



KANSAS ACADEMY OF  
FAMILY PHYSICIANS  

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CARING FOR KANSANS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**Family Medicine Week is here: June 10-16, 2018**

TOPEKA, Kan. -- Kansas Governor Jeff Colyer, MD officially proclaimed June 10-16, 2018 as FAMILY MEDICINE WEEK in Kansas, during a recent signing ceremony.

The signing of this proclamation recognizes the many ways family physicians serve Kansans. As the cornerstone of primary care for the state, family physicians provide each patient a personal medical home with comprehensive care. Their practices are not limited by age, gender, organ system or type of problem (i.e. behavioral, biological, or social). A family physician's training encompasses recognition of the whole person in the context of the family and their community, emphasizing disease prevention and health promotion. Family physicians are advocates for patients' health across the healthcare system.

Eight members of Kansas Academy of Family Physicians (KAFP) and two staff members gathered at the capitol on May 31 to witness the signing. KAFP's Annual Meeting is June 14-16 to coincide with Family Medicine week. At this conference family physicians gather to earn continuing medical education credits, to recognize outstanding achievements during the last year, to network and to conduct Academy business.

"The Kansas Academy of Family Physicians celebrates its 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary during its Annual Meeting *70 Years Caring for Kansans*, from June 14-16, 2018 – purposely right in the middle of FAMILY MEDICINE WEEK as hundreds of family doctors in Kansas meet to earn quality CME and network with each other." commented President John Feehan, MD, FAAFP, Olathe, Kansas.

Those not directly associated with the Academy recognize the importance of family medicine and the organization representing family physicians in Kansas. Congressman Roger Marshall, MD, representing Kansas District 1, states, "The importance of primary care cannot be understated. As an obstetrician-gynecologist for nearly 30 years, I saw firsthand the negative implications of patients who didn't have a primary care physician managing their health. Family medicine is a vital part of our healthcare system, and I am proud of the strong presence of the Kansas Academy of Family Physicians. Thank you to all of you for your care and service to the health of Kansans."



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Pictured at the proclamation signing ceremony (left to right): Rick Kellerman MD, FAAFP, Wichita, KUSM-W Family & Community Medicine Department Chair; Michelle Corkins, KAFP Deputy Executive Vice President; Chad Johanning MD, FAAFP, Lawrence, KAFP Secretary; Jen McKenney MD, FAAFP, Fredonia, Alternate Delegate to AAFP; John Feehan MD, FAAFP, Olathe, KAFP President; Governor Jeff Colyer, MD; Carolyn Gaughan MSE CAE, Wichita, KAFP Executive Vice President; Margaret Smith MD, MPH, MHSA, FAAFP, Kansas City, KAFP Faculty Director; Graig Nickel MD, FAAFP, Lawrence, KAFP District 6 Director; Belinda Vail MD, FAAFP, Prairie Village, KUSM-KC Department of Family Medicine Chair; and Michael Munger MD, FAAFP, Overland Park, American Academy of Family Physicians President. [Download Photo Here](#)

Here is the text of the Family Medicine Week Proclamation:

*“Whereas, the State of Kansas places a high priority on quality health care for Kansans and recognizes the many dedicated family physicians who deliver primary care and medical treatment for the families of the state; and*

*“Whereas, the Kansas Academy of Family Physicians (KAFP) is the largest medical specialty society in the state of Kansas with over 1,750 members; and*

*“Whereas, the family physicians of Kansas are the cornerstone of primary care for the state who provide each patient a personal medical home with comprehensive care, not limited by age, gender, organ system or type of problem, whether it is biological, behavioral or social; and*

*“Whereas, this care is based on knowledge of the whole person in the context of the family and the community, emphasizing disease prevention and health promotion; and*



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*“Whereas, family physicians are advocates for their patients who accept accountability for quality improvement in their practices and provide high quality care at reasonable cost; and*

*“Whereas, the mission of the Kansas Academy of Family Physicians is to support and serve family physicians of Kansas as they advance the health of Kansans; and*

*“Whereas, KAFP was chartered on May 6, 1948, is celebrating its 70th anniversary, and KAFP members have cared for Kansans for 70 years; and*

*“Whereas, KAFP members provide effective leadership for the greater medical community, with family physician leaders in the Kansas Medical Society, the American Academy of Family Physicians and other medical organizations; and*

*“Whereas, family physicians make outstanding contributions to Kansans’ lives, and their work has been a key to the success of the State’s system of health care; and*

*“Whereas, the ability of physicians to provide continuous, high quality care is benefited by the activities and support of professional organizations such as the KAFP, which holds its Annual Meeting June 14-16, 2018 in our great city of Overland Park, and*

*“Whereas, it is fitting to recognize members of the Academy as they gather to pursue continuing medical education focusing on the work of family physicians and the health care needs of people today and in the future;*

*Now, Therefore, I, Jeff Colyer, M.D., Governor of the State of Kansas, do hereby proclaim the week of June 10-16, 2018 as FAMILY MEDICINE WEEK in the State of Kansas.”*

**About the Kansas Academy of Family Physicians**

Founded in 1948, the KAFP represents 1,760 physicians and medical students statewide. It is the only medical society in Kansas devoted solely to primary care. A family physician takes care of the whole family, all ages, both sexes, each organ system and every disease entity. Research has proven that people with access to primary care have better health outcomes than those who do not. In Kansas, approximately one-half of family physicians practice in non-metropolitan areas. Over 25 percent treat uninsured patients, especially children and families receiving public assistance. The mission of the KAFP is to support and serve family physicians of Kansas as they advance the health of Kansans. For more information visit the KAFP website at [www.kafponline.org](http://www.kafponline.org).

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