



The Roadrunner

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President's Column By Lisa Stolarczyk, MD



Greetings from the Heart of The Land of Enchantment!

As the newly elected president of the New Mexico Academy of Family Physicians, and fresh out of our 65th Annual Family Medicine Seminar held in Ruidoso, New Mexico (August 3 – 5, 2023) – I am **INSPIRED!**

You, our Family Medicine Physicians, are the bedrock of community well-being. During my tenure as a board member of this organization, I have witnessed tireless, dedication, brilliance, resilience, and compassion among you as you served the health-care needs of patients and their families throughout stressful conditions that included a global pandemic and a statewide provider shortage.

I have seen Family Medicine Physicians move to rural New Mexico to serve the Underserved and head into the clinics to provide primary care and prevention for our patients. Educators mentor new physician residents within academic settings across the state. Advocates and policy makers head to the round house to pioneer change, promote better health, and set the stage for change and progress.

So, who inspires me? You Inspire Me.

In the words of Dr. Seuss, "Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not."

Let us continue to lead with empathy, educate with passion, and heal with purpose in the months to come. I look forward to working with all of you!



L-R: Dr. Lisa Stolarczyk being sworn in as NMAFP President by Dr. Jen Brull at the 65th Annual Family Medicine Seminar.

2023 Physician of the Year Award

By Lourdes I. Vizcarra, MD, Editor



The 2023 NMAFP Physician of the Year Award was presented to Dr. Jennifer Phillips during the 65th Annual Family Medicine Seminar in Ruidoso, NM. Dr. Phillips was nominated by Dr. Dion Gallant.

Dr. Phillips graduated from the University of New Mexico (UNM), the UNM School of Medicine, and the UNMH Family Medicine Residency. During her distinguished career at UNMH, she has served in numerous roles at the Health Science Center including Assistant Chair of the Family Medicine Department and Chief Medical Officer of the UNM Medical Group. Dr. Phillips currently serves as Chair of the Primary Care Council and is working, along with state leaders, on the future of primary care in NM.

Throughout all her leadership roles, Dr. Phillips has continued to do direct patient care and teaching of residents and medical students. She has been a passionate advocate for women's health and reproductive rights. Access to care has always been an important issue, and she has worked to ensure primary care access for all patients, including incarcerated patients.

She lives her family values by providing a strong and supportive voice in her family and her community. She is loved and respected by her family, her patients, and her peers. She is also a published author and has been a great advocate for primary care and Family Medicine.

Congratulations Dr. Jennifer Phillips on a well-deserved award.

UNM SOM

The FMIG officers are excited to begin their second year of pre-clinical blocks. We just wrapped up our PIE rotation where we spent six weeks immersed in family practice in clinics across the state. It was an amazing experience for all of us and made us even more excited about the possibilities of Family Medicine. Here are a few reflections from our officers about their PIE experiences:

Irene Cantu

I had the opportunity to be in my hometown Hobbs, NM for PIE. It was wonderful to apply the knowledge I gained throughout the year, while experiencing Hobbs from a new perspective. During PIE, I was also able to be a Mentor for MyPower, a non-profit with a mission to empower young females to establish boundaries and learn the power of their voices. I am beyond grateful for this experience and the ability I had to make a difference in my community inside and outside of the clinic.

Lizbeth Luna-Wimberley

I was placed in San Miguel, NM and my experience in this rural community was extremely fruitful as I was able to connect with these patients on a level I had never experienced before while speaking my native language, Spanish. This experience has further grown my passion to pursue primary care in Southern NM.

Maxwell Randall

During PIE I worked closely with Family Medicine physician, Dr. Sandhya Devaraj, in Santa Fe. The diversity of patients as well as medical conditions I was able to see while working with Dr. Devaraj was astounding, and completely affirmed my interest in Family Medicine. My experience living in and exploring the close-knit community of Santa Fe was also a pleasure. I am extremely grateful that I was able to participate in this unique medical school experience.

Luke Sanchez

My PIE rotation was at Guadalupe County Hospital in Santa Rosa, NM with Drs. Timothy Overton and Alex Phillips. Alongside experiencing all the wonders of full spectrum rural Family Medicine, I also enjoyed an amazing summer with my primos fishing and swimming at all the lakes around town and helping out at the family ranch in Puerto de Luna, NM. I am incredibly grateful for the community in Guadalupe County and my pre-

ceptors for giving me the motivation and energy to come back to UNM and finish strong before my clinical years!

Meggan Yancey

I spent PIE in the beautiful village of Ruidoso with an OB/GYN and spent a few days with a Family Medicine physician. I had an amazing experience and enjoyed learning about women's health. Working with these doctors reinforced my interest in a career in Family Medicine, providing many of these services. My favorite experience was witnessing several births, which was so amazing to be a part of. I especially enjoyed getting involved in this community through volunteering, where I met and worked with some wonderful people. I am so happy to have had this opportunity to learn and grow as I continue my path in medicine.

