

Make #GivingTuesday Rewarding for You AND Family Medicine - Fall PAC eNews

1 message

Family Physicians Political Action Committee

<fppac@familydocs.org>

Reply-To: Family Physicians Political Action Committee <fppac@familydocs.org>



Dear Colleague:

Do you believe the **tremendous uncertainty in health care right now is hurting** patients, physicians and anyone who cares about health?

Do you believe that the only way to change this is to **elect legislators who truly understand the importance of primary care and family medicine?**

We at the Family Physicians Political Action Committee (FP-PAC) believe **family medicine is the answer to our health care system's problems** and everyone running for office or re-election needs to hear from us.

If you believe what we believe, please consider [contributing to our cause](#) TODAY on #GivingTuesday. **FP-PAC can't help elect family medicine champions without your support.**

2018 will be an incredibly important election year. In the last election, FP-PAC helped elect more than 20 family medicine champions. Having family medicine advocates in the State Legislature meant: more than 20 legislators who knew the importance of increased access for Medi-Cal patients **and improved payment** for Medi-Cal providers; legislators who championed and supported the Song-Brown Physician Training Program that **protects primary care residency programs** treating underserved populations; legislators who know that family physicians need to be **unburdened from the mountains of administrative work** being thrust upon them.

FP-PAC must hit the ground running on the first day of the new year. To help reward our end-of-year donors, we added an extra incentive. Anyone who contributes **at the Gold level (\$250) or above, between now and the end of 2017, will enter a raffle to win a new special edition FP-PAC iPad or Apple Watch!** At this critical time of great change in our health care system, there is no better time to give.



[CLICK HERE TO CONTRIBUTE](#)

Sincerely,

Carla Kakutani, MD
FP-PAC President



FP-PAC NEWS

FP-PAC Hosts Re-Election Event for Asm. Arambula



FP-PAC recently sponsored a fundraiser for Assemblymember Joaquin Arambula, MD (far right), at the home of CAFP Fresno Chapter President Raul Ayala, MD. This is by far the most powerful type of event in which FP-PAC participates: more than a dozen family physicians garnering the undivided attention of one of the most important decision-makers in the state. The group spoke for more than two hours about how they could work with Asm. Arambula to improve the health of Californians, particularly those in the Central Valley.

Assemblymember Arambula is an emergency room physician at Adventist Hospital in Selma and serves as a mentor for the UCSF Fresno Doctor's Academy, which encourages local students to enter health care professions. He brings his medical training and unique experience to the committees on which he serves, including the Assembly Business and Professions Committee, which weighs in on all scope of practice expansion legislation. He also chairs the Assembly Budget Subcommittee on Health and Human Services. FP-PAC is a strong supporter of his re-election and thanks Dr. Ayala and his spouse, Dr. Kelly Ayala, for generously opening their home to us.



FP-PAC Donor of the Month



The FP-PAC November Donor of the Month is Sunny Pak, MD! Each FP-PAC Donor of the Month has shown continuous support for our efforts through contributions and by being active at local FP-PAC events. [Find out more](#) about how Dr. Pak has demonstrated his commitment to family medicine advocacy.

Contributing to FP-PAC Is Very “Rewarding!”

[Who will the next winner be?!?](#)



As we mentioned earlier, FP-PAC is pulling out all the stops to ensure family medicine champions are elected, but we need your help! Please consider contributing at the Gold Level or above before the end of the year and you could win a new iPad or Apple Watch! This is your chance to join past winners Scott Nass, MD (left) and Chris Swales, MD (right)!

Family medicine's message to candidates and legislators will be drowned out by the interests of other political action committees unless we have your financial support. FP-PAC is the ONLY bipartisan political organization in California whose sole mission is to promote family physicians and family medicine in our state.

[DONATE NOW!](#)

FP-PAC EVENTS

It is FP-PAC's mission to ensure policymakers are aware of family medicine's priorities and to help elect those who will further our cause. Thanks to all of our members and contributors who took time out of their busy schedules to deliver FP-PAC's message at events and represented FP-PAC at fundraisers. Haven't had a chance to attend an event? [Contact us](#) to let us know you're interested.

Out to the Ball Game with Senator de León



At the heart of FP-PAC's work is connecting family physicians with legislators to support their elections and build relationships. Jeffrey Luther, MD had such an opportunity in March when he met and began to build a relationship with Senate President Pro Tem Kevin De León (D – Los Angeles) while attending [CAFP's All Member Advocacy Meeting](#). Dr. Luther followed up this initial meeting by representing FP-PAC at a fundraiser supporting Senator de León at a Dodgers game. Joined by Daniel Pio, MD, MBA, this was an amazing opportunity to share FP-PAC's message over the course of a baseball game with the second most powerful elected official in California!

