomed there with open arms. We have been fortunate to work with a tremendous medical staff and our residents are getting excellent training. Our clinic is being built and we hope to move our clinic there this upcoming January.

We have now graduated 27 classes, with 65% of our graduates remaining in Georgia to practice for the last 5 years.

We had a successful match this year, filling all our 6 positions with excellent medical school graduates. We had over 2200 applicants for those 6 positions. Our interns have started out very well and have gotten excellent evaluations on their first rotations.

Our Family Medicine Center in Morrow, Georgia, continues to do well and many of our patients plan to follow us to Douglasville. We have continued the 3-year course in point-of-care ultrasound for our residents. The emergency medicine physicians at the Medical College of Georgia have generously led this course.

WellStar is strongly supporting GME with residency programs now at 4 of their hospitals.

We have full accreditation from the ACGME with no citations. Only about a third of Family Medicine residencies can claim this. Finally, all our residents have passed their boards on their first attempt in the last 9 years.

Our program plans to work within the Douglasville community to support the health of its residents. We hope to not only improve the health of our patients but the community as a whole.

Kennestone Family Medicine Achievements 2022-2023

September 2023

I. Recruitment: We matched 8 out 8 interns!

II. Medical Students: Most medical students declared/switched to Family Medicine after their rotation in our clinic. We matched with 3 students that rotated in our clinic.

III. Concord GME Family Medicine Clinic: The new record for daily patient encounters was 122 encounters.

IV. Graduation: We graduated our third class in June and 6 of 7 have all accepted positions in Georgia! Three are staying with Wellstar. One of our graduates is staying as faculty in our program! One is doing a Sports Medicine Fellowship in Georgia.

V. Grants:

- Collaboration between the MAYO Clinic and WellStar. Mayo IRB#: 17-011305
Study Title: A Prospective Study to Establish a New Onset Hyperglycemia and Diabetes (NOD) Cohort

VI. 2022-2023 Resident scholarly activities:

- **May 2023** – Wellstar Kennestone Family Medicine Research Day, *“Screening and Treatment of Maladaptive Grief Reactions Post-Pregnancy Loss and Impact on Development of Chronic Psychiatric Conditions”* – Nidhi Patel, DO
- **May 2023** – Wellstar Kennestone Family Medicine Research Day, *“Association Between A1c Control and Clinic Followup”*- Tyler Reynolds, MD
- **May 2023** – Wellstar Kennestone Family Medicine Research Day, *“The Impact of Comorbidities On The Risk of Myocardial Infarction”*- Michelle Kalejaiye, MD
- **May 2023** – Wellstar Kennestone Year Family Medicine Research Day, *“Hypertension and Demographic Variables Associated with Depression”*- Mahvish Masood, MD
- **May 2023** – Wellstar Kennestone Year Family Medicine Research Day, *“Assessing How Preventative Care Counseling Influences Patient Visits”*- Guilherme Costa, MD
- **May 2023** – Wellstar Kennestone Year Family Medicine Research Day, *“Relationship Between Blood Pressure and Tobacco Use Within a GME Family Medicine Clinic”*- Donna Yoon, DO
- **May 2023** – Wellstar Kennestone Year Family Medicine Research Day, *“Back Pain and Psychiatric Conditions”*- Connor O’Sullivan, MD
- **May 2023** – Wellstar Kennestone Year Family Medicine Research Day, *“Bariatric Surgery and It’s Effect on Hypertension”*- Jada Harris, MD

Respectfully submitted by Viktoria Nurpeisov, MD – Program Director

**GAFP’s Congress of Delegates
2023 Resolutions & Information**

1. 2023 Policies up for Review from the Congress of Delegates

Submitted by: Monica Newton, DO, Ellie Daniels, MD, and Susana Alfonso, MD

Each year the Speaker, Vice Speaker, and the Board Chair (or the Board Chair’s designee from the Executive Committee) will meet no later than June to review one- third of the active GAFP Policies as compiled in the GAFP Policy Manual. The Policy Manual is a compilation of Congress of Delegates and Board of Directors' approved policies.

The group will make recommendations for each policy to be either:

1. Archived (no longer enforced)
2. Re-adopted (as written)

Re-adopted (as edited)

All active policies will be reviewed on a rotating basis but no later than every 3 years.

The Board policies will be brought to the August Board meeting for final review and approval. The COD policies will be brought to the COD annual meeting in the Board Chair’s report, as an action item to review and approve.

A. Seating Medical Student Board Members Amongst Physician Board Members

The GAFP will seat Medical Student Board members amongst Physician Board members during GAFP Board meetings.

The Policy Review Team recommends to re-adopt the policy as written.

**B. COD Progress Report to BOD
Actions of the COD to the GAFP Board**

The Speaker of the Congress of Delegates must present to the Board of Directors, at each regularly scheduled meeting, a progress report on the directives given to the Academy as set forth by the approved resolutions.

The Policy Review Team recommends to re-adopt the policy as written.

C. GAFP PAC Board

The PAC strives to increase its annual contributions by 20 percent annually.

The Policy Review Team recommends to re-adopt the policy as edited:

In order to achieve this goal, the Congress of Delegates strongly encourages all members, and especially members of the Congress of Delegates, Board of Directors, and all its leadership committees to contribute annually.

**D. GAFP GPCPC
GAFP Supports the Georgia Patient Centered Physician Coalition (GPCPC)**

The Georgia Academy of Family Physicians proclaims its support for the Patient Centered Physician Coalition of Georgia Patient Centered Physician Care Coalition (PCPCC).