We are excited to welcome the new UNM School of Medicine class of 2027 and are building workshops to introduce our new colleagues to Family Medicine early in their first year. We are also thrilled to participate in the 18th Annual Medical Student Reception in September as an opportunity to strengthen the community of medical students passionate about primary care. We look forward to what our second year in medical school will bring and to continue working with the NMAFP in supporting the future of Family Medicine in New Mexico.

BCOM

Davin Lyman, FMIG President, reported on behalf of BCOM and the Family Medicine Club affairs. Since the last meeting, the Family Medicine Club held an opening ice cream social to spread awareness of the club and to recruit new members, especially with the new incoming class of 2027. In addition to

the social, we hosted a booth at the new freshman orientation where students could ask questions about the club and sign up. The social and informational booth proved to be a huge success as we recruited over 100 new members.

Our FMIG club is now the largest it has ever been in Burrell's history, and we look forward to opening up opportunities for our members to serve the community, learn from other physicians, and participate in future conferences and events. Additionally, we delegated official third- and fourth-year representatives and are in the process of selecting a first-year representative.

We are also proud to report that we debuted a new social media platform for our club complete with an Instagram profile and new email address. This will provide a quick and efficient way for us to reach our club members as well as update the surrounding community about our recent events and achievements.

Our current efforts are concentrated on organizing carpools and encouraging participation in the upcoming Medical Student Reception in Albuquerque this September in the hope of having better representation from Burrell. We will also be providing the opportunity for two of our first- and second-year members to shadow local physicians and give a report on their experience.

Our future plans include seeking out and establishing a continuous outreach opportunity for our club to participate in, as well as planning a Q&A session with a panel of Family Practice Physicians. We are excited about this year's goals and events, and we are continually grateful for all the support we receive from our advisors, faculty members, and of course the NM Academy of Family Physicians Board.



L-R: Davin Lyman, Rozan Sotoodeh, Tracy Samaniego, Dr. Karen Valiant, Annalyse Sabia, Marc Uy

Southern NM Residency Program

By Kaela Moldowan, MD

As we start the new academic year, we welcome our incoming freshman class of Family Medicine residents as well as our new Maternal Child and Reproductive Health Fellows, Dr. Hollman-Allgood and Dr. Ruiz. The leadership in our program has also had a recent change with Dr. Dolores Gomez becoming the Program Director. We look forward to what our new year will bring.

Highlighting our new fellows:

Dr. Maria G. Ruiz

I am one of the new OB Fellows at Southern New Mexico Maternal Child and Reproductive Health Fellowship in Las Cruces, NM, and am excited to learn a lot during this upcoming fellowship year. My hometown is in Dallas, TX, specifically the diverse Southeast Dallas community of Pleasant Grove. I attended UT Dallas for undergraduate school and medical school at The University of Texas Southwestern followed by a residency at The University of Arizona Tucson Family Medicine Residency with a distinction in global health. I am a first-generation high school graduate and physician who is passionate about underserved patient populations and maternal-child health. I chose to train at this OB fellowship program for its robust full-spectrum Family Medicine component and its commitment to social justice in their community. Their diverse patient population with proximity to the Mexico-US border made this program stand out as a unique training site that can ultimately help shape us into adaptable physicians regardless of where we practice. I look forward to this fellowship year and to exploring New Mexico!

Dr. Ijanae Holman-Allgood

I am originally from Niceville, Florida. I attended Medical School at St. George's University. After graduating from St. George's in 2019, I chose to obtain my MPH with a focus in Preventative Medicine. I went on to complete my Family Medicine Residency in Fayetteville, Arkansas, graduating in 2023. During my time in medical school, I was very active in women's health, and this passion grew throughout my Family Medicine Residency. My career goals following residency are to practice primary care, as well as provide obstetrical care for women. My family and I moved to Las Cruces to complete the Family Medicine Obstetrics Fellowship, and I am very excited to be here.

UNM Residency Program

By Julia McIntyre, MD

The summer is always bittersweet as we say goodbye to a graduating class of residents in June and welcome a new class of interns in July. Our 22 new Family Medicine interns had a month-long orientation to learn the ropes of our inpatient Family Medicine and maternal child health services, as well as familiarize themselves with their continuity clinics and the great state of New Mexico! In addition, our PGY2s, who are part of the Shiprock Rural Residency Program, and the Santa Fe Program left Albuquerque this summer to start new adventures with their respective programs.

We are also excited to announce Dr. Jaron Kee as our new Assistant Program Director. Dr. Kee is a graduate of our program and current faculty on our inpatient and maternal child health services. Four new PGY3 residents stepped into the lead resident roles.