FPs Enjoy Chez Panisse with Asm. Thurmond

FP-PAC sent a contingent of family physicians to join Assemblymember Tony Thurmond (D – Richmond) at a special September birthday celebration hosted at the legendary Alice Waters eatery, Chez Panisse, in Berkeley. Pictured left to right are Drs. Kristin Moeller, Jeremy Fish and Nwando Olayiwola, together with Asm. Thurmond (center). This is the second time Dr. Olayiwola has represented FP-PAC at an event for Asm. Thurmond, strengthening the relationship between family physician and legislator. After the event, she noted, "Assemblyman Thurmond shared a powerful story of his own background, from humble beginnings and relying on public services for most of his life. His platform, as he transitions from Assemblyman to State Superintendent, is to make California the #1 state for education once again, and he aims to do this through expanding school-based mental health services, quality nutrition in the school, school attendance programs and teacher support services, as well as much more. His passion has great parallels with the work of CAFP and what we believe as family physicians – by addressing wellness and prevention at young ages and making that connection between education and health, we can nurture and sustain healthy and vibrant populations."



BBQ, Baseball and Boating on the Bay

FP-PAC sent representatives to a record-number of other September fundraising events. Fourth-year medical student Devesh Vashishtha and Joe Leonard, MD got things started when they attended Assemblymember Shirley Weber's (D – San Diego) Birthday BBQ Bash in San Diego. FP-PAC Chair Carla Kakutani, MD joined Asm. Cecilia Aguiar-Curry (D – Napa) at a private in-district event, her third time showing up to support her local legislator. FP-PAC also made a contribution to the re-election campaign of Asm. Jim Wood (D – Healdsburg), Chair of the Assembly Health Committee. Mr. Vashishta attended two additional events for FP-PAC this month. He joined Asm. Lorena Gonzalez Fletcher (D – San Diego) at a Padres baseball game (left), where he found the opportunity both enjoyable and productive. "We talked one-on-one for a good 20-30 minutes about primary care, health policy and my experiences in medical school!" Mr. Vashishta also joined Patrick Yassini, MD (a private practice family physician in Coronado) and Aaron Edelstein, MD (a Permanente family physician) at an event supporting Asm. Brian Maienschien (R - San Diego). The event featured a cruise around the bay during which the doctors thanked him for supporting strong primary care and family medicine in California.



It is very important that legislative leaders hear from members who are in various stages of their medical careers, from student to resident to early-career or long-practicing physician. The issues faced by each are different and every voice and perspective needs to be heard. For this reason, FP-PAC tries to send a diverse group of doctors, students and residents to represent us at events.

FPs Show Up to Support Longtime Allies

Kate Kearns, MD (left) recently attended a dinner at Vista Ranch & Cellars to benefit Assemblymember Adam Gray (D – Merced). Named CAFP's 2016 Family Medicine Champion, Asm. Gray is a longtime primary care supporter in the Central Valley and serves on the Assembly Appropriations Committee. FP-PAC was also delighted to send Kay Nelson, MD, Karen Grossmun, MD and her daughters to a gathering supporting pediatrician and Senator Richard Pan, MD (right). Senator Pan chairs the powerful Senate Budget Subcommittee on Health and Human Services and is an incredible champion of primary care. We are proud of the major battles he has waged to support physicians and protect patients and honored to support both of these legislators' re-election campaigns.



On the Green with Assemblymember Ting



CAFP Director of Government Relations Adam Francis (right) had the opportunity to discuss the importance of supporting health care in the State Budget with Assemblymember Phil Ting (D – San Francisco) over and after a round of golf in August. Mr. Francis lives in the Assemblymember's district and FP-PAC has been a longtime supporter of his campaigns. Asm. Ting brings his expertise and primary care support to the Assembly Budget Committee, which he chairs. The State Budget has been an incredibly important avenue through which to support patients and primary care in recent years.

FM Residents Represent at Asm. Bonta Event

Family medicine residents Adia Scrubb, MD and Tiffany Cho, MD discussed the importance of behavioral health services funding during a recent fundraiser supporting Assemblymember Rob Bonta (D – Alameda) at Drake's Brewing Company. Brent Sugimoto, MD, (right) a member of CAFP's new Member Engagement Committee, was also in attendance. Not pictured but also lending their support were Drs. Jeremy Fish, Christina Chavez-Johnson, Peter Swann and Kristin Moeller.



FP-PAC Protects Landmark Malpractice Law



FP-PAC representatives from across the state work to ensure that legislators understand the importance of California's landmark medical liability law, the [Medical Injury Compensation Reform Act \(MICRA\)](#). MICRA ensures patient access to health care providers by limiting growth in medical malpractice premiums and discouraging frivolous lawsuits against physicians. FP-PAC actively supports the leading MICRA defender in the state – Californians Allied for Patient Protection (CAPP). Stephanie Scott, MD recently attended a CAPP event for Assemblymember Scott Weiner (D - San Francisco) to ensure his awareness of the importance of MICRA.

Thank You, 2017 Contributors!

Help strengthen family medicine's voice in California; join your growing number of colleagues and chapters that have already given in 2017 and contribute to FP-PAC today!

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