**Association of Departments of Family Medicine-ADFM**

**Advocacy Committee Charge**

*Approved November 11, 2022; discussed and revised with input from members*

**Background:** Family medicine departments are uniquely poised to promote the health of individuals, families and communities, and to provide optimal learning and working environments for trainees, faculty and staff. Family medicine departments can advocate to address challenges that affect the health of our patients such as access to affordable primary health care, racism, economic, social and health inequities, climate change, the Covid-19 pandemic and other emerging health issues.

**Mission:** The ADFM Advocacy Committee (AC) was convened to ***build family medicine department members’ capacities to promote effective advocacy.***

***Goal: Enhance family medicine departments’ advocacy efforts to improve the health and well-being of patients, and to support trainees, faculty and institutions to address societal challenges that affect health.*** The AC will focus its resources on departments’ priorities to achieve the goals of patient care, education and research.

**Relationships:** ADFM is a member of the Council of Academic Family Medicine (CAFM) which includes the STFM, AFMRD, and NAPCRG. CAFM the AAFP and ABFM comprise the Academic Family Medicine Advocacy Committee (AFMAC). The AC aims to enhance but not to replicate advocacy efforts of individual and organizational partners. Hope Wittenberg serves as Director of Government Relations for CAFM and as advisor to the ADFM AC. Hope has plans to retire at the end of 2022. Nina Dejonghe has been selected as her successor.

**Members:** Cindy Haq, Committee Chair, Jacob Prunuske, Elizabeth Wilson, Hope Wittenberg, Tochi Iroku-Malize, Reid Blackwelder, Jehni Robinson, Wayne Altman, Michelle Roett, Elissa Palmer, Joseph Gravel, Allen Perkins, Jennifer Edgoose, Parastou Farhadian,

Felisha C Rohan-Minjares; Staff: Amanda Weidner, Sam Elwood and Jessie Vera

**Target Audience:** Family medicine department chairs, faculty and leaders.

**SMART Goals: Action Steps (will revise the following after we finalize our new SMART goals)**

1. **Build a communication strategy within ADFM and for strengthening advocacy relationships across CAFM, AFMAC and AAMC**
   1. Communicate regularly distribute ‘advocacy alerts’ to ADFM members; amplify policy alerts; contribute to quarterly ADFM newsletter work with key partners to develop position statements as needed based on priorities or urgent issues
   2. Consider new policy statements - eg. climate change and human health
   3. Ask AFMAC reps to report back to promote bidirectional communication/feedback loops
2. **Train leaders and share advocacy resources among departments.**
   1. Activate ADFM member departments for advocacy through training, resources and fostering coalitions.
   2. Develop a template to guide advocacy; post on website by end of 2022.
   3. Share resources, collect stories, examples and best practices on website by end of 2022.