We started to have didactics in person again, with residents gathering to learn (and enjoy lunch) together approximately every other week. Another big curriculum update is that our interns will now be spending two months on our Family Medicine maternal child health service, learning obstetric and neonatal care from our FM and FM-OB faculty. We are also working to incorporate learning time with our midwifery colleagues into these blocks.

UNM-Santa Fe Residency Program

By Sylvia Santiago, MD

My name is Silvia Santiago, and I am so excited to pick up where Dr. Alicia Gonzales left off as the Representative for the UNM-SF program. With the start of a new academic year, we are excited to celebrate some of our outstanding residents and their accomplishments. First, we want to honor current PGY3 and co-lead resident, Dr. Asthen Duncan, MD for his accomplishment as a recipient of the AAFP Award of Excellence in Graduate Medical Education. His performance during residency training ranks among the top Family Medicine residents in the country. Dr. Duncan is the recipient of a scholarship to attend the 2023 AAFP Family Medicine Experience, where he will receive recognition for his commitment and hard work. Thank you, Dr.

Duncan, for sharing such an incredible recognition with our program.

Second, we would like to highlight our third-year resident Dr. Martinez's hard work reopening the "Walk with a Doc" chapter in Santa Fe. Our residents invite their patients from their continuity clinics to join them on the first and third Wednesday of every month at 6:30 pm at the Southside Branch Library to participate in a walking program to focus on physical activity, health education, and social connection. We cannot wait to see what the rest of the year holds for our residency program and the accomplishments of our residents.



First Santa Fe 'Walk with a doc' under direction of PGY3, Dr. Carlos Martinez. Pictured Front: Dr. Martinez' twins, Santiago and Celeste



Present:

Chair: Bridget Lynch, MD

Sara Bittner; Mac Bowen, MD; Valerie Carrejo, MD; Dion Gallant, MD; Alicia Gonzales, MD; Clea Lopez, MD; Davin Lyman; Rick Madden, MD; Molly McClain, MD; Jen Phillips, MD; Lisa Stolarczyk, MD; Lourdes Vizcarra, MD; and Meggan Yancey.

Old Business:

Annual Chapter Leadership Forum (ACLF) & State Legislative Conference (SLC) May 9-11, 2023: Dr. Alicia Gonzales

Dr. Gonzales was an invited guest speaker by AAFP during the SLC and shared some of the changes she made in the curriculum for her Residency Program making the month of advocacy and legislation a much more hands-on experience. Dr. Lisa Stolarczyk shared that one lecture really stood out to her, and it was about the Foundation started by Dr. Lorna Breen's husband to improve the well-being of physicians. Lorna Breen was the ER Physician that committed suicide during the pandemic. Language is slowing being changed, and it is much less punitive today to seek help to be well mentally, but it is still lacking, and more work is needed. Dr. Lourdes Vizcarra shared that attending the ACLF & SLC is a great way to get the team together, get to know one another and have one-on-one with NMAFP Officers.

New Business:

Congratulations to New Officers:

President: Dr. Lisa Stolarczyk
President Elect: Dr. Lourdes Vizcarra
Secretary-Treasurer: Dr. Molly McClain
Vice President: Dr. Clea Lopez
New Past President: Dr. Mac Bowen

Call for Nominations & Vote for Board Chair:

Dr. Rick Madden nominated Dr. Mac Bowen. Dr. Bowen accepted the nomination for Board Chair, a vote was taken, and Dr. Bowen is the new Board Chair.

Resolutions for the AAFP Congress of Delegates, Oct. 25-27, 2023, Chicago:

Drs. Valerie Carrejo, Bridget Lynch, Jennifer Phillips and Veneta Ianakieva make up the NMAFP Delegation to the COD and will all be present in Chicago for this year's annual session. Dr. Carrejo and Dr. Phillips shared some of the Delegation's thoughts about NMAFP Resolutions that are due Sept. 4, 2023. Dr. Carrejo shared two ideas of: #1. CMS does not recognize hemoglobin A1C as a diagnosis for diabetes. And #2. Get rid of 42 CFR Part 2 to destigmatize substance use disorder treatment. Dr. Phillips shared the idea of #3: One of the UNM FM Residents, Dr. Amity Calvin, is working on a resolution about anti-fat bias. Dr. Alicia Gonzales suggested a resolution about the AAFP supporting the removal of all stigmatizing language in policies about mental illness. The Delegation indicated this has been done in the past, but likely needs a refresh given that even in states like New Mexico providers fill out applications for licenses that contain stigmatizing language (e.g., DEA, NM Controlled Substance License). Dr. Bridget Lynch mentioned the toll that can be placed on the shoulders of providers when stigmatizing policies inadvertently hurt some providers, albeit with the best of intentions of saving careers and protecting the health of the public. The deadline for Chapters to send their Resolutions to AAFP is Sept. 4, 2023.

