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Todd Miller, MD, FAAFP chosen as national recipient of Exemplary Teaching Award winner

LEAWOOD, KANSAS – **Todd Miller, MD, FAAFP** of Wichita, Kansas has been selected by the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Board of Directors as the recipient of the AAFP's 2018 Exemplary Teaching Award in the volunteer category. The award was developed to acknowledge exemplary teaching skills, as well as individuals who have implemented outstanding educational program implementation and/or innovative teaching models. Dr. Miller was honored as the Kansas Exemplary Teaching Award recipient in the volunteer category at Kansas Academy of Family Physicians (KAFP) Annual Meeting on June 15, 2018 and nominated for the national award. He will be recognized during the AAFP Congress of Delegates in New Orleans in October.

In his letter to Dr. Miller, AAFP President, Michael Munger, MD, FAAFP (Overland Park, Kansas) writes: "In your 30-plus years of teaching medical students in your office practice, you have built a reputation as an outstanding family physician role model who goes above and beyond what is expected of a clinical preceptors. You ensure that your students' time with you is valuable providing a supportive environment and exposure to interesting, challenging cases. Your colleagues and medical students laud your extensive clinical knowledge, as well as your unwavering devotion to your patients and your compassionate approach to their care. One of your former students particularly remembers your emphasis on prevention and wellness, noting that she thinks of you whenever she asks patients who present with simple cold symptoms about their smoking status. Throughout your long time service to the Kansas Academy of Family Physicians you have demonstrated the competence, reliability, and trustworthiness that your students respect and admire. Your willingness to make time in your already full clinical schedule to teach medical students clearly shows your dedication to shaping the next generation of family physicians. The Board comments you for your excellence as a family physician and educator."

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Dr. Miller was born and raised in Great Bend, Kansas. He received his undergraduate degree from Fort Hays State University, Hays, Kansas. Dr. Miller earned his medical degree from the University of Kansas School of Medicine and completed his family medicine residency at St. Joseph Medical Center, Wichita. He practiced in Atchison, Kansas from 1984-1987 before joining West Wichita Family Physicians where he has practiced for the last 31 years. Dr. Miller is a Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Family and Community Medicine at the University of Kansas School of Medicine – Wichita.

Here are selected quotes about Dr. Miller's award nomination:

"My time spent with him was eye-opening, educational and so much fun. Without a doubt, Dr. Miller demonstrates the knowledge, commitment, and passion that are integral qualities of an outstanding educator. I learned a lot from Dr. Miller, but I will always remember his emphasis on prevention. He leads by example, living an extremely healthy lifestyle. Seven years after my time with him, I still think of him as I ask a patient who presents with simple cold symptoms about their smoking status. From this, I learned to never miss an opportunity to talk about prevention and wellness."

– Stacey Dimitt, MD (Smith Center)

"In large part, I chose a primary care field because I wanted to have the same impact on my patients' lives as Dr. Miller had on his. I remember being struck by how well he knew his patients and by how much he was a part of their lives. I was moved by the cancer survivor who told me that she was alive because of Dr. Miller. I remember the daughter of an older male patient who had progressing dementia and was losing his independence; Dr. Miller not only helped the patient, but counseled and guided the daughter as she cared for her father. I remember the young lady who opened up to him about her prior sexual trauma. All a testament to the level of trust his patients have in him. What made the biggest impact, however, was his unwavering devotion and care to his patients. He was there for them in whatever capacity they needed. He knew his patients inside and out and cared for them as if they were his own family. His commitment and dedication to his patients is something to aspire to."

– Branden Comfort, MD, MPH (Beloit)

"From the outset, Dr. Miller was an avid and willing teacher. After particular interesting cases he would have me list a differential diagnosis and we would go over it together. This kind of 1-on-1 teaching was extremely valuable to me and I still use many of the thought processes Dr. Miller instilled in me during my rotation. Many of his patients would tell me 'You're learning from the best,' and I quickly realized this wasn't just an empty platitude, it was true. Dr. Miller is an outstanding clinician and he takes the time to make sure students are learning and that the time with him is valuable. Dr. Miller volunteers time from his schedule to provide excellent teaching to medical students. He goes above and beyond what is expected of a clinical preceptor and his teaching was some of the highest caliber education I received throughout my 4 years at KU Medical School." – Cole McGregor (Wichita)

Dr. Miller is the 12th Kansan selected for this prestigious award at the national level. Previous Kansas volunteer faculty selected for the AAFP Exemplary Teaching Award in the volunteer faculty category are:

- 2017 *Stephen Hawks, DO, Wellington
- 2012 *Mary Beth Miller, MD, St. Francis
- 2011 *David Netherton, MD, FAAFP, Wichita



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- 2009 *Barbara Coats, MD, Wichita
- 2008 *Cathy Woodring, MD, Wichita
- 2005 *Larry Anderson, MD, FAAFP, Wellington
- 2003 *Steve Penner, MD, Wichita
- 2001 *C. Joseph O'Donnell, DO, Wichita
- 2000 *Ronald C. Brown, MD, FAAFP, Wichita
- 1999 *Diane Nightengale, MD, FAAFP, El Dorado
- 1998 *Charles Stephens, MD, FAAFP, Minneola

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About the American Academy of Family Physicians

Founded in 1947, the American Academy of Family Physicians represents 131,400 physicians and medical students nationwide, and it is the only medical society devoted solely to primary care.

Family physicians conduct approximately one in five of the total medical office visits in the United States per year – more than any other specialty. Family physicians provide comprehensive, evidence-based, and cost-effective care dedicated to improving the health of patients, families and communities. Family medicine's cornerstone is an ongoing and personal patient-physician relationship where the family physician serves as the hub of each patient's integrated care team. More Americans depend on family physicians than on any other medical specialty.

To learn more about the AAFP and family medicine, visit www.aafp.org/media. Follow us on [Twitter](https://twitter.com)(twitter.com), and like us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com)(www.facebook.com). For information about health care, health conditions and wellness, visit the AAFP's award-winning consumer website, www.familydoctor.org(familydoctor.org).

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.