



Update & Impact – 2024 AMA Interim Meeting

The [AMA Foundation](#) (AMAF) is the American Medical Association’s philanthropic entity. The Foundation works to support the physician community, advance medical education and leadership, promote health care equity and reduce health disparities. Because these focus areas align organically with the AMA’s mission-led work, the Foundation often collaborates within the AMA but also works independently and in partnership with external organizations.

Thank you for your continued commitment to the Foundation’s work and our shared mission to bring together physicians and communities to improve the nation’s health.

Special Announcement

In honor of Dr. Madara’s leadership and contributions to our AMA and AMA Foundation, donations are being collected to support the **James Madara, MD Innovation Fund**. Please visit the booth at the meeting or reach out to Sandi Smith at sandi.smith@ama-assn.org for more information or to make a gift.

The following AMA Foundation programs and initiatives are made possible through your generous support.

1. Supporting the Physician Community for Improved Health Care

The Foundation’s **Disaster Relief Program** provides financial support for medical practices and clinics impacted by natural disasters. In the wake of hurricanes Helene and Milton, the Foundation will provide grants to the Florida and North Carolina state medical societies.

2. Medical Education & Leadership

The **Leadership Development Institute** is a year-long program providing a unique opportunity for medical students to gain individualized insight into the skills needed to foster careers as future physician leaders. Each student is mentored by a member of the AMA House of Delegates, and the current cohort *will attend the Annual* meeting to shadow their mentors. *Next year*, this program will expand to include *all medical students and residents/fellows with a new cohort focused on Leadership in Health Policy & Patient