2024 Doc of the Day Program During the Legislative Session:

Dr. Rick Madden
Dr. Madden is hopeful that the 2024 DOD Program will have more participants than last year. There are many opportunities for learning as well as service. The Governor is responsible for writing the Agenda for the Session, so more to follow as it gets closer. There will be a Legislative Training Session on Saturday, January 20, 2024 location to be determined. Dr. Carrejo reminded the Board that, at our last meeting, we talked about malpractice coverage and who is legally responsible when participating as a DOD. Dr. Madden researched this topic and reported to the Board that the Dept. of Health has a program for anyone who wants to volunteer as a DOD – this includes employed physicians, licensed yet retired physicians, physicians who are in between jobs, and self-employed physicians whose own insurance does not cover Doc of the Day, in order to have malpractice coverage.

Governmental Affairs Committee Update:

Dr. Rick Madden, Chair

See Article by Dr. Madden on Page 8.

Committee to Discuss Legislative Topics for next year's Legislative Session:

Dr. Molly McClain

The Chair of the NM Medical Board reached out to Dr. McClain and shared that one of the big legislative pushes, that is going to come and has also been in the past, is that the Legislature is understandably concerned about the lack of providers in NM, and they are going to try and move forward with hiring people straight out of New Mexico Medical Schools as well as Foreign Medical Graduates that have only completed Medical School. Dr. McClain has communicated with several organizations in NM and has put together a group that will meet virtually on August 16th to discuss this very dangerous situation. This group's task is to try and figure out suggestions and real proposals that will help fill this gap.

Annual Budget Meeting:

Dr. Dion Gallant, Chair, Budget Committee
Annual meeting scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 9th, 10:00 am, Flying Star, 10700 Corrales Road. Dr. Rick Madden asked that the Budget Committee consider a raise for Steve Lucero, the NMAFP Lobbyist. Proposal is for a \$2,000 raise during the 60-day session and \$1,000 during the 30-day session.

Dr. Lynch and the Governmental Affairs Committee would like the Budget Committee to consider financial support for two members to attend NCCL in Kansas City every spring. Committee will discuss both suggestions during their Meeting on the 9th.

Update on NMAFP Office, 2400 Louisiana Blvd. NE:

Dr. Dion Gallant shared with the Board that the situation at the NMAFP Office is quite volatile on so many levels. Staying until the lease ends Oct. 1, 2024 is no longer an option. It was determined that the office equipment will be placed in a storage unit for a while, and Sara will work from home.

18th Annual Med Student Reception:

Friday, Sept. 8th, Sandia Resort, Eagle Room, 5:30-8:30 pm Dr. Molly McClain, Moderator, shared the plan for this year's Reception. Dr.

Melissa Martinez had the brilliant idea to match up four Family Medicine Physicians with four Med Students and have the students interview the FMPs via zoom. The students will then share inspirational stories they learned from the FMPs during our Reception. Dr. Martinez will also share the history of FM in NM. The third portion of the evening will have the Docs moving from table to table and the students remaining in their original seats. This year we will shorten the time the Docs spend at each table to 12 minutes, and the number of tables that each Doc will visit will be limited to three. Dr. McClain will return to the podium, thank everyone for spending time with NMAFP and invite them to continue conversations on their own until 8:30 pm.

42nd Annual Winter Refresher: Feb. 24, 2024, Sandia Resort Dr. Lourdes Vizcarra, Scientific Program Chair

Tentative Agenda with the Board. Plan is to complete Agenda in the next couple of weeks. Sara shared that Dr. Lynch, as chair of the Scholarly Activities Committee, will be organizing again the Poster Session for the Winter Refresher. Dr. Lynch solicited help from other board members, and Dr. Mac Bowen offered to help this year. Dr. Lynch spoke of the value that comes to our chapter and our community by having this poster session consistently being run by the NMAFP vs. other entities (e.g., Dr. Bowen had mentioned perhaps the Consortium could eventually own this Poster Session; Dr. Lynch gave historical background information of non-NMAFP UNM faculty organizing the poster session in the past and then deciding they did not have the capacity to organize it anymore).

Scientific Advisory Committee Update:

Dr. Lisa Stolarczyk informed the Board that this meeting will begin as soon as the Board Meeting is finished.

Student Reports:

Meggan Yancey, UNM FMIG Co-President

The next event for the UNM FMIG will be the Med Student Reception on Sept. 8th which is moving along quite well. Their biggest goal this semester is to get more community involvement. Each month the FMIG puts out a list of places where Med Students can volunteer their services.

Davin Lyman, BCOM FMIG President

BCOM students are already three weeks into their new school year and were very excited to welcome in the class of 2027. They had a booth during orientation and got approximately 60 new participants for the club. Also had an ice cream social last week for the entire school and signed up another 40 members. Their club has never been bigger which is exciting for them as they will now be able to have guest speakers and do community service.





