



LOUISIANA ACADEMY
of FAMILY PHYSICIANS



2025-26 ANNUAL REPORT



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Ragan LeBlanc
Executive Vice President



My fellow physicians,

Thank you for your continued dedication to the Louisiana Academy of Family Physicians (LAFP), your unwavering commitment to patient care, and the many ways you improve the health and well-being of communities across Louisiana. Your service, leadership, and compassion embody the very best of family medicine, and it has been a privilege to represent such an exceptional membership.

Over the past year, the LAFP has continued advancing the goals of our strategic plan through high-quality continuing medical education (CME) programs, performance improvement initiatives, leadership development opportunities, and efforts to engage, mentor, and inspire the next generation of family physicians. We have also remained a strong advocate for our members at the Louisiana legislature, championing policies that support physicians, reduce barriers to care, and improve health outcomes for the patients and communities we serve.

As healthcare continues to evolve, family physicians remain uniquely positioned to meet the changing needs of patients and communities. The LAFP is committed to ensuring you have the resources, support, and opportunities necessary to thrive in this dynamic environment.

The LAFP Board of Directors remains focused on delivering exceptional member value through innovative programs, meaningful benefits, and the responsible stewardship of Academy resources. Most importantly, we are committed to listening to our members and responding to your needs.

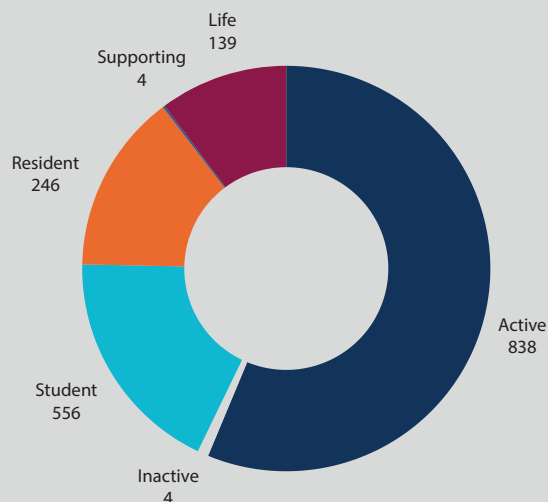
Thank you for the trust you place in the LAFP and for the extraordinary work you do every day. Together, we are strengthening family medicine, improving the health of Louisianans, and shaping a brighter future for our profession.

Thank you for being a champion of family medicine and for helping define what is possible for the future of our specialty.

Ragan LeBlanc



MEMBERSHIP



The LAFP proudly supports more than 1,700 members, including practicing physicians, residents, and students. By connecting them to discounted CME, practice management resources, career support, and networking opportunities, the LAFP meets members at every stage of their career; giving tools, community, and support they need to thrive in family medicine. Our promise is to serve as the voice of family medicine in Louisiana and beyond, without raising your dues!

Member Benefits Include:

- State and national leadership opportunities
- Subscriptions to the print and digital quarterly journal, *Louisiana Family Doctor* and the weekly e-newsletter, *Weekly Family Medicine Update*
- Free and reduced cost educational programming including clinical webinars, membership events, and programs that celebrate the specialty of family medicine
- Legislative policymaking and advocacy activities, including representation at the Louisiana Capitol by our contract lobbyist
- Scholarship opportunities for longitudinal leadership development
- Social Media: Facebook, Instagram, X, LinkedIn and YouTube
- Access to resources to help you thrive throughout your family medicine journey
- And much more!



PATHWAYS

The LAFP supports advancements that strengthen Louisiana's family medicine workforce through policy, member outreach, and strategic initiatives across the state. Specialized programming designed to demonstrate the value of the specialty to students and residents includes on-campus mentorship events and leadership development opportunities through FUTURE.

Today's family medicine residents and medical students are the future of the specialty and for this reason, the LAFP recognizes the importance of cultivating future primary care leaders of medicine. Since 2015, Louisiana has greatly increased its number of family medicine programs, positions offered, and applicants matched. Louisiana has grown from 11 programs, 69 positions, and 61 matched applicants in 2015, to the following numbers reported in the 2026 Match:

- **16** family medicine residency programs participated
- **93** family medicine positions were offered
- **77** applicants matched to Louisiana family medicine positions

Specialized programming geared to impress the value of the specialty on students and residents include on-campus mentorship events, leadership development opportunities at FUTURE: the National Conference for the Future of Family Medicine. Expect more student and resident engagement opportunities in 2027!

ADVOCACY

Whether it's at the Louisiana State Capitol or in the halls of the federal government, The LAFP's voice for family medicine is working on your behalf.

Over the past year, the LAFP has tracked 256 bills and taken a position on 61 of them, each in line with the Academy's established policy priorities. The LAFP has also submitted letters and testified during the session to support these efforts.

