Resolution #4

Introduced by: Carrie Pierce MD, Alex Kipp MD, Nellie Wirsing MD, and Justine Parker DO

Subject: Increasing Family-Centeredness at AAFP Meetings

WHEREAS, the mission of the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) is to improve the health of patients, families, and communities by serving the needs of members with professionalism and creativity, and

WHEREAS, the AAFP encourages all physicians, including parents, to participate actively in all AAFP programs and activities and at all levels of leadership, and

WHEREAS, meetings such as AAFP FMX and COD provide important opportunities for career development, education, and networking, and

WHEREAS, women’s careers are disproportionately affected by the lack of childcare services and facilities, and

WHEREAS, the AAP and ACOG annual meetings offer on-site child care services, and

WHEREAS, the AAFP advocates for the removal of barriers to breastfeeding including encouraging breastfeeding-friendly workplaces and protecting the right to breastfeed in public, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that AAFP adjusts its recommendations regarding children at AAFP meetings from “Out of consideration for others, please do not bring children to CME events” to “AAFP supports families. Please use your best judgment regarding bringing children to CME events;” and be it further

RESOLVED, that the OAFP ask the AAFP to provide an on-site play area for children and their caregivers at AAFP FMX and COD; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the OAFP ask the AAFP to consider providing on-site child care services at AAFP FMX and COD; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the OAFP ask the AAFP to enhance efforts to accommodate breastfeeding parents at AAFP FMX and COD by providing a lactation lounge with basic services including privacy, running water, refrigerated milk storage, and opportunities to donate excess breast milk.
References:
   https://www.aafp.org/about/policies/all/mission.html
   https://www.aafp.org/about/policies/all/women-family-medicine.html
3. About AAFP FMX https://www.aafp.org/events/fmx/about.html
7. AAP Experience National Conference and Exhibition Family Resources
   https://aapexperience.org/family-resources/
8. ACOG Annual Clinical and Scientific Meeting Family & Fun
   https://annualmeeting.acog.org/family-and-fun/
9. AAFP Breastfeeding, Family Physicians Supporting (Position Paper)
   https://www.aafp.org/about/policies/all/breastfeeding-support.html

Speaker’s Notes:

Fiscal Note:

1) PROBLEM STATEMENT: What specific practice problem does this resolution seek to solve, or, if this resolution pertains to a proposed new CAFP policy or change of policy, what issue does it seek to address?

This resolution aims to make AAFP conferences and meetings, with particular emphasis on AAFP FMX and COD, more accommodating to participants with families. By decreasing barriers to childcare and breastfeeding, there may be improved interest and attendance at AAFP FMX and COD, especially among NCCL constituencies including women, LGBT physicians and allies, and new physicians with young families.

2) PROBLEM UNIVERSE: Approximately how many OAFP members or members’ patients are affected by this problem or proposed policy?

This issue affects all OAFP/AAFP members with families, especially those for whom finding childcare is a barrier to attending conferences and those who are currently breastfeeding.

3) WHAT SPECIFIC SOLUTION ARE YOU PROPOSING TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM OR POLICY, i.e., what action do you wish CAFP to take?

We propose that OAFP uses its position to urge the AAFP to increase family-
centeredness at its annual AAFP FMX and COD meetings by committing to the above four “resolved” clauses.

4) WHAT EVIDENCE EXISTS TO: 1) INDICATE THAT A PROBLEM EXISTS; OR 2) THAT THERE IS NEED FOR A NEW OR REVISED POLICY?

Please see “whereas” section and problem statement.