Early Call for Doctors to Serve at NM State Legislature 2024

By Rick Madden, MD and Steve Lucero

The NMAFP Doctor of the Day program invites our members to join our yearly service to our state legislature. As a DOD, you will participate in the session on a day or more of your choosing to attend to legislators and their staffs' medical needs while they are heavily involved in configuring legislation.

This year is a 30-day session, running from January 16 through February 15, 2024. We will have a training and legislative preview meeting just after the session begins on January 20, 2024 to help new and returning DODs prepare.

Part of your time at the legislature as a DOD will be to attend hearings, visit with our legislators, and testify on health-related bills in committee. Observation of the process of crafting, debating, and passing (or not) legislation informs us about the values and goals of our legislators, allowing us to influence their decisions with our front-line experience. Our lobbyist, Steve Lucero, will be at your side to help guide you through the maze of activity, so you will have plenty of help.

Medical liability coverage may be from your employer (be sure to ask), or if not available there, then by application to the NM Department of Health Medical Reserve Corps which may provide liability protection for those who volunteer service such as ours. Here is the link: <https://www.nmhealth.org/about/erd/bhem/mrc>. UNM faculty and residents have been covered through UNM in the past, and Presbyterian employed physicians have had coverage through employment there.

We look forward to your participation. Last year quite a few bills passed and were signed by the governor, in no small part due to our efforts as Family Physicians from all over New Mexico. Contact Sara Bittner familydoctor@newmexico.com to sign up.



Ruidoso Summer Conference Wrap-Up

By Mac Bowen, MD

Dear Members,

I would like to thank each and every one of you who attended or presented at our greatly successful 65th Annual Family Medicine Seminar. What a joyous celebration of our incredible specialty it was! The educational content was topical, provocative, and highly elucidating, reflecting the true depth and breadth of Family Medicine. Your discussions, questions, and reflections made it such a very rich experience for us all - I thank you for your thoughtful contributions and feedback. It was a tremendous pleasure to meet with many of you, hear a little bit about your lives and practice, and simply be in solidarity (all while earning high quality CMEs and seeing what must be the most docile herd of elk and wild horses on the planet in gorgeous Ruidoso!). Facilitating that connection with our peers is one of the functions we are most dedicated to, so please do let us know if there are other ways you would like to connect with us or contribute to this important work. Our conferences are testimony to the power of volunteering, as all our officers and the vast majority of our speakers are freely giving of their time for the greater good in keeping of our Hippocratic oath. Email us if you would like to suggest a certain topic or nominate a speaker (or better yet yourself!).

I would be remiss if I did not also single out our incredible Executive Director Sara Bittner, who keeps it all operating seamlessly, as well as our honored guest Dr. Jen Brull from Kansas, who shared with us updates from the national Academy.

It has been an absolute honor to serve as your Chapter President in this past year, and I look forward to continue serving you on the Board with this excellent team of Officers. I wish you balance moving onward and upward in this challenging profession while helping to optimize the health for all New Mexicans! And do not forget to mark your calendars to join me up in Santa Fe for next year's Seminar, July 25 - 27, 2024! With Gratitude, William "Mac" Bowen

NMAFP would like to thank the Sponsors of the Ruidoso Conference. They are: Presbyterian Provider Well-being and Burnout ECHO and School of Medicine.

NMAFP would also like to thank the Exhibitors that spent two days with us in Ruidoso. They are: Burrell College of Osteopathic Medicine; Christus St Vincent; GSK; Lovelace Health System; Mitchell's Silver & Turquoise; New Mexico Health Resources; New Mexico Primary Care Training Consortium; Peak Behavioral Health; Presbyterian Healthcare Services; Presbyterian Medical Services; Presbyterian Well-Being Burnout ECHO; Relay New Mexico; Reproductive Health Access Project; Sanofi; Sekisui Diagnostics LLC; State of New Mexico Department of Health; The Doctors Company; UNM Medical Group; and UNM SOM Office for Community Faculty.



Officers & COD Delegation during Welcome Reception



Lecture Hall packed at Ruidoso Summer Conference



L-R: Drs. Jen Brull, AAFP Honored Guest; Lourdes Vizcarra, President-Elect; Molly McClain, Secretary-Treasurer; Clea Lopez, Vice President; Mac Bowen, Past President & Board Chair



L-R: Dr. Jen Bruell, Dr. Mac Bowen, Newly Elected NMAFP President, Dr. Lisa Stolarczyk and Sara Bittner



L-R: Dr. Rick Madden Receiving President's Award from Sara Bittner & Dr. Mac Bowen



Dr. Jen Brull being presented with a Nambe platter for sharing her valuable time at the NMAFP Summer Conference in Ruidoso



42nd Annual NMAFP Winter Refresher in Albuquerque

Dr. Lourdes Vizcarra, Scientific Program Chair

This program has been accredited for 7 Live AAFP Prescribed credits.

