

# Family Physicians Continue to Break Records!

1 message

## Family Physicians Political Action Committee

<fppac@familydocs.org>

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



Dear Colleague:

I want to start the year off with a HUGE thank you to our 2017 donors for their support of the Family Physicians Political Action Committee (FP-PAC). Thanks to your generosity, FP-PAC broke all historic giving records this year! Together, we raised **\$68,752** from a cumulative **253 donations**. This incredible support will allow us to participate in more campaigns and make a big difference for those candidates who truly support family medicine.

In addition, your support allows me to leave on a high note! This will be my last newsletter message to you as I term off the FP-PAC Board after eight years. I can't tell you how inspiring your political giving has been to me – to see SO MANY family physicians stand behind our political action committee – sending a tremendous signal to candidates and politicians throughout the state that family physicians are a force to be reckoned with! When we act as one, we are so much more powerful!

Some of you may not know, but I was on the CAFPP Board of Directors in 2003 when we debated whether or not to start a PAC. I'm embarrassed, but, at the time, I wasn't supportive initially. I thought wearing the white hat would be enough for us to achieve our goals. However, I've come to realize that even if you're on the side of the angels, your voice will be drowned out in our current system if you don't back up your message with money. That's the reality. Along the way, I've also learned that our presence as a 'real doctor' is so valuable and rare that it makes an impression on legislators. In the course of my tenure as Chair, I hope I have passed on these lessons to others. I appreciate all you have done to support me and our work. I am proud of our accomplishments and look forward to supporting the FP-PAC's continued growth and influence!

As my final action, I am honored to thank our 2017 donors who made my last year such an historic one. Thank you all, from the bottom of my heart.

Carla Kakutani, MD  
Outgoing Chair, FP-PAC Board of Directors



## Thank You, 2017 Contributors!

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\* Our apologies to anyone left off the list – please let us know and we will make sure you are added.

Contribute to FP-PAC in 2018

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## FP-PAC NEWS

### Thank You, Carla! Welcome, Jay!

Our esteemed colleague and fellow FP-PAC Board member, Jay W. Lee, MD, MPH, FAAFP, has graciously agreed to serve as our new FP-PAC Chair and was voted into his role at the January meeting of the CAFP Board of Directors. Dr. Lee is a past CAFP president and longtime FP-PAC supporter; he has represented us at political fundraisers and legislative meetings, bringing a wealth of advocacy and CAFP leadership experience with him to his new role. We are grateful for his commitment to serve and look forward to a fruitful partnership advocating for the values we share! He wanted to let Carla know how thankful he is for her leadership. “During her tenure as Chair, Carla served as the epitome of a family medicine champion and we are eternally grateful for her many years of advocacy and ongoing support. Her phenomenally generous contributions, countless hours attending political fundraisers and tireless dedication to educating politicians and other family physicians about the issues and the need for advocacy are beyond compare. She has partnered with you, our amazing donors, to shape FP-PAC into the force that it is today, ensuring family physicians have a seat at the table when consequential decisions are made. I am humbled and honored to attempt to continue the great work you have done with her.”



#### **Get to Know Jay**

**1. Where do you practice?**

Venice Family Clinic in Venice, CA

**2. What brought you to political advocacy?**

A realization there is only so much we can do at the distal end of the delivery system to make real change happen. We must move upstream.

**3. Best advocacy memory/moment?**

Speaking on the south lawn of the U.S. Capitol for a press conference to protect health coverage for our patients.

**4. Best Sacramento restaurant?**

Ella

**5. And the Oscar goes to....**

As the father of three little ones, who knows?

## And the iPad Raffle Winner Is...



Last fall, FP-PAC announced its third iPad/Apple Watch giveaway of the year! Anyone who contributed to FP-PAC at the Gold Level or above (\$250 or more) between October 1, 2017 and the end of the year had a chance to win. Congratulations to Dr. Erika Schillinger of the San Mateo Chapter for being our latest winner!

## 2017 Top Regional Contributors

After months of fierce competition, we can announce the Top Regional Contributor Award of 2017! Each region across the state really stepped up last year and we had more individual and chapter contributors than ever! Congratulations to the Sacramento-El Dorado-Yolo Chapters who take this award for the very first time, beating longtime champion Los Angeles. Sacramento was a force to be reckoned with, raising just shy of \$12,000! After that, it was nearly a four-way tie among the next few chapters (all listed below). Will Los Angeles reclaim the Top Dog title next year, or will Fresno, San Francisco, North Bay or Orange catch them in 2018? All of the runners up were separated by just a few donations from one another! [Contribute today](#) to help your region get a head start on the 2018 competition!



1. **Sacramento-El Dorado-Yolo (TOP CONTRIBUTOR)**
2. **Los Angeles**
3. **Monterey-San Benito-Santa Cruz**
4. **San Diego**
5. **Alameda-Contra Costa**

[CLICK HERE TO CONTRIBUTE](#)

## FP-PAC Donor of the Month



February's Donor of the Month is **Brent Sugimoto, MD, MPH!** 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. Please [click here to find out more](#) about how Dr. Sugimoto has demonstrated his commitment to family medicine advocacy.

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# **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. Haven't had a chance to attend an event? [Contact us](#) to let us know you're interested. With midterm elections right around the corner, it is critical to get our word out!

## **FP-PAC Joins Forces with CAPP**

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. As part of our efforts, FP-PAC actively supports the leading MICRA defender in the state, Californians Allied for Patient Protection (CAPP). Family physician Jose Arevalo, MD, FAAFP recently attended a CAPP Sacramento event for Senate President pro Tem-Elect Toni G. Atkins (D-San Diego) to ensure her awareness of the importance of MICRA. Senator Atkins already has a strong relationship with the family physicians in her community and we look forward to strengthening those bonds as she moves into her new role as the leader of the Senate. Dr. Arevalo noted, "I was able to speak to the Senator and express CAPP's desire to get Governor Brown to do the right thing with Prop 56. She told me that she recently met with CAPP and spoke about this and it is on her plate."



## **FPs Join Reception for Senator Ricardo Lara**

Ana Melgar, MD and Jeffrey Luther, MD, FAAFP attended a reception in Los Angeles for Senator Ricardo Lara (D-Long Beach) as he raised funds for his campaign to become the next Insurance Commissioner. The Insurance Commissioner makes many important decisions that can affect family physicians throughout the state. It is important he is very aware of our issues. "Dr. Melgar and I spoke to him a bit and I talked at length with his Long Beach staffer about getting the Senator to come visit the residency program sometime soon, as his district office is just a couple miles from us," said Dr. Luther. As Program Director for the Long Beach Memorial Family Medicine Residency Program, Dr. Luther knows a tour of the residency will provide Senator Lara the opportunity to get an up-close look at their work and issues of concern to family physicians, residents and their patients.

Your support ensures FP-PAC representatives can attend these types of events, raise awareness and build important relationships.





## **UPCOMING FP-PAC EVENTS**

**All Member Advocacy Meeting March 10 - 11 and Lobby Day March 12**



Want to be #FamilyMedicineFierce? [Register FOR FREE for CAFP's All Member Advocacy Meeting and Lobby Day](#). It all kicks off on March 10 at The Citizen Hotel in Sacramento. The CAFP discounted room rate is no longer available and the hotel IS ALMOST COMPLETELY OUT OF ROOMS! Please [make your hotel reservation AS SOON AS POSSIBLE](#). At the All Member Advocacy Meeting, family physicians, residents and medical students will head to the State Capitol to learn about hot-button issues in California health care; hear from experts and legislators; participate in trainings on advocacy, messaging and leadership; and have an amazing time connecting with colleagues. Attendance records were set at the 2017 meeting for a good reason – it was a GREAT event. Don't miss out!

**FP-PAC Annual Donor Reception Sunday Evening, March 11**



On Sunday evening of the All Member Advocacy Meeting, FP-PAC holds its annual FP-PAC Donor Reception at the Citizen Hotel in Sacramento, featuring special legislative guests. Everyone who donates to FP-PAC in 2018 is welcome to attend the reception. If you would like to attend, please [contribute to FP-PAC](#) and then [click here to RSVP](#). The drinks are on us!