The Executive Director/Executive Vice President of GAFP is charged with facilitating and attending meetings of the GPCPC. Additionally, two (2) members of the GAFP active membership will be appointed by the President to attend each meeting – typically the President and President Elect.

The Policy Review Team recommends to re-adopt the policy as written.

E. GAFP Strategic Planning

The GAFP completes a Strategic Plan at a minimum of every 3 years and the implementation and accomplishments of that plan be presented to the Board of Directors at each of their regularly scheduled meetings.

The Policy Review Team recommends to re-adopt the policy as written.

F. Establishment of the Dr. Keith Ellis Award

On the eve of Dr. Keith Ellis' retirement as Residency Faculty and Program Director of Memorial Health Family Medicine Residency in Savannah, a scholarship fund be developed that would be awarded to send one (1) deserving resident per year to the GAFP Annual Meeting.

Criteria for choosing this resident would be developed and maintained by the Membership Committee.

The current policy is that the Membership Committee reviews all named GAFP awards every ten years.

The Policy Review Team recommends to re-adopt the policy as written.

G. Poster Publications

The GAFP has a research poster presentation and contest at the Annual Meeting each year. A policy, the GAFP is to publicize the winning posters in their publications.

The Policy Review Team recommends to re-adopt the policy as written.

H. Adult Immunization Requirements

Adult Immunization Requirements

Under certain settings, the GAFP approves of Pharmacist administered vaccines to adults, under a physician protocol, as long as:

- 1) that information is sent to the patient's primary care physician if the patient consents,
- 2) the specific vaccine is provided either under authority of prescription or specific collaborative agreement with a Georgia licensed physician
- 3) the administering pharmacist has a valid certificate from the State Pharmacy Board, and
- 4) the pharmacist inputs the information into GRITS (Georgia Registry for Immunization Services) which will allow the primary care physician/medical home to have access to the information.

The Policy Review Team recommends to re-adopt the policy as written.

I. Increase funding for family medicine and payment

Continue to advocate strongly for increased funding for family medicine GME and increased payment for family physicians at the state and national levels in collaboration with AAFP.

The Policy Review Team recommends to re-adopt the policy as written.

J. GAFP's Opposition Non-Physician Prescribing Medications

The GAFP is committed to opposing any expansion of a scope of practice by any non-physician when we believe that it is not in the best interest of our patients.

The Policy Review Team recommends to re-adopt the policy as written.

K. Medicaid Reimbursements

That the GAFP support increased Medicaid reimbursements to be equal to 100% of Medicare reimbursements.

The Policy Review Team recommends to re-adopt the policy as edited:

Medicaid ~~Reimbursements~~ **Payments**

That the GAFP support increased Medicaid ~~reimbursements~~ **payments** to be **at least** equal to 100% of Medicare **payments** ~~reimbursements~~.

L. Scoliosis Screening

~~The GAFP work to eliminate routine screening for scoliosis in accordance with USPSTF guidelines.~~

~~Edited 11/2020~~– The GAFP will work with the Medical Association of Georgia’s House of Delegates to eliminate routine screening for scoliosis in schools.

The Policy Review Team recommends to re-adopt the policy as edited:

The GAFP will continue to work with the Medical Association of Georgia’s House of Delegates to eliminate routine screening for scoliosis in schools.

2. Medical Aid In Dying (MAID)

Submitted by: Adrienne Mims, MD

Whereas: Many older adults receive terminal diagnoses that presage a long, painful, and expensive process before death ensues. This impacts not just the individual but also their families, who suffer in agonizing powerlessness as they watch and care for their loved family member as he/she succumbs slowly and painfully to an ultimate and inevitable death.

Whereas: Hospice and Palliative Care services can ease some of the suffering of the patient and family at the end of life, while not hastening death.

Whereas: A MAID law would allow older Georgians to know that they can choose, if they so wish, a path that will allow them to die with dignity and save their families from a lengthy, painful, and expensive process.

Whereas: Ten states (VT, CA, MT, CO, ME, NM, NJ, WA, OR, HI) and the District of Columbia have MAID laws and thirteen others have legislation pending. Only two-thirds of the people who received MAID in those states that have the law, actually use the medication to end their lives. One third opt not to use it although they qualify. One hundred percent of those who qualify say that having the choice available eased their dying process.

Whereas: MAID legislation would allow an adult diagnosed with a terminal illness, to choose to avoid a painful, and drawn-out death that could also drain family financial assets.

Resolved: GAFP supports legislation creating a MAID law that requires: 1) A terminal diagnosis confirmed by two physicians; 2) The diagnosis must be one that will result in death within six months; 3) The patient must be able to self-administer the medication; and 4) The patient must be mentally competent to make the decision.

Resolved: GAFP supports a bill asking for a Joint Study Committee on MAID. This would allow time to raise legislators’ awareness of the bipartisan support of their constituents for MAID.

Helpful Resources:

1- GCOA- Georgia Council on Aging (www.GCOA.org) - has adopted this issue for the 2024 legislative cycle.

2- Georgians for End of Life Options (gaelo.org), founded and led by Phyllis Talley. GAELO is a statewide organization working to expand end of life options for all Georgians. Their goal is to ensure that every Georgian can define for themselves what quality of life they may have at the end of their lives.

