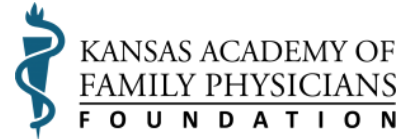


**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## Kansas Academy of Family Physicians Foundation Awards recognize leadership in family medicine students

The Kansas Academy of Family Physicians Foundation has announced the recipients of its signature awards and scholarship, which recognize physicians and students who have demonstrated leadership in family medicine.

They are:

**Carol A. Johnson International Medical Missions Memorial Scholarship:  
Michael Falahat, MD (Via Christi Family Medicine - Wichita)**

Michael Falahat, born and raised in Al-Husun, Jordan, always had a passion for medicine. Despite the challenges that came with pursuing a career in medicine in Jordan he never gave up on his dream. After moving to the United States Falahat faced another obstacle - the language barrier. However, he worked tirelessly to learn English, eventually achieving fluency and graduating from high school, college, and medical school.

Now a doctor, Falahat feels grateful to serve in the Annoor Sanatorium in Mafraq, which is located near the city where he was born. Falahat specializes in treating chest diseases, particularly tuberculosis, at the clinic. He uses his Arabic language skills to connect with patients and provide quality medical care.

Falahat plans to use the scholarship funds to cover essential expenses associated with traveling during an upcoming trip to Jordan.

"This will enable me to make the most of my time and resources while in Jordan, and to provide as much help and support as possible to those who require it," Falahat said.

**Carol A. Johnson International Medical Missions Memorial Scholarship:  
Joy Ogundare, MD (University of Kansas Medical Center - Kansas City)**

Joy Ogundare's interest in traveling, medicine, and serving the underserved led her to pursue international missions. She went on her first mission trip to Nigeria at the age of 15. In high school, she went to Cuba to support local churches and run day camps. As a

pre-med student, she participated in a medical mission trip to the Medical Center of Lubango (CEML) in Angola, Africa.

Ogundare was drawn to CEML because of its mission to treat all people with compassion regardless of their socio-economic status, offer evidence-based medicine to all patients, and educate future leaders in international medicine. Her experience in Angola was fully immersive, where she encountered challenging cases and had to think on her feet. Ogundare said she has found international medicine fulfilling and empowering.

Now a family medicine resident, Ogundare has decided to participate in her program's global health certificate program. She is planning to return to Angola to do international missions. Ogundare plans to use the scholarship funds to support her travel and contribute to much-needed supplies like portable ultrasounds and cardiac probes.

### **Student Leader in Family Medicine: Faith Hampton (KU School of Medicine-Wichita)**

Faith Hampton is dedicated to pursuing full-scope family medicine in a rural community and hopes to grow into a practice that serves all ages with a focus on obstetric care.

"No other specialty offers the variety, depth of relationships, and personal fulfillment of family medicine," Hampton said of her choice to practice family medicine. "The chance to accompany a patient through every stage of life is a special opportunity."

Hampton is committed to making a positive impact through medicine. She is actively involved in community service as the FMIG community service coordinator, volunteering regularly at JayDoc Community Clinic, and forming relationships with local organizations such as the Urban League of Kansas and Ronald McDonald House charities.

Aside from clinical medicine, Hampton hopes to pursue a degree in public health and contribute to the future health of her community and state. Hampton plans to attend a medical institute in Ecuador to gain more clinical experience and further develop her Spanish language skills prior to residency.

### **Student Leader in Family Medicine: Jack Harrigan (KU School of Medicine-Wichita)**

Jack Harrigan is excited about the opportunity to take care of patients of all ages, from all backgrounds, with all types of medical issues. He said he truly believes that primary care from a family physician, especially in rural Kansas, can change the trajectory and quality of patients' lives.

Harrigan is a dedicated and accomplished medical student who has already received recognition for his exceptional work in volunteering at JayDoc Community Clinic and for exemplifying the attributes of a physician. He serves as president of the Family Medicine Interest Group at KU-Wichita for the 2022-2023 term.

He has demonstrated a strong work ethic and a commitment to excellence, earning the

highest grade achievable in his rotation with a pass with distinction, said Tessa Rohrberg, MD.

"Jack exemplifies many characteristics of a leader in family medicine today; he is organized, innovative, respectful, self-directed, and a team player," Rohrberg said.

### **About the Kansas Academy of Family Physicians Foundation**

The Kansas Academy of Family Physicians Foundation is the philanthropic arm of the Kansas Academy of Family Physicians. The Foundation is governed by the volunteer leadership of 12 philanthropically-minded family physicians who comprise the Board of Trustees. Contributions to the Kansas Academy of Family Physicians (KAFP) Foundation benefit the education and advancement of family medicine in Kansas. Making a donation helps fund scholarships and grants for medical students, residents, and practicing family physicians. These resources enable them to attend conferences, receive specialized training, and further their medical education, which ultimately leads to better patient care in Kansas. For more information about the foundation and on how to donate visit [kafponline.org/foundation](http://kafponline.org/foundation).