

Personal Statement: Dennis Jensen, MD, MHA, FAAFP

The KAFP serves as the strongest advocate for family physicians in the state. Having attended medical school at KU and practiced within the state for the past 8 years, I have seen the benefit of having a voice encouraging, engaging, and working on my behalf. Healthcare across the state and country continues to change at a rapid pace. Making sure Kansas's family physicians are equipped to navigate changes in healthcare policy and payment model changes is paramount to the continued provision of excellent primary care in our communities.

I have a passion for educating and leading primary care physicians and advanced practice providers to become better healers through demonstrating and encouraging whole-person care centered on clinical excellence, patient engagement, wise financial stewardship and personal growth. In my current role at Optum, I've had the privilege of interacting with provider groups across the state of Kansas to accomplish these goals. I've noted the challenges seen in our rural health clinics, independent practices and hospital systems, helping them navigate and thrive on the structure of value-based care and the quadruple aim.

As a family physician recently out of practice and now employed in an administrative capacity, the KAFP Board of Directors would gain a diversified voice in determining best solutions to the trials providers face. My experience working in rural private practice, academic, FQHCs and hospital-owned settings allows me to be familiar with the full breadth of membership the Board represents. Most importantly, serving on the board would allow me to give back to both the KAFP and AAFP who have supported me so well on my career journey.