3- Death with Dignity (deathwithdignity.org) and Compassion and Choices (compassionandchoices.org). Both of those national organizations have been spearheading education and advocacy efforts across the United States.

Staff Background: The GAFP surveys the membership on topics to determine legislative priorities every two years, to coincide with the two-year legislative session. MAID has never been surveyed for membership determination of priorities.

Below is AAFP's position on MAID:

In 2018, a substitute resolution was adopted by the Congress of Delegates which established the following policy for the AAFP:

That the American Academy of Family Physicians adopt a position of engaged neutrality toward medical-aid-in-dying as a personal end-of-life decision in the context of the physician-patient relationship.

That the American Academy of Family Physicians reject the use of the phrase "assisted suicide" or "physician-assisted suicide" in formal statements or documents and direct the AAFP's American Medical Association (AMA) delegation to promote the same in the AMA House of Delegates.

In 2020, the AAFP COD voted down a resolution to oppose MAID.

<https://www.aafp.org/about/congress-delegates/2020/resolutions/health-of-public-science/kansas-a1.mem.html>

3. GME tax credit for preceptors

Submitted by Y. Monique Davis-Smith, MD

WHEREAS, Physicians not employed by residency programs play a significant role in the clinical education and experience of Family Medicine residents. Many of these physicians receive no financial compensation.

WHEREAS, Under Senate Bill 391, Georgia physicians who provide clinical training to health professions students for a minimum of three (to a maximum of 10) rotations, and who are NOT compensated through any other source, can claim a tax deduction of \$1,000 for every 160 hours of training provided.

RESOLVED THAT Time spent training resident physicians be attributed a similar tax deduction as other health professional students.

Staff Background:

The GAFP has supported (successfully) legislation passed to offer a state tax credit for community preceptors who are not paid from other sources to educate medical students, physician assistants, and nurse practitioners: <https://www.augusta.edu/ahec/ptip.php>.

Staff could not find resources on AAFP or STFM to support non-compensated faculty for residents.

4. Improving Access to Mental Health Care for Georgians

Submitted by: Thaddeus K. Lynn, MD

WHEREAS, mental health in Georgia according to the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI). 1 in 5 United States of America adults experience mental illness each year.

1,405,000 Adults in Georgia have a mental health condition. (That's more than 2x the population of Atlanta, Georgia)

More than 50% of Americans report that COVID-19 had a negative impact on their mental health. February 2021 44.3% of adults in Georgia reported symptoms of anxiety or depression.

29.4% were unable to get needed counseling or therapy.

1 in 20 United States of America adults experiences serious mental illness each year. In Georgia 336,000 adults have serious mental illness.

1 in 6 United States of America youth aged 6-17 experience a mental health disorder each year. 104,000 Georgians aged 12-17 have depression.

More than 50% of people with a mental health condition in the United States of America did not receive any treatment in the last year.

Of 391,000 adults in Georgia who did not receive needed mental health care, 45.4% did not because of cost.

13.4% of people in state of Georgia are uninsured.

Georgians are more than 4X more likely to be forced out-of-network for mental health care making it more difficult to find care and less affordable due to higher out of pocket costs.

4,911,327 people in Georgia live in a community that does not have enough mental health professionals. An inadequate mental health system affects individuals, families, and communities.

High school students with depression are more than 2x more likely to drop out than their peers. 68.4% of Georgians age 12-17 who have depression did not receive any care in the last year.

10,234 people in Georgia are homeless and 1 in 6 live with a serious mental illness.

Georgia ranks 29th among all states in homeless residents per capita and is up 4% since 2020. On average, 1 person in the United States of America dies by suicide every 11 minutes.

In Georgia, 1,569 lives were lost to suicide and 314,000 adults had thoughts of suicide in the last year.

1 in 4 people with a serious mental illness has been arrested by the people at some point in their lifetime. Leading to more than 2 million jail bookings of people with serious mental illness each year.

About 2 in 5 adults in jail or prison have a history of mental illness.

7 in 10 youth in the juvenile justice system have a mental health condition.

WHEREAS, on June 6, 2022, according to Columbia University Department of Psychiatry, the yearly prevalence of the incidence of mass murder was stable at about 7 per billion people, or seven mass shootings for every billion people, between 1900 and about 1970. Then between about 1970 and 2019, these incidents increased by four times so now mass shootings occur about 28 times per billion people around the world. The reasons found for these increased incidents are: (1) availability of guns in general especially automatic weapons especially in the United State of America; (2) other than firearms slightly increased at a slower rate and (3) most mass shootings are committed with non-automatic weapons.

The United States of America mass shootings increased to more than 400 much sooner this year than previous years (2019 in 356 days, 2020 in 239 days, 2021 in 212 days, 2022 in 218 days and 2023 in 203 days). In fact, on September 9, 2023, there were 494 mass shootings in this country. In Georgia as of September 4, 2023, there were 19 mass shootings killing 16, injuring 80 with 2 suspects killed, no suspects injured, and 13 suspects arrested.

BE IT RESOLVED, THAT the State of Georgia makes mental health care more accessible to all Georgians. The state of Georgia will do so by: (1) forming a central state mental health center that will work with the 14 Georgia districts to create state district mental health sites for mental health diagnosis and management for 200,000 per capita in each Georgia district. These district mental health centers will be staffed by psychiatrists, family medicine physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, and ancillary personnel.

Medical and ancillary personnel will be trained and equipped to interface with the homeless, imprisoned, noninsured as well as insured Georgians of all ages in need of mental health services.

