

OAFP – Resident Ohio Delegate to the AAFP National Conference Report

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Purpose & Scope of Work

The purpose of this position is to represent Ohio Residents in conjunction with the Alternate Delegate. Scope included collecting information about resolutions opinions by organizing chapter caucuses, participating in resolutions discussions and voting on resolutions and resident elections for specific positions within the AAFP.

Highlights of the 2022 AAFP National Conference

The 2022 AAFP National Conference was held in Kansas City, Missouri in July. For many of us this was our first experience in an in-person setting, which naturally created it's unique challenges, however we all seemed to embrace the opportunity to be reunited and represent each of our States by organizing chapter caucuses as well as participating in resolutions and voting for our future resident representatives in the different AFP committees. Noteworthy resolutions are mentioned below:

Resident 1 Reference Committee

Resolution No. R1-101: Institute a Minimum Salary for Residency Compensation that Reflects Annual Inflation

RESOLVED, that the American Academy of Family Physicians supports instituting a national minimum compensation level for all institutions that receive funding to employ resident physicians, and it be further

RESOLVED, that the American Academy of Family Physicians advocates for resident salaries to increase with the rate of inflation each fiscal year.

Recommendation: not adopted.

Outcome: extracted - after discussed by resident delegates resolution was not adopted.

Resolution No. R1-102: Creation of the National AAFP IMG Delegation/Chapter

RESOLVED, that the American Academy of Family Physicians allow for the creation of a unified national chapter that is similar type and functioning, with all the allowances and powers that mirror that of a chapter of the AAFP for a new IMG national chapter

Recommendation: not adopted

Outcome: extracted- after discussion by resident delegates resolution was adopted.

Resident 2 Reference Committee

Resolution R2-203: Medication Assisted Treatment Training Implementation into Graduate Medical Education

RESOLVED, that the American Academy of Family Physicians continue to strongly encourage ACGME to require substance disorder curriculum that specifically includes medication assisted treatment training in family medicine residency programs, and be it further

RESOLVED, the American Academy of family physicians ensure family medicine residencies are not only aware but are implementing substance disorder/MAT training into their curriculum by asking ACGME for generated reports of the key measures of implementation into family medicine residences nationwide.

Recommendation: not adopted

Outcome: extracted- after discussion by resident delegates resolution was adopted.

Resident 3 Reference Committee

Resolution No. R3-303: Advancing Family Medicine's Role Within the 988 Mental Health Hotline Expansion

RESOLVED, that the American Academy of Family Physicians advocate that family physicians be eligible to receive referrals for mental health services from 988 calls, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the American Academy of Family Physicians advocate to the Department of Health and Human Services that family physicians be appropriately compensated for helping meet the increased demands anticipated in the 988 hotline expansion.

Recommendation: Adopted.

Lessons learned

This was my first time in a leadership role within the OAFP and I want to thank you for allowing me to be the Ohio Delegate for this very important conference. During this time, I not only made incredibly valuable connections with medical students and fellow residents, but I also learned the process of how resolutions are written, discussed and adopted, and the great power that we have as residents to implement change within the AAFP. Being a first-time delegate could be an overwhelming process, however having someone with previous delegate experience was incredibly helpful, as she guided me through the process. I look forward to the opportunity to continue to be involved with the OAFP during my residency years and for many years to come.

AAFP National Student and Resident Conference Personal Experience and Congress Summary

Haley Coleman, MD

Ohio Alternate Delegate to the AAFP Resident Congress

Summa Family Medicine Program – PGY3

Personal experience:

Attending national conference in person again was rejuvenating. I hadn't been to conference in person since I was a student in 2016, when I had the opportunity to participate in the Emerging Leader Institute Program. I found myself surrounded by many residents and medical students who all have a passion for primary care. Participating in the presentations, workshops, congress sessions, and residency fair, I was reminded I have chosen a career in a specialty that offers many ways for physicians to put the health of our nation at the forefront. Not only am I impressed by the AAFP's ability to promote family medicine to students across the country, but I am also inspired by the caliber of residents and students interested in our specialty. Students, residents, and attendings are advocating for our patients and specialty at every level and performing astute research to help us understand how to better deliver care. Highlighted projects focused on increasing influenza and COVID vaccine rates, medication adherence, length of hospital stay, mental health outcomes in racially and ethnically diverse populations, and food insecurity.

In residency, it can become overwhelming to approach the complex healthcare system in which we practice. However, in attending the AAFP National Conference, I was reminded that we have physicians working with the white house to administer vaccines and leading primary care institutes around the country. Connecting with these excited individuals allowed for exchange of ideas and understanding of how we might combine our efforts to make positive change. I connected with residents and students across the country and also formed new friendships with people from my own state. The conference provides an opportunity for comradery that grounds young budding physicians in the solace that there is power in numbers and that we are supported by the AAFP, an organization that recognizes and advocates for the deep impact our care has on our nation.

