

1 **INDIANA ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS**  
2 **ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**  
3

4 **French Lick, IN**

**July 21, 2017**

5 **Bernard Richard, MD**  
6

7 It has been an honor to serve as your IAFFP President this past year. I had served on the IAFFP Board  
8 of Directors for many years but never imagined that one day I would become President. I was quite  
9 nervous giving my speech at the induction ceremony where I shared with you my story of how I  
10 became a family physician. I truly appreciate the support and encouragement everyone has given  
11 this past year.  
12

13 In August, I attended the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine (STFM) summit to address the  
14 shortage of high quality primary care community preceptors. It was a great meeting. We all worked  
15 hard on solving this very important problem. It was an honor to represent our Indiana AAFP chapter.  
16

17 In September, I attended the ISMA (Indiana State Medical Association) Sport's Committee meeting  
18 along with the Indiana Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (INAAP) and signed a letter to  
19 the IHSAA Board of Directors to ask for a change in their bylaws to allow certification of a  
20 pre-participation physical examination as long as it has been done within the past 365 days between  
21 April 1 and the student's first practice. The hope was to ease the burden imposed by requiring every  
22 student to return for a pre-participation sport's physical team on or after April 1, even if the child  
23 already had a recent physical exam. The idea of changing the status quo did not go over well with the  
24 IHSAA Board of Directors for a number of reasons; many of which were in my opinion valid.  
25 Regardless, I still consider it a success as the letter allowed for good discussion and furthered the  
26 relationship we have with our colleagues at the INAAP and the ISMA. I believe we are at our  
27 strongest when we work together at solving problems.  
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29 In October, I attended the AAFP Congress of Delegates and helped campaign for Windell Stracener,  
30 M.D., who was running for a seat on the AAFP Board of Directors. Though Windell did not win the  
31 seat, he ran a great campaign. I'm happy to announce that he will be running again this year. He is a  
32 great fit for our AAFP Board and I am confident he will do well this year. He is a smart and  
33 compassionate family doctor for whom I'm proud to also call a friend. Also, in October, I attended  
34 Family Medicine Midwest. It was hosted in Indianapolis. I had served on both the host and education  
35 committees. The conference brought together medical students, physicians, and residents from 12  
36 Midwestern states. It was a successful conference for which I was proud to be a part of and hope will  
37 grow.  
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39 In November, I attended the Annual Specialty Society President's meeting. It was a fun evening and  
40 was a great opportunity to meet the Presidents of the other medical specialty societies in our state. I  
41 learned of the problems our colleagues in other specialties were facing. It was also a great  
42 opportunity to share with the other Presidents the priorities and challenges of our specialty of Family  
43 Medicine. Also, in November, I met with several legislators to discuss IAFFP priorities including but not  
44 limited to tobacco tax increase and cessation/public health funding, GME funding, and recommended  
45 changes to the Marian University Primary Care Storage Area Scholarship.  
46

47 In December, a letter was sent to our governor asking him to inform Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy  
48 and other Congressional leaders to recommend that any change in healthcare legislation not cause  
49 currently insured individuals to lose public or private health insurance; protect individuals and families  
50 from discrimination in all health insurance marketplaces and in other insurance products regardless  
51 of their age, race, gender, or medical history; not allow individuals and families to lose Medicaid

1 coverage; and to make certain that Primary care remain a critical and foundational component of any  
2 health care system.

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4 In January I served as Physician of the Day and had a chance to meet with our local legislators to  
5 inform them of the issues important to family medicine.

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7 In February, I attended our Ten State Conference. Here, we were able to network with our  
8 surrounding states and share best practices and discuss the challenges each of our chapters have  
9 been facing.

10  
11 In April, I served as the Minority delegate for the National Conference of Constituency Leaders  
12 (NCCL). I helped write several resolutions and one regarding physician burnout that I'm proud to say  
13 was referred to our AAFP Board for consideration. This meeting is held at the same time as the  
14 Annual Chapter Leadership Forum (ACLF). This allowed me the opportunity to network with  
15 physician leaders from other states.

16  
17 In July, I will be representing our IAFP at a meeting with the Medical Licensing Board of Indiana  
18 regarding SB 226, which limits all opiod prescriptions for children to a 7 day supply, and the first  
19 prescription prescribed by a provider for an opiod for an adult patient to a 7 day supply.

20  
21 In the coming year, I will continue to serve as an advocate for family medicine. I hope you all will  
22 choose to do the same. Consider serving as Physician of the Day at the Indiana statehouse, teach  
23 students, teach residents, volunteer for a commission, consider serving on our Board, donate to our  
24 IAFP Foundation, donate to our IAFP PAC, or come with us to Puerto Rico January 8 - February 4,  
25 2018 where our IAFP will be offering CME at the beautiful La Concha-A Renaissance Resort. I admit,  
26 I was hoping that last recommendation would grab your attention.

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28 In closing, I want to thank you again for this amazing opportunity to serve.

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30 Respectfully submitted,

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32 Bernard Richard, M.D.  
33 President