Treatments will be inclusive of counseling, medications, group therapy, family therapy, behavioral therapy, and drug addiction therapy/rehabilitation. All Georgia residents will be allowed access to their respective district's health site where all diagnosis and management will be conducted. All diagnosis and management will be reported to the state central mental health center. The state central mental health center will be responsible for overseeing and tracking impact on improving Georgia's mental health and accessibility to mental health services.

BE IT RESOLVED, THAT Perspective candidates that are unemployed shall be trained by the State of Georgia for employment in their respective state district. Job needs will be determined by each state district. Job needs are determined by the district as either: rural, suburban, and urban. Perspective candidates will be trained for rural, suburban or urban jobs based on the need for each respective Georgia district. Employed candidates shall be expected to contribute to the state mental health center by sliding scale. They will assist the Georgia tax payers by paying into the Georgia State Mental Health Program in an effort to help themselves and others in Georgia as well.

Perspective candidates that are employed shall be expected to contribute to the Georgia State Mental Health Program via sliding scale based on individualized Georgia State Income Taxes.

Perspective candidates with medical insurance that provides for psychiatric or mental health coverage shall be expected to utilize such insurance accepted by the Georgia State Mental Health Program.

Staff Background:

In 2022, the Georgia General Assembly passed a comprehensive Mental Health Parity bill, and the implementation of this bill is expected to take several years. The Georgia Academy was a part of a large coalition supporting this retooling of the state's efforts to care for our patients with mental illness.

Information about the advancement and implementation of this legislation can be found here: <https://dch.georgia.gov/how-do-i/mental-health-parity-information>

5. GAFP Bylaws Update 2023

Review and changes to the current Bylaws

The Bylaws Committee group reviewed the GAFP Bylaws and suggested several grammatical changes to the following sections of the Bylaws:

CHAPTER 4

LIFE MEMBERS

Life members may vote, serve on committees and commissions, and address the membership but shall not hold office. Committee recommends deleting commissions (as we don't have commissions).

INACTIVE MEMBERS

An Inactive member shall not vote or hold office in the Academy but may address the membership and serve on committees and commissions. Committee recommends deleting commissions.

SUPPORTING MEMBERS

A Supporting Member shall not vote or hold office in the Academy but may address the membership and serve on committees and commissions. **Committee recommends deleting commissions.**

CHAPTER 7

Congress of Delegates

SECTION 2: Each district, as determined by the Board of Directors, shall be entitled to elect delegates and alternate delegates to the Congress of Delegates, who shall be elected for terms of two (2) years, provided that at the first election, each district elects one delegate and one alternate delegate for two (2) years. Each district shall be entitled to no less than two delegates and two alternates. The total number of delegates in the Congress of Delegates shall be up to 70. Each district shall be allotted delegates and alternate delegates above their two delegates and two alternates as determined by the **secretary Committee recommends this be changed to Vice Speaker** on the basis of that district's proportion of the total paid Academy membership. Only active members may be elected as delegates; however, in determining the number of delegates per district all classes of members except student and resident members are counted. Such determination shall be made by May 31st each year. The names of all delegates entitled to be seated in the Congress of Delegates shall be furnished to the Credentials Committee of the Congress of Delegates by the **Secretary. Committee recommends this be changed to Vice Speaker.**

SECTION 3: Membership in a district will be determined by the **primary** mailing address of said member, whether home or professional. **Committee recommends changing primary to preferred to align with updated AAFP language.**

CHAPTER 8

Board of Directors

SECTION 9: *Advisory Committee.* Committee recommends updating to Past Presidents (as this group is the Advisory Committee)

All past presidents shall ~~become an Advisory Committee to the Board of Directors and shall~~ be considered ex-officio members of the Board with the privilege of the floor, but without the right to vote. **Committee recommends removing the wording related to an Advisory Committee consisting of GAFP past presidents and leave that they are ex-officio members.**

CHAPTER 9:

Election of Officers

SECTION 1: Definition. The officers of the Academy shall be a President, President-Elect, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Chairperson of the Board of Directors, **and Speaker of the Congress of Delegates, ~~GAFP Delegates and Alternate delegates to the AAFP.~~** All officers shall serve until their successors are elected and installed. The powers, duties, terms of office, and method of election of the officers shall be set forth in the Bylaws. **Committee recommends removing that GAFP Delegates and Alternate delegates to the AAFP – as they do not currently serve on the Executive Committee.**

SECTION 4: Election of the above officers shall be by **(Committee recommends adding “electronic” since that is current process)** ballot prepared by the Executive Director/Executive Vice President. The nominee receiving the majority of votes shall be declared elected, provided that when the nominations have been closed with only a single candidate having been nominated, the presiding officer shall declare that candidate elected to office.

CHAPTER 10

Duties and Terms of Officers

SECTION 1: The President shall be a member of the Board of Directors and all standing committees. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Academy. The President shall be the spokesperson of the Academy. They shall have general supervision of the business of the Academy and shall see that all orders and resolutions of the Board of Directors are carried into effect; ~~they shall execute bonds, mortgage, and other contracts requiring the seal of the Academy, except where required by law to be otherwise signed and executed and except where the signing and execution thereof shall be expressly delegated by the Board of Directors to some other officer or agent of the Academy.~~ **Committee recommends striking this – as the Executive Vice President has the authority to sign contracts, under supervision of the Executive Committee.** Their term of office shall begin at the installation ceremony following the one at which their predecessor was

installed. In the event of the death or resignation of the president during the term of their office or if they shall for any reason be unable or unqualified to serve, the Vice-President shall succeed to the office of the President for the unexpired portion of the President's term. In the event of the death, resignation, or incapacity of both the President and the Vice-President, the Board of Directors shall elect a President for the unexpired portion of the term. The President-Elect shall succeed to the office of President at the conclusion of the annual meeting following the meeting at which their election occurred.

