

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**AAFP Foundation Announces 2022 Scholars for Family Medicine Leads Emerging Leader Institute**  
Leawood, Kan. — As the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Foundation looks to the future, identifying emerging leaders in the specialty remains a top priority, along with providing the extensive training these scholars need to successfully move family medicine forward.

The year-long Family Medicine Leads Emerging Leader Institute answers the need. The 2022 class, representing the specialty’s diverse communities and interests, is comprised of 30 select scholars from around the country (see full list on next page).

“We’re excited to welcome these outstanding residents and medical students to the Emerging Leader Institute,” says David R. Smith, MD, MPH, FAAFP, and president of the AAFP Foundation Board of Trustees. “These scholars have demonstrated tremendous leadership potential, and we look forward to providing special mentoring and educational opportunities to help them grow.”

Selected students receive a \$1,000 scholarship to attend the AAFP National Conference of Family Medicine Residents and Medical Students and can continue learning and networking after the conference through additional Institute programming.

“As Vince Lombardi famously said, ‘Leaders aren’t born – they’re made,’” Smith says. “Through this annual leadership program, we help ensure that family medicine remains strong and viable for generations to come.”

### How It Works

Funded by family physician donors, the Emerging Leader Institute identifies and trains family medicine residents and medical students who have shown a historical aptitude and strong leadership potential but have little formal leadership training or experience. Over the course of one year, the scholars work with a mentor to complete a leadership project related to one of three tracks: Policy & Public Health Leadership, Personal & Practice Leadership, and Philanthropic & Mission-Driven Leadership. At the end of the program, the projects are evaluated and select scholars are given an additional \$1,000 award to present their work at the next National Conference. One Best Leadership Project Award is named for each track, and receives an additional \$3,000, supporting the scholar’s participation in a designated major event related to the track.

### About the AAFP Foundation

The Foundation serves as the philanthropic arm of the American Academy of Family Physicians. Its mission is to advance family medicine through philanthropy, using humanitarian, educational, and scientific programming to improve health.

**The AAFP Foundation Proudly Announces the 2022 Scholars for the Family Medicine Leads Emerging Leader Institute:**

Anita Albanese	PGY1	University of Utah Health Family Medicine Residency
Norman Archer	M3	UCSF School of Medicine
Nathalia Arias Alzate	PGY2	Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School
Berenitze Balladares	M4	Michigan State University College of Human Medicine
Elise Blaseg	PGY1	St. Mark's Family Medicine Residency
Jessica Cerdena	M4	Yale School of Medicine
Nicholas DeVetter	PGY1	A.T. Still University Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine
Tam Du	M3	University of California, Riverside School of Medicine
Morgan Finegan	M2	Keck School of Medicine at University of Southern California
Kristy Hansen	M2	William Carey University College of Osteopathic Medicine
Angelica Johnsen	M4	UCLA/Charles R. Drew Medical Education Program
Yvonne Kamau	PGY2	Ascension St. Vincent's Family Medicine Residency Program
Makayla Lagerman	M3	Penn State College of Medicine
Arden LaGrone	M4	LSU New Orleans School of Medicine
Tameka Lawrence	M3	Ross University School of Medicine
Caryssa Lim	M3	Kaiser Permanente Bernard J. Tyson School of Medicine
Rafay Nasir	M2	Penn State College of Medicine
Caitlin Parke	M4	University of Arizona College of Medicine-Phoenix
Aerial Petty	PGY2	New York Presbyterian-Columbia University Family Medicine Residency Program
Thomas Ritter	PGY1	Medical College of Wisconsin
Jason Rivera	PGY2	University of Colorado Family Medicine Residency
Lillian Rolfe	M4	Rush University Medical College
Nicolle Siegart	PGY2	University of Washington Family Medicine Residency
Smita Sinha	PGY2	Institute for Family Health, Mid-Hudson Program
Nirupamaa Sivanushanthan	PGY1	Kaiser Permanente Sacramento FM Residency Program
Hannah Spotts	M3	Penn State College of Medicine
Ian Thomas	PGY2	McLaren St. Luke's Family Medicine
Ksenia Varlyguina	M2	Penn State College of Medicine-University Park
Ruth Watson	M4	Georgetown University School of Medicine
Tiffany Zai	M4	Touro University California