*It will be approved for an additional 2 Live AAFP Prescribed credits
if you attend the poster session at the end of the day.*

Registration will be available later this fall.

Sandia Resort & Casino, Saturday, February 24, 2024

7:00 am-8:00 am	Registration/Exhibits Open Breakfast - Exhibit Hall
7:55 am-8:00 am	Welcome/Introduction, Lecture Hall Dr. Lourdes Vizcarra, Scientific Program Chair
8:00 am-9:00 am	“Vaccine Information to Share” Melissa Martinez, MD
9:00 am-10:00 am	“Syphilis Update & Post Exposure Treatment (PET)” Savanna Bustos, MD NW Regional Health Officer, NMDOH Public Health Division Miranda Durham, MD IBD Medical Director, NMDOH
10:00 am-10:30 am	Break – Exhibit Hall
10:30 am-11:30 am	“Navigating the New Mexico State (health-related) Legislature for your Practice” Rick Madden, MD
11:30 am-12:30 pm	“Scoring Comprehensive Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus Management Goals: Examining the Multifaceted Effects of GLP-1 Receptor Agonists” John Anderson, MD
12:30 pm-1:30 pm	Lunch – Exhibit Hall
1:30 pm-2:30 pm	“The Initiative to Strengthen Primary Care & the Updated Family Medicine ACGME Residency Requirements: Moving From Market-Share to Common Good” Molly McClain, MD, MPH
2:30 pm-3:30 pm	“The Status of Pediatric Palliative Care in New Mexico” Sandra Whisler, MD, MS Korie Leigh, PhD, CCLS, CT
3:30 pm-4:30 pm	“Special Population: Caregivers” Katarzyna Wilamowska, MD
4:45 pm-6:45 pm	Poster Session/Happy Hour – Exhibit Hall

NMAFP Governmental Affairs Retreat, Summer, 2023

By Rick Madden, MD

Our Government Affairs Committee held a retreat in two parts, the first in June and the second in July. We had good participation, nine at the first and six at the second meeting, both expertly facilitated by our lobbyist Steve Lucero.

We decided that our committee will work to “energize our NMAFP Chapter to amplify the voice of NM Family Physicians in health care policy.” We plan to identify more opportunities for advocacy, such as developing relationships with our legislators and attending interim legislative committee meetings. We plan to report to members with an article in the Roadrunner when appropriate. We would like to have more members participate in AAFP’s advocacy channel to federal legislators (Speak Out).

We would also like to help the Chapter use all the AAFP-funded slots for Chapter members, especially Board members, to attend national AAFP leadership and policy development meetings. These include airfare (only) for ACLF (Annual Chapter Leadership Forum) and NCCL (National Conference of Constituency Leaders) for three physicians, and one more for NCCL for a new physician (in practice for seven or less years).

We identified a long list of issues we expect will deserve our attention, but randomly chose one to explore first: “No Shortage of Primary Care Providers.” We will first gather data on physician shortage from the NM Human Services Department’s Primary Care Council, as well as from the BA/MD program at UNM, the HSD GME Committee, NM Primary Care Coalition/Consortium (NM FP residencies), Legislature (Workforce study), UNM SOM, UNM Office of Diversity, and other sources as needed. The goal will be to participate in developing more solutions within the legislative and executive branches, perhaps even lead the writing of legislation.

We think we found new energy within our committee and will share that enthusiasm and our strategies with you as we go. Much more to come, especially as we get closer to the legislative session (30 days, beginning in January 2024). We may

Meeting of the New Mexico State Primary Care Council

By Dr. Jennifer Phillips, Chair of the NM State Primary Care Council & Elisa Wrede, Project Manager, Primary Care, Office of the Secretary, Human Services Dept.

The New Mexico State Primary Care Council met in person on June 9, 2023 with the 9-member council and the 13-member advisory board, representatives from the state GME residency expansion, as well as members of the public. It was so nice to be in person! It was a hybrid event, and we had people Zooming in as well.

Our hope is that the council will increase the investment in primary care and reduce overall healthcare costs while improving the health of New Mexico. The content in June focused primarily on payment reform strategy and moving Medicaid to value-based care where primary care teams are paid for high quality care and outcomes as opposed to volume. The State Primary Care Council has involved a consultant to design, test, and evaluate a new primary care alternative payment model for NM Medicaid programs in consultation with HSD, DOH, and stakeholders.

At the June meeting there was also a presentation about ‘Making Care Primary’ from CMS which is a value-based care program that is available for primary care practices in New Mexico and in some other states as well. It will be a value-based form of Medicare that is a 10-year program. Our next steps as a council are to focus on pipeline and on ways that primary care teams can be sustainable and improve the ease of practice.



Hidalgo Medical Services, a Success Story

By Isaac Saucedo, PA-C, MS, Interim Chief Medical Officer

Hidalgo Medical Services was founded in 1995 in Lordsburg, NM, with \$35,000 in New Mexico Rural Primary Health Care Act funding. Four physicians initially rotated in Lordsburg in the organization’s early stages. Hidalgo Medical Services has grown and now provides care in both Hidalgo and Grant Counties. Hidalgo Services is the largest healthcare provider in both counties, serving approximately 15,000 patients annually. Medical, dental, and behavioral health clinicians deliver care to a large geographic area, and we are ever-expanding and growing. Among Federally Qualified Health Centers, Hidalgo Medical Services distinguishes itself as the only teaching facility recognized by the Health Resources Administration by the addition of a Family Medicine Residency Program. Our residents train during their first year at Memorial Medical Center in Las Cruces, New Mexico, and return in their second year to provide primary care. The Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education accredits our residency program.

We continue to recruit highly-qualified, compassionate physicians who desire to improve the lives of Hidalgo and Grant Counties. We are looking for Physician leaders who will engage with our Residents, Physician Assistants, and Nurse practitioners and make Hidalgo Medical Services the Premier Medical Group in Southwestern New Mexico.





SCHOOL OF
MEDICINE

OFFICE FOR
COMMUNITY FACULTY

“If I have seen further it is by standing on
the shoulders of giants.”

Sir Isaac Newton

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
EXTENDS OUR DEEPEST **GRATITUDE** TO OUR MORE THAN
1,100 **COMMUNITY FACULTY** UPON WHOSE SHOULDERS
FUTURE GENERATIONS OF HEALERS STAND.

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Resident & Student Congress of Delegates During the 2023 AAFP National Resident & Student Conference in Kansas City

AAFP Student Congress of Delegates

By Maxwell Brown

It was an absolute thrill and honor to represent the state of New Mexico in the Student Congress during the 2023 AAFP National Conference in Kansas City. Along with my resident counterpart, Dr. Katie Brown, I had the privilege of voting on resolutions drafted during the congress that provide student voices on key issues such as the protection of reproductive rights, expansion of rural Family Medicine programs, and protecting physician-led healthcare teams. In front of the national delegation, I testified against a resolution that I felt sought to limit patient access to referrals for comprehensive reproductive care and testified for a resolution that urged the AAFP to investigate ways to increase access to genetic counseling. This was an invaluable experience both for my confidence speaking on a national stage as well as a chance to represent the state on issues that I felt reflected the majority opinion of the medical student voice of New Mexico.

During the national conference, I was also able to network with student and physician peers across the country that are just as enthusiastic about Family Medicine as I am. The spirit of excitement and support for Family Medicine was palpable in every room. Through conversations in the convention halls and workshops, I was able to connect with leaders in areas such as addiction medicine, immigrant care, and reproductive justice. In the bustling expo hall, I met residents and directors from programs across the country, expanding my knowledge of the Family Medicine community at large. I would urge any student interested in Family Medicine to attend the conference to hear from residents to get a sense about which programs might be for them.

After reflecting over a plate of delicious Kansas City barbecue, I can confirm my interest in Family Medicine has never been stronger after attending this conference. A week of hearing from like-minded and passionate colleagues has affirmed that Family Medicine would be a perfect fit for me. I would like to express my immense gratitude to Sara Bittner and the New Mexico Chapter of the AAFP for sponsoring my trip to this conference, and I look forward to attending again.

AAFP Resident Congress of Delegates

By Katie Brown, MD

My name is Katie Brown, and I am a second-year resident at the UNM Family Medicine Residency Program in Albuquerque. I had the honor and privilege of representing New Mexico in the Resident Congress of Delegates at the AAFP National Conference in Kansas City, MO this year. Although I hail from the Midwest, this was my first time attending National Conference, and I was thoroughly inspired by the passion for advocacy and excitement about the future of Family Medicine exhibited by so many of my peers. Getting to participate in the Congress of Delegates was particularly exciting - my favorite part was joining reference committee meetings discussing resolutions that would appear before the entire Congress on the last day of the conference.

I participated in meetings that heard testimony about topics such as weight bias, expanding residency positions, and how to support IMGs in applying to Family Medicine. The voting session was full of surprises, including spirited testimony about supervised practice licenses and a tie vote that required multiple re-counts!

I am thrilled to have had the opportunity to represent New Mexico at the AAFP Congress of Delegates, and I learned a lot about AAFP governance and parliamentary procedure through this experience. I made connections with peers from around the country and got to catch up with some old friends. I am most proud of the chance to vote on behalf of New Mexico's Family Medicine residents on issues of particular importance to New Mexico, like promoting climate-friendly health care. I look forward to seeing what the AAFP does with the resolutions we passed and what the future of FM holds for us here in NM. I am deeply grateful for this opportunity and strongly encourage anyone who is interested in organized medicine to apply for this position next year - please feel free to reach out to me!



L-R: Maxwell Randall & Dr. Katie Brown at R&S Conference



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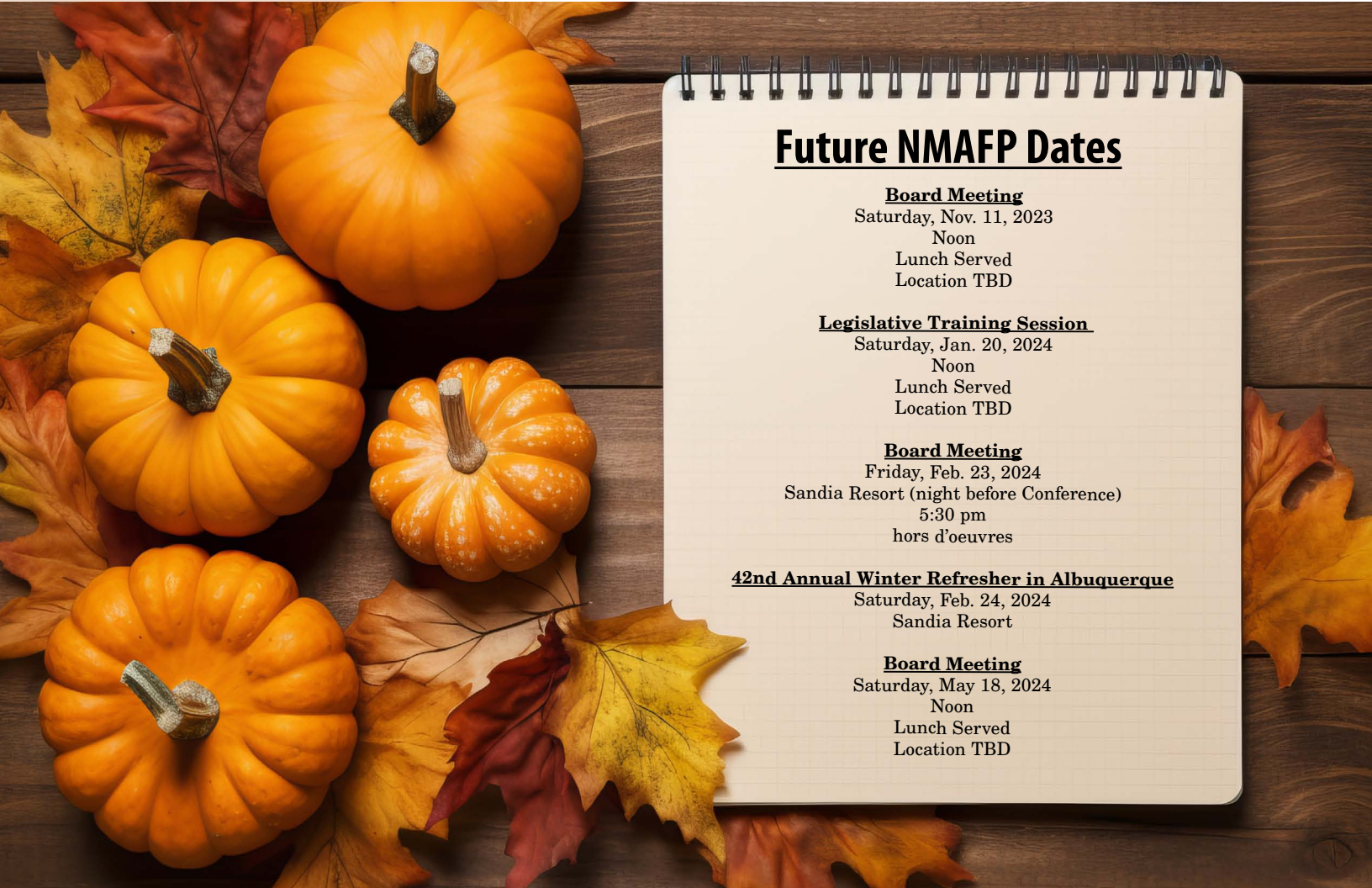
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Future NMAFP Dates

Board Meeting

Saturday, Nov. 11, 2023
Noon
Lunch Served
Location TBD

Legislative Training Session

Saturday, Jan. 20, 2024
Noon
Lunch Served
Location TBD

Board Meeting

Friday, Feb. 23, 2024
Sandia Resort (night before Conference)
5:30 pm
hors d'oeuvres

42nd Annual Winter Refresher in Albuquerque

Saturday, Feb. 24, 2024
Sandia Resort

Board Meeting

Saturday, May 18, 2024
Noon
Lunch Served
Location TBD