SECTION 2: The Vice-President shall be a member of the Board of Directors and shall preside at meetings of the Academy in the absence of the President. Their term of office shall begin at the installation ceremony during the annual meeting at which their election occurs and expires at the installation ceremony during the next annual meeting. The Vice-President shall also serve as a member with voting privileges on the bylaws committee and shall serve as the parliamentarian of the Board of Directors. In the event of the death, resignation, or incapacity of the Vice-President, the Board of Directors shall elect a Vice-President for the unexpired portion of their term. **The committee recommends adding: The Vice President oversees the implementation of the Strategic Plan - as this is already current process.**

SECTION 5: The Chair of the Board of Directors shall be the immediate past president and shall assume the office of Chairperson at the conclusion of the annual meeting following the conclusion of their presidency. The Chairperson of the Board of Directors shall preside over all meetings of the Board and the Executive Committee.

In the absence of the Speaker and Vice- Speaker, they shall preside over meetings of the Congress of Delegates.

In the event of the death or resignation of the Chair during their term of office or if they shall for any reason be unable or unqualified to serve, the Board of Directors shall elect a new Chair to serve the unexpired portion of the term. If the Chair is unable to attend a meeting of the Board or the Executive Committee, the President shall preside at that meeting. In their absence a temporary Chair shall be elected by the members present for that meeting.

SECTION 6: The Secretary shall be a member of the Board of Directors and shall be elected for a term of three (3) years. The Secretary shall cause to be kept an accurate record of the minutes of the Board of Directors, and shall serve as Secretary to this body. The duties of Secretary, by action of the Board of Directors, may be assigned to the Executive Director/Executive Vice President. The Secretary, assisted by the Executive Director/Executive Vice President, shall provide a summary of the activities of the Academy including elected officers, significant actions, activities, and events at the annual meeting for purposes of the GAFP archives. **Committee recommends adding: The Secretary serves as the medical content editor for the GAFP's newsletter as this is current process.**

CHAPTER 11 Committees

~~SECTION 3: Official Publication.~~

~~The Board of Directors shall appoint the Board Secretary to serve as the medical content editor for GAFP publications. Committee recommends deleting as this has now been clarified in Chapter 10, Section 6, above where it is more appropriate.~~

CHAPTER 13 Miscellaneous

~~SECTION 2: Annual Financial Report.~~

~~The directors shall cause to be sent to the members, not later than six (6) months after the close of the fiscal year, a balance sheet as of the closing date of that fiscal year, together with statement of the income and profits and losses for such fiscal year. Such financial statement shall be certified by a public accountant. Committee recommends this edit: Financial records, once certified by a public accountant, can be reviewed by any member who makes a written request. Financial reports will be available through IRS website, and also an annual report to the Congress of Delegates as this is current process.~~

SECTION 4: Rules of Order.

Sturgis Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure, current edition, except when the same is in conflict with the Constitution and Bylaws of this Academy, shall control all parliamentary proceedings of the meetings of the Congress of Delegates and the Board of Directors. **Committee recommends changing to American Institute of Parliamentarians Code of Parliamentary Procedure, current edition because Sturgis is no longer in print and industry recommends this version instead.**

Beulette Hooks, MD, FAAFP
Chair, Bylaws Committee

RECOMMENDATION: Approve updated Bylaws.

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM MEMBERS, BOARD DIRECTORS, COMMITTEE CHAIRS & RESIDENCY PROGRAM DIRECTORS:

6. Lack of support to establish new clinic

Submitted by Sandeep Dhaliwal, MD

WHEREAS, I would to bring attention of my fellow family medicine practitioners in Georgia towards the hurdles a provider faces to establish a new primary care practice and lack of support at all levels. Being a owner of private practice now and learned through hit and trial method which took me some to get seasoned. Lot of hassle could have been avoided if there is some guidance available at the beginning.

RESOLVED THAT, I am offering a mentorship program for family medicine providers who are desiring to start their own practice. The goal is to provide stepwise approach to help understand the details of owing a private family medicine clinic practice, guide from the beginning, along the way, towards the end of establishing a practice and continue afterwards for a successful run.

Staff Background:

Resources from AAFP for Establishing Private Practices can be Found Here:
<https://www.aafp.org/news/practice-professional-issues/20180305practicetool.html>

GAFP offered a pilot to graduating residents and then to all members the ability to receive reduced fees for legal support to set up a private practice with tools focusing on legal aspects needed to launch a private practice. This pilot was heavily promoted to residents for several years, and to members from 2018-2021, but no members applied for the program.

7. From the Student Directors' Report:

Recommendations:

The GAFP March Student Meeting and Residency Fair were excellent events for both prospective and declared applicants to Family Medicine. We recommend that the GAFP continue this event for students and increase the capacity for the Student Meeting to even more students to promote student engagement with the Academy.