To keep members informed and engaged in the legislative process, the LAFP maintains an active Bill Tracker, available to all members. The LAFP also travels to family medicine residency programs across the state to provide advocacy education to future physicians.



COMMUNICATIONS



The LAFP's communication channels are second to none, providing members with timely, relevant, and engaging information through multiple platforms. These resources include the *Louisiana Family Doctor*, a quarterly publication available in both print and digital formats; the *Weekly Family Medicine Update* (WFMU), a trusted weekly e-newsletter; active engagement across three social media platforms; and a comprehensive, user-friendly website.

Through these communication vehicles, the LAFP delivers up-to-date medical news, emerging clinical trends, advocacy updates, practice management resources, and member-focused information that keeps family physicians informed, connected, and empowered. Whether accessing information through print, digital, social media, or mobile technology, LAFP members benefit from a robust communication network that supports their professional growth and strengthens their connection to the family medicine community across Louisiana.

- WFMU Issues: **50**
- Monthly Website Views: **4,300**
Monthly Website Users: **1,900**
- Member Authored Articles in the *Louisiana Family Doctor*: **24**
- Total Social Media Followers: **1,376**



EDUCATION



The LAFP offers members a full calendar of live, virtual, and archived educational programming throughout the year. In-person events include the Resident and Student Procedure Workshops, the Annual Assembly, and the Family Medicine Grand Rounds, while the virtual offerings include the educational webinars. An archive of recorded webinars covers timely topics from AI in clinical practice, to residency innovation and practice-readiness.

In all, the LAFP offered members a total of 39.0 CME credits, reflecting its continued commitment to equipping family physicians with the knowledge needed to deliver high-quality, evidence-based care. Physician volunteers utilized member forums and surveys to advance the LAFP's strategic, educational priorities with the goal to provide high-quality programs in 2026.

Check the LAFP's Calendar of Events for full details on CME programming and more!

LEADERSHIP

Thank you to our elected officers, Board of Directors, and the many dedicated members who generously volunteer their time, talents, and expertise through LAFP committees, workgroups, and taskforces. Your leadership, insight, and unwavering commitment help shape the direction of our Academy and strengthen our ability to serve family physicians and the patients they care for across Louisiana.

AAFP's National Conference of Constituency Leaders (NCCL)

Louisiana Delegates

- Richard Bridges MD, FAAFP – International Medical Graduate Physician Representative
- Edith Mbagwu, MD – BIPOC Physician Representative
- Danielle Pawlichuk, MD – New Physician Representative
- Julie Scott, MD – Woman Physician Representative

AAFP National Congress of Family Medicine Residents (NCFMR)

- Christian Bonner, MD – Delegate
- Alyssa Breedlove, DO – Alternate Delegate; NCFMR Election Committee Member

AAFP National Congress of Student Members (NCSM)

- Michael Crick – Delegate
- Humza Chaudhry – Alternate Delegate

2026 AAFP Award for Excellence in Graduate Medical Education

- Sodiq Adebeshin, MBBS, Chief Resident
- Shantasia Jackson, DO, Chief Resident

AAFP 2026 Emerging Leadership Institute Scholar

- Christian Bonner, MD
- Yashwanth Ramineni Damodhar, MD - Philanthropic and Mission-Driven Leadership

AAFP 2026 Congress of Delegates (COD)

Louisiana Delegates and Alternates

- Brian Harrell, MD, FAAFP – Delegate
- James Taylor, MD, FAAFP – Delegate
- Richard Bridges, MD, FAAFP – Alternate Delegate
- Vincent Shaw, MD, FAAFP – Alternate Delegate

AAFP Commissions

- Ronnie Slipman, MD, FAAFP – Commission on Membership and Member Services
- Rade Pejic, MD - Commission on Quality and Practice
- Christopher Van Hise, MD - Commission on Federal and State Policy

LAFP Awards

The LAFP recognized the following members in 2026:

- Brian Doss, MD – Resident Award of Excellence Award
- Byron Jasper, MD, MPH – LAFP Family Physician of the Year Award
- Kirsten Johnson – E. Edward Martin, Jr., MD Family Medicine Award
- Catherine Thibodeaux – LSU-New Orleans Gerald R. Gehringer Family Medicine Award
- London Todd – LSU-Shreveport Michael O. Fleming, MD Family Medicine Award
- Jessica Tran – Tulane Family Medicine Excellence Award



PARTNERS IN FAMILY MEDICINE

The LAFP Partners in Family Medicine program is an online resource that connects LAFP members to partnering organizations. These organizations provide patient education and high-value tools designed to support family physicians and their care teams in delivering optimal frontline care.

- Ochsner Health
- TMF Health Quality Institute

**Thank you to our partners for
making a commitment to
family medicine in Louisiana.**