Congress Summary:

Karina Woodling, MD served as the Ohio Delegate to the AAFP Resident Congress of Delegates and I served as the Ohio Alternate Delegate. I served in the Ohio Delegate role last year, however the in person experience was much more interactive and it was essential to have a partner throughout the process. We teamed up to listen to the 2022 Annual Reports from the representatives to the AAFP commissions and committees. I gave the report for the AAFP National Research Network as the resident member of the 2021-2022 term. I also have the opportunity to serve for the 2022-2023 term. We listened to the platform speeches, reviewed, and voted for candidates for the resident elected leadership positions. We gave feedback to those residents writing resolutions, listened to and gave feedback on resolutions in the reference committee hearings, reviewed reference committee resolution recommendations, and then voted on resolutions.

There was a robust discussion regarding the 2022 AAFP Resident Congress resolutions. Some items were not adopted or were amended, not due to lack of support, but due to language within the resolution or the inability of the congress to dictate certain functions of the

AAFP, like location of meetings. This was a rich learning experience that allowed me to understand how members can be heard to drive the direction of the AAFP and of primary care.

Adopted resolutions:

- Reducing barriers to menstrual hygiene products by advocating for tax removal
- Creation of National AAFP IMG Delegation/Chapter
- Ensuring protection of constituents to travel to AAFP events in abortion-friendly environments as the sense of the resident congress
- Advancing family medicine's role within the 988 mental health hotline expansion
- Surveying AAFP members: achieving health care coverage for all
- Street medicine interventions addressing homelessness as a public health crisis in working to promote the role of family physicians in securing non-hospital care
- Advocating for expanding home and community based senior services, provision of living wages for caregivers, and for expansion of Medicare coverage to all sensory impairments

Items not adopted, but proposed and discussed:

- Institute a minimum salary for residency compensation that reflects annual inflation
- Increasing efforts to slow advance practice providers scope creep
- Strengthening of the AAFP global health strategy by returning to have a separate global health advocacy summit
- Medication Assisted Treatment training requirements in Graduate Medical Education

Overall, I would recommend this experience to any resident or student that would like to learn more about the process in which members of the AAFP guide the organization in their research, advocacy, and funding efforts. Not all states had representatives chosen for or at attendance of the congress. We are fortunate in Ohio to have a strong academy that has a significant presence in the AAFP and in advocacy for family medicine. These opportunities are important to create pipelines for future leaders of family medicine and to give future physicians a perspective on how their voices can be amplified. I had a wonderful time connecting with our state chapter constituents at the OAFP reception and chatting with members of the OAFP board of directors and staff to discuss ideas on how to continue to provide and inspire these type of opportunities for students and residents starting their career.

I look forward to continuing my involvement in the AAFP and in the congress in the future as well as the OAFP. I truly appreciate the OAFP Foundation's support and encouragement of resident and student involvement in these opportunities.

Olivia Dhaliwal
Ohio Student Delegate

This was my first National Conference, and it was such a privilege to be able to attend as student delegate representing medical students in the state of Ohio. I was so grateful to have the expertise of my alternate delegate, Rommel Morales (who indeed was far more qualified than I for the position). His presence was invaluable as he walked me through the various procedures involved in the advocacy aspects of the weekend and the overall process of this annual meeting, which he attended virtually last year.

Over the course of this weekend, I was in awe of the broad reach of the AAFP. I am continuously learning about the infinite number of ways to be a family physician, and similarly, the world of AAFP's outreach and advocacy is endless. From the Foundation's efforts to support students through sponsoring nearly 240 students to attend National Conference this year and providing free headshots to students (a practical perk for which I was most grateful!), to the ways that AAFP sends representation to the AMA, LMSA, SNMA, and other national organizations, I was floored by the sheer number of opportunities for medical students and residents to assume leadership positions in the Academy.

I wasn't quite sure what I was signing up for when I applied to be student delegate, but I knew I wanted to get involved by jumping in, feet first. And jump in, I did. I helped write a resolution about reproductive healthcare, specifically opposing the use of crisis pregnancy centers for residency training. Although our resolution was not accepted initially by the reference committee, it was worthwhile to write it, because through this process I achieved my goal for the weekend: to learn how to advocate by going for it and doing something, anything, to learn. I made new friends in the process, from Mt. Sinai and Penn State's medical schools, and learned how to testify about various resolutions. My new friends taught me through their own examples, and then encouraged me to start where I am and speak from my heart. I wound up testifying three separate times, first for a resolution I helped author and then in support of two others, and I listened as other attendees did the same. I appreciated the ways that the structure of AAFP's parliamentary procedures permitted disagreement without discord, and maintained a forward momentum, even when one student was persistently opposed to many resolutions. It felt exciting to realize that the reference committees I attended were made by and for students, and only student members were able to testify. This reaffirmed for me that the AAFP does not just claim to support students - they truly do listen, and advocate, and care deeply for students, and this is most evident to me because they give students control and power in the organization.

On the final day of the conference, I ran for a national position as student delegate to national congress of delegates. I was very nervous about running, especially as the other two candidates I ran against were much more experienced in advocacy than I was. One had served as the president to their school's AMA chapter, and the other had extensive advocacy experience with their state's AFP chapter - including an impressive \$350 million dollars raised for some cause in the past two years. Although I was anxious about making a good impression on other delegates I hardly knew, I spoke from my heart and tried to be calm and collected, and

I suppose I succeeded because I was elected! I am so excited to see what National Congress is like in DC in September, and I look forward to more opportunities to be more involved with the OAFP. I have plans to start by reaching out to the CWRU FMIG and the Advocacy Pathway to see if we can coordinate a resolution writing workshop, so that students can learn the process of writing a resolution and submitting it to the OAFP on their website. I think this experience will be powerful to both introduce me to the new M1 class (since I have no real other way of getting to know them) and to help students learn a practical skill I wish I had learned in my first two years of medical school - it will well prepare them for their first National Conference in the coming years.

Overall, I am so glad I took advantage of the generous opportunity offered by the OAFP to attend National Conference as a student delegate representing our state. I would highly recommend this opportunity to any medical student interested in advocacy, the AAFP, and meeting other like minded, passionate medical students and mentors. This conference truly has something for everyone!

My name is Rommel Morales and I am a current 3rd year medical student at Northeast Ohio Medical University. I had the pleasure of being appointed as the OAFP Alternate Delegate for the 2022 National Conference. I had prior experience in attending the 2021 National Conference (NC) virtually, as well as serving in delegate and reference committee roles for the Ohio State Medical Association and leadership/resolution positions for the American Medical Association. At the 2021 NC, I was able to co-author 2 submitted resolutions and was able to network with both our Ohio delegation and other state delegations. Because of this, I was able to work with the immediate past AAFP Board of Directors (BoD) Student Member, Amy Hoffman, and still correspond with her.

My goals for attending the 2022 National Conference stem from my experiences at the previous NC. I wanted to be able to unite our delegation in advancing the goals of our OAFP, to author resolutions and solicit support aligned with these goals, as well as to hold a leadership position within the conference proceedings. In collaboration with Olivia Dhaliwal and the immense support of Caitlin Laudeman, all of these things were accomplished. Caitlin had held several meetings prior to NC that we used to coordinate with the resident delegates and set expectations for the layout of physical attendance of NC. She had set up a GroupMe chat that we used to connect with the Ohio delegation to answer logistical questions, update with programming and caucus meetings, and foster excitement in our Ohio attendees. While at the conference, we used this same chat to coordinate attendance at key stage events, breakout sessions, resolution writing sessions, and caucus meetings.

Because Olivia had never written a resolution before, I took care both prior to and during the conference to impart as much knowledge as I could about the policy process – from writing a resolution, to supplying testimony at hearings, to next steps after a resolution is adopted at this level. I knew she was also applying for the AAFP Student Delegate role, so I made this a priority in addition to nominating her for the position that she ultimately was voted into. She adapted wonderfully, drawing on her experiences and convictions, and know that she will excel in her new role at the future AAFP Congress of Delegates.

For writing resolutions, I supplied Olivia with a spreadsheet that she could use to help draft her resolution – one that I used for my work within the AMA. I supplied testimony at reference committee and before the Student Congress in support of her resolution, “Opposing Training at Crisis Pregnancy Centers” which ultimately passed after extraction. I co-authored a resolution from the Minnesota delegation, drawing on my experience with the President of ANAMS and the AMA-MSS Committee on American Indian Affairs entitled “Increasing Visibility of Native and Indigenous Communities Within the AAFP”. I also authored a resolution “Alleviating Housing Insecurity Through Medical Education and Policy Guidance”. Both of these resolutions were adopted. I still correspond with the delegations from Minnesota and Pennsylvania and am working with them to co-lead advocacy and resolution workshops within their FMIGs.

As chair of Student Reference Committee #3, I lead a team of AAFP committee leaders in reviewing resolutions. I lead the resolution hearings and facilitated testimony by authors, supporters, and opposition to resolutions and with the help of staff, integrated it into arguments for AAFP decision. I had spent several hours the evening before and evening of combing through prior AAFP policy to help facilitate the closed discussion session. To our credit, we were the last reference committee to begin in the schedule, but the first to finish due to our efficiency and pre-work.

Finally, I was able to network with various members/leadership and supplied the nomination for the AAFP's current BoD Student Member, Richard Easterling. I had previously expressed interest in applying for a AAFP committee position, which I originally wanted to advance into the BoD Student Member position at the 2023 NC. If not this, then I'd still like to pursue one of the other AAFP leadership offerings in 2023. Overall, I had a very rewarding, if not incredibly, busy experience – I treasure all the people I had the opportunity to meet and continue to maintain relationships with!

