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

**Advocacy Committee Charge**

*Draft Jan 19, 2021; 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, global warming, 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.*** 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.

**Members:** Cindy Haq, Committee Chair, Elizabeth Wilson, Jacob Prunuske, Allen Perkins, Elissa Palmer, Hope Wittenberg, Tochi Iroku-Malize, Reid Blackwelder, Jehni Robinson, Wayne Altman, Michelle Roett, Joseph Gravel, Steven K Rothschild; Staff: Amanda Weidner, Sam Elwood and Jessie Vera

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

**SMART Goals: Action Steps**

**Assess and Respond to ADFM Advocacy Priorities**

1. Identify and support advocacy needs of departments: identify priorities at 2021 meeting
2. Review and respond to legislative or advocacy asks from ADFM Executive Committee: develop decision tree for advocacy requests similar to STFM
3. Write or contribute to position statements based on priorities or urgent issues: write, post and disseminate

**Network, Outreach and Training:**

1. Build relationships among ADFM members for advocacy across CAFM, AFMAC and AAMC: write or call key leaders with introduction and invitation to collaborate
2. Activate ADFM member departments for advocacy: provide training through webinars and/or conduct advocacy workshop at ADFM annual meeting in 2022: develop template to guide advocacy; post on website
3. Share resources for advocacy efforts of departments: collect stories, examples and best practices on website
4. Communicate regularly: distribute ‘advocacy alerts’ to ADFM members; amplify policy alerts; contribute to quarterly ADFM newsletter