We recommend the GAFP continue to provide scholarship opportunities for students to participate in the AAFP National Conference for Medical Students and Residents. This conference offers students the opportunity to represent Georgia on the national platform and engage with other students, residents, and Family Physicians throughout the country.

Staff Background:

The GAFP has plans to continue to offer both a Medical Student Workshop and a Georgia Family Medicine Residency Fair as part of its annual book of work to support our members.

The GAFP promotes the AAFP National Conference for Medical Students and Residents, and outreaches to medical students/residents for available scholarship funding for travel. The GAFP also pays for two residents and two medical students to attend the National Conference to participate in the resolution development, leadership activities, and voting related to the AAFP National Conference.

8. From the Resident Directors' Report:

Recommendations:

GAFP should encourage and empower its residents to apply for AAFP leadership positions. They should also facilitate having more sessions where residents can learn about the events occurring during the year, i.e., Day at the Capitol, volunteer events, or other advocacy sessions.

Respectfully submitted,
Resident Directors, Drs. Appleby, Burris, Colon-Asumu, and Koenig-McRae

Staff Background:

GAFP routinely outreaches to residents directly (with emails provided to AAFP/GAFP) and all residents receive the GAFP publications – sent out twice a month. GAFP outreaches to current resident leaders and encourages them to apply for AAFP leadership positions (as they have a better chance to be selected if they have already been a state chapter leader). The GAFP outreaches to ALL residents and residency directors encouraging residents to apply. This year the Executive Committee nominated seven residents to serve at the national level in 2024 (Results Pending).

9. From the Practice Management Committee Report:

RECOMMENDATIONS: - We recommend that further education to members (possible CME lectures) focusing on different practice models in Family Medicine to show the wide breadth of scope in Family Medicine and career options- i.e. Direct Primary Care, telemedicine, hospitalist, urgent care, obesity medicine, emergency room, wound care, etc.

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Douglass, MD

Staff Background: At each of the Practice Management Committee meetings, there is a discussion for needed education of members related to the “business of family medicine” but not focusing on different practice models. Ongoing feedback is given to the staff liaison to the Education and Research Committee, when needed.

The Education & Research Committee develops all CME content and reviews needs assessments, evaluations of past meeting attendees, as well as discussion and suggestions put forward by members, and other outside educators (such as AAFP).

10. From Bryan D. Cheever, MD, FAAFP Family Medicine Residency Program Director Hamilton Medical Center

Recommendations for GAFP:

1. Continue to encourage and support Family Medicine training and fellowships in Georgia
2. Support opportunities and funding for scholarly activity
3. Support efforts for Family Medicine Residency program collaboration opportunities.
4. Support and encourage opportunities for GAFP member involvement in the teaching/training of medical students and residents
5. Support and encourage funding opportunities for family medicine physician and resident recruitment and retention in Georgia, especially in the underserved and rural communities.

Staff Background:

1. GAFP has a long-standing history of supporting family medicine training in Georgia, including a COD policy to advocate for continued increases to state funding for family medicine residents capitation rates.
2. GAFP's current scholarly activity mainly focuses on our annual Research Poster competition and promoting research opportunities that are available through AAFP. During COVID, the GAFP sponsored a Journal Club (open to all) with the residents and residency faculty leading the discussion. The Journal Club activities concluded in 2021.
3. GAFP has been working to support Georgia's residency programs launch a collaborative, having held four meetings on this topic over the past 16 months. GAFP leadership is committed to support these efforts, which are being led by GAFP officers, and the Student and Resident Recruitment Committee. Funding and outside consultants are being vetted to launch a collaborative in 2024.
4. GAFP has played a leadership role in supporting the ongoing efforts of Georgia's AHEC, to continue the community preceptor state tax deduction, and to promote preceptor virtual training to retain and recruit additional community preceptors across the state.

DRAFT
Georgia Academy of Family Physicians
54th Annual Congress of Delegates DRAFT Minutes
Saturday, November 12, 2022
1:00 pm – 5:00pm

Delegate Attendees:

District 1

Angela Gerguis, MD
John Gerguis, MD
Daryl McCartney, MD
Sherma Peter, MD
Bonzo Reddick, MD

District 2

Shaun Franklin, MD
Michael Satchell, MD
St. Claire Sumaili, MD
Stephanie Williams, MD

District 3

Beulette Hooks, MD
Christina Kelly, MD
Jontu L Solomon, MD
Beverley Ann Townsend, MD

District 4

Karla Booker, MD
Ellie Daniels, MD
Casey Henritz, DO
Emily Herndon, MD
Aparna Mark, MD
Sharon Rabinovitz, MD
Ryan Smith, MD
Tina Ann Thompson, MD
Angeline Ti, MD

District 5

Ann-Gelle Carter, MD
Gregory Floyd, MD
Allison Key, MD
Ifeoma Nnaji, MD
Chris Wizner, MD

District 6

Tameka Byrd, DO
Monique Davis-Smith, MD
Eugene Jackson, MD
Eddie Richardson, MD
Latora Williams, MD

District 7

Emma Atherton-Staples, DO

Bryan Cheever, MD
Kelly Culbertson, MD
John Desmond, MD

District 8

Tom Fausett, MD
Danielle Mankin, MD
Earl Martin, MD
Richard Wheeler, MD

District 9

Jody Bahnmler-Brasil, MD
Amy Bailey, MD
John Delzell, MD
Monica Newton, DO
Wylie Newton, MD
Anne Todd, MD

District 10

Mitch Cook, DO
Julie Dahl-Smith, DO
Jacqueline Dubose, MD
Bruce LeClair, MD
Signe O'Neal, MD
Carla Price, MD

District 11

Sarah Dupont, MD
Kennard Hood, MD
Terence Moraczewski, MD
Patrice Pearson, MD
Jun Ro, MD

Resident Delegates

Heather Dill, MD – Augusta University
James Mayers, MD – Northside Gwinnett

Alternate Resident Delegates

Mutiat Enikanolaiye, MD – Northeast Georgia
Darlene Olurin, MD – Atrium Healthcare

Student Delegates

Darlene Bio – Morehouse
Jantzen Pride – Trinity

Student Alternate Delegate

Tariq Islam – Ross University

I. Call to Order

Speaker Monica Newton, DO called the meeting to order, and all delegates and alternates were reminded to sign in with the tellers so there would be an accurate quorum count. All GAFP members attending the meeting were also asked to review the reference committee's report that was developed following the first session of the Congress of Delegates where all reports and resolutions were reviewed and discussed.

Vice Speaker Ellie Daniels, MD led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. All Member Assembly

Speaker Newton introduced outgoing Board Chair, Tom Fausett, MD, who gave a brief update about the work that has been accomplished in 2022. And he encouraged members of the Congress to attend a future Board meeting.

Dr. Newton then introduced Chapter President Susana Alfonso, MD, who outlined some of her highlights from 2022 noting that she had the privilege to attend many events at the state and national level representing the Georgia Academy. She thanked our colleagues who have served in Public Health and noted that GAFP is seeking to continue to collaborate with DPH. And she noted her president's awards that have been gifted to Dr. Bruce LeClair, Dr. Adrienne Mims and her husband Raul Alfonso. She also took a moment to thank the staff noting both the Executive Vice President Fay Fulton and Deputy Executive Vice President Alesa McArthur.

Dr. Newton introduced, Todd Shaffer, MD, a Director on the AAFP Board. Dr. Shaffer gave a brief overview of the AAFP and the current trends in membership, ways for members to get involved, and other key national activities.

III. Installation of GAFP Officers and Fellows Convocation

With assistance from Vice Speaker Ellie Daniels, MD, Dr. Shaffer installed all the GAFP officers for 2023 (except for Dr. Rabinovitz who had been installed the night before) and conducted the Fellows Convocation to eligible GAFP members.

IV. Orientation

Parliamentarian, Dr. Beulette Hooks, gave an overview of parliamentary procedures and noted process and procedures for extracting resolutions from the Reference Committee report.

V. Omega Report

Vice Speaker Ellie Daniels, MD presented the Omega report noting all the GAFP members who had passed away last year. All attendees stood and honored those members with a moment of silence. These members included:

James H, Barton MD ~ Social Circle

Lora F. Efaw MD ~ Tifton

Charles G. Johnson MD ~ Jonesboro

John Coston McCamy MD ~ Marietta

Robert Lee Morgan MD ~ Acworth

Walter Omainsky MD ~ Dalton

Past President George William Shannon MD ~ Columbus

Tandy Walter Treadwell Jr., MD ~ Macon

VI. Quorum Call

Speaker Newton, DO called on the Tellers who reported that there was a quorum present, and the official proceedings of the Congress of Delegates could continue.

VII. Approval of 2021 Congress of Delegates Minutes

The minutes from the previous year's Congress of Delegates activities and minutes were reviewed. **It was moved and approved to accept the 2021 Congress of Delegates minutes.**

VIII. Georgia Healthy Family Alliance Board of Trustees Nominations

The nominating committee recommended Monique Davis-Smith, MD and Mitzi Rubin, MD to the Board of Trustees for the Georgia Healthy Family Alliance. These would be four-year terms beginning in November 2021 and concluding in November 2026.

It was moved and approved to accept these nominations.

IX. Extracted Items

The following items were extracted from the reference committee report.

A. Resolution 1-F, from the Policy Review Team: *Hospital Operative and Non-Operative Obstetric Privileges for Family Physicians*

Resolve that the GAFP will support the American Academy of Family Physician's policies and procedures as it relates to Family Physician's obstetrics credentialing efforts. ~~and will continue to support individual member's credentialing efforts, and the GAFP will develop a member group to report back to the 2020 COD including but not limited to:~~

~~–Educating stakeholders at Georgia Hospital Association on the FP/OB model and training and;
–Encourage their members to recruit Family Medicine residents to provide comprehensive maternity care and offer to post jobs on the GAFP website.~~

RECOMMENDATION: The Policy Review Team recommended to re-adopt the policy as edited, as the activities listed above have already occurred or no longer needed. Following a brief discussion, it was **moved and approved to refer to the Practice Management Committee for additional language related to GAFP working with hospitals.**

B. *Resolution 4: Endorse Georgia Council on Aging Perennial Budget Issue- Increased Funding for Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Resolution*

Resolve that: GAFP endorses the Georgia Council on Aging Perennial Budget Issue requesting increased funding for Home and Community Based Services from the state to eliminate waitlists for services that support Georgia family caregivers to keep loved ones aging at home.

The reference committee recommended that the resolution be adopted as amended:

RESOLVED, that GAFP writes a letter of endorsement to the Georgia Council on Aging Perennial Budget Issue requesting increased funding for Home and Community Based Services from the state to eliminate waitlists for services that support Georgia family caregivers to keep loved ones aging at home.

After discussion, it was **moved and approved to support this resolution.**

C. *Resolution 5: Auto-renewal Contract Limitations Resolution*

RESOLVED, that, GAFP alert our members to the pitfalls of such contracts and GAFP through its legislative committee and lobbyists seek and support legislation in the Georgia General Assembly to impose limitations on such Auto-renewal contracts and

RESOLVED, that, such limitations require notice and affirmative written consent to renewal of such contracts between 30 and 60 days prior to any deadline for cancellation or contract renewal and

RESOLVED that, all such contracts contain clear and conspicuous descriptions of the provisions for auto-renewal and any cancellation costs or penalties

RESOLVED that, and failure to comply with such provisions shall cause the good or service to be classified as an "unconditional gift" to the consumer.

The reference committee recommended that the resolution not be adopted.

After discussion, it was **moved and approved to refer to the Legislative Committee.**

X. Approval of Consent Calendar

The delegates voted to approve the following policy measures, as recommended by the Reference Committee, as a consent calendar. **The motion passed for the following items.**

A. *COD-Flag and Pledge of Allegiance – re-adopt policy as written.*

Displaying the US flag and reciting the Pledge of Allegiance

Resolved that, the GAFP displays the flags of the United States and the State of Georgia at the front of the room at the Congress of Delegates and the Exhibit Hall. The Pledge of Allegiance is to be recited at the opening session of the Congress of Delegates.

B. *GAFP Mission Statement – re-adopt the policy as edited.*

Resolved that, the mission of the Georgia Academy of Family Physicians is to promote the health of the citizens of Georgia by advancing the specialty of Family Medicine through education, advocacy and service to ~~family physicians in the state of Georgia~~ Georgia's family physicians.

C. *Legislative Lobbying for Family Medicine – re-adopt the policy as written.*

Resolve that, the Georgia Academy of Family Physicians lobby for increased funding for Family Medicine departments and residency programs at the federal and state level.

D. *Area of Training for Family Medicine Residents – re-adopt the policy as written.*

Resolved that, the Georgia Academy of Family Physicians unconditionally supports the concept that family medicine residents be trained in all major disciplines of medicine, including, but not limited to, the care of pregnant women and hospitalized patients.

E. *Healthy Lifestyle and Weight for Children and Adults – re-adopt the policy as written.*

Resolve that, the Georgia Academy of Family Physicians both supports and encourages policies that promote a healthy lifestyle and healthy weight for both children and adults.

F. *Remove barriers to physician credentialing in rural and physician-shortage areas – re-adopt the policy as edited.*

Resolve that, the GAFP will support action that requires insurers and health care networks to not delay physician credentialing applications once all requirements are met. ~~and will draft a formal statement regarding the issue of physician credentialing and its effect on patient access to care as well as how it creates a significant financial hardship for both private practices and rural hospitals that depend on this reimbursement to continue to provide health care services in their community.~~

G. *Support fair reimbursement maternity care services in rural areas – re-adopt the policy as edited.*

RESOLVED that, the GAFP will continue to support equality of payment for like services regardless of specialty and support legislation that requires insurers and health care networks to pay obstetrical physicians regardless of specialty for their maternity related services. ~~and develop a link on their website where physicians and practices can submit information regarding issues with reimbursement of obstetrical services.~~

H. *Best Practices Implementation on Naming Disease to Reduce Stigma Resolution*

RESOLVED that, GAFP leadership and staff strives to include WHO and CDC best practice compliant disease naming terms in GAFP communications.

I. Introduction to Advocacy Initiative Resolution - Referred to the Board for further consideration and work in 2023.

RESOLVED that, GAFP sponsor and develop an annual introduction to Georgia Advocacy course where Family Medicine residents are exposed to current physician advocacy initiatives and activities in our state.

RESOLVED that, GAFP may further recommend that Family Medicine residency programs provide notice and encourage course attendance to all residents.

J. Opposing and Eliminating All Types of Restrictive Covenants on the Practice of Medicine- The Reference Committee discussed and agreed that, in order to bring this to a wider physician audience, while the third resolved clause could be stricken, the first two resolved clauses should be sent to the Medical Association of Georgia's House of Delegates, while supporting the AAFP resolution.

RESOLVED that, the Georgia Academy of Family Physicians advocate with state and federal lawmakers to support the passage of US Senate Bill 2375, the "Freedom to Compete Act" which amends the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to eliminate non-compete clauses, and

RESOLVED that, the Georgia Academy of Family Physicians advocate with state lawmakers to ban "soft" non-compete practices, in which termination of employment may be used as a threat or punitive response to a family physician informing patients of their intent to practice outside of their current employment or publicly disclosing their intent to change practices, and advocate for the abolition by the legislature of such restrictive covenants and non-compete agreements in physician employment contracts in Georgia and be it further

RESOLVED that, the Georgia Academy of Family Physicians advocate and support resolution 507 before the AAFP Congress of Delegates opposing restrictive covenants and non-compete agreements in physician contracts as against public policy, in order to better preserve the physician - patient relationship.

K. From the Augusta Family Medicine Residency Report – File for information

It was recommended that the GAFP:

- a) Expand existing retention benefits for Family Medicine residents to remain in practice in Georgia
- b) Improve awareness of any existing benefits above
- c) Develop a meaningful educational collaborative for Family Medicine residencies throughout the state.

XI. Call for Late Resolutions

No late resolutions were submitted to the 2022 Congress of Delegates.

XII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm.