

Congratulations/Recognition



To residents Josh Eyitemi MD, Chayoung Shoulders DO, Emmanuel Ebhohimen MD, and faculty Tristan Reynolds DO who were awarded best poster for

in-progress research at the 2026 NNE Co-op PCBRN meeting. To alum Bre Glynn DO (FMR '22, ONMM3 '23), named the 2025 Maine State Emerging Leader by the American Osteopathic Foundation and the Maine Osteopathic Association. To faculty Tom Pentzer DO for the publication of his textbook chapter on FDM in *Foundations of Osteopathic Medicine*. To Chris Lutrzykowski MD, Liz Rothe MD, Tom Hoke MD, Rob Stevens DO, and Jim Dunlap MD for the publication of their textbook chapter on common injections in sports medicine in ACSM's *Sports Medicine, A Comprehensive Review*. To Marya Goettsche-Spurling MD who presented a talk on rural Maine birthing center closures at the 2026 NNE Co-op PCBRN meeting.

MAFP Resident Representative Selection

Please join us in thanking Andrew Kwikiriza MD for his dedicated service to MDFMR and MAFP as our resident representative to the MAFP Board of Directors during his training. Dr. Kwikiriza participated in board meetings and conferences, was an active member of MAFP's education committee, and was a vital part of MAFP's executive director search committee. The process is underway to select MDFMR's next resident rep for a two-year commitment serving on the MAFP board.

Armand Auger MD is forming a small selection committee and anticipates they will make a decision by the end of February. Please contact Dr. Auger with questions.

Advancing Innovation in Residency Education

ABFM and ACGME are recruiting family medicine programs to an innovation pilot exploring outcomes of integrated education pathways that extend training beyond 36 months. After many conversations with stakeholders the last few months, MDFMR has decided to apply to participate in the "FM-AIRE" project. We plan to design two innovation pathways. One will integrate family medicine residency and geriatric medicine fellowship into a 48-month training program that will culminate in board eligibility for certification in family medicine and a certificate of added qualifications in geriatric medicine. The other pathway will integrate additional training in obstetrics and gynecology for a 48-month program that will prepare graduates with the expertise to provide full-spectrum maternity care, including management of medically complex pregnancies, proficiency with vaginal and operative obstetrics, and proficiency in gynecological care. It will culminate in board eligibility in family medicine and in family medicine obstetrics with surgical qualifications through the Board of Certification in Family Medicine Obstetrics (BCFMO). We anticipate implementation of these pathways will occur July 2027, that we will be able to accommodate 1 to 2 residents per class in each pathway, and that residents must declare interest by February of PGY1. Rural Healthcare Transformation Program funds through the Maine Consortium of Healthcare Education and Training will support program expansion, and MDFMR has received approval to add an additional position to this match cycle. Reach out to Kate Hoffmann DO with questions.

Annual ACGME & Internal Surveys!

If you haven't already done so, please complete any surveys you were sent. These are vital to informing our accreditation and program improvement efforts. Thank you!

Trainee Recruitment Update

FMR: Match announcement is noon on Fri March 20!

Sports: **Carrie Johnson MD** and **Greg Okenabirhie MD** will join MDFMR's sports fellowship in July. Dr. Johnson is completing ED residency at Mayo Clinic; Dr. Okenabirhie is completing FM residency at MDFMR.

ONMM: **Maeve Hickey DO** will join the ONMM3 residency this summer after completing Brown Family Medicine Residency at Kent Hospital. Applications are still being accepted with interviews continuing.

Geri: **Daramfon Bofah MD** will be joining MDFMR's Geriatric Medicine Fellowship after completing FM residency at MDFMR.

MDFMR & MERGE Collaborative

MDFMR and MaineGeneral were pleased to host the 2025 MERGE Conference on November 14th. MDFMR alumni (FMR '08, Geri '17) and Chief Medical Officer of HealthReach Community Health Centers **Amy Madden MD**



delivered the keynote talk, "Building Teams to Care for Communities." MDFMR faculty **Kelley Harmon DO** served as a panelist on "Preparing the Future Workforce for Collaborative Practice." A session on community-engaged research highlighted selected projects from the 2024 and 2025 MERGE Community-Based Research Internship program. Interns, including medical students **Olivia Lopes** and **Hannah Lafferty** who worked with MDFMR's **Kate Hoffmann DO**, spent four weeks living in rural communities across the state and learning about a variety of different health conditions from a local, population health perspective. Their experiences culminated in a written policy brief published on MERGE's website.

MDFMR launched rural rotations with the ONMM3 Residency and Geriatric Medicine Fellowship through MERGE this academic year. Residents are encouraged to visit <https://mergecollaborative.org> to explore rural elective opportunities throughout the state.

Have news to share? Contact Kate Hoffmann!

Thinking Broadly

The family medicine PGY1 class Thinking Broadly block is underway, with residents exploring topics within the broad categories of community engagement & advocacy, critical thinking, and integrative medicine. New this year is the integration of curriculum on artificial intelligence in medicine to support the implementation of AI tools for clinical documentation; other sessions included a visit to the State House in Augusta, culinary medicine, critical thinking in advocacy, and a visit to the Huhtamaki food packaging plant in Waterville to learn about occupational health.



Annual Medical Trip to Honduras

You are invited to join MDFMR's annual medical trip to Honduras! The group will depart from central Maine around midnight on Friday 5/22 (early morning Boston departure 5/23) and arrive home Sunday 5/31/26. This is a collaboration with Shoulder to Shoulder, <http://shouldertoshoulder.org/> a North American-based NGO who will be coordinating the brigade and has contracted with the government of Honduras to provide long-term, sustainable care in the state of Intibucá in the southwest of the country, near El Salvador, since 1990. Contact **Julia McDonald DO** if you are interested in participating or would like more info.

Save the Date!

March 19-21, 2026: MAFP Annual Update, *Samoset Resort, Rockport ME*

April 7, 2026: MDFMR Community Dinner, *ACH*

April 30-May 2, 2026: AGS 2026 virtual meeting

June 2, 2026: MDFMR Scholarly Activity Symposium & Alumni Reception, *Colby College, Waterville ME*

June 5-7, 2026: MOA 115th annual convention, *Samoset Resort, Rockport ME*

June 23, 2026: MDFMR Community Dinner, *ACH*

June 26, 2026: Family Medicine Residency graduation

Oct 23-25, 2026: OMM & Yoga Conference, *ACH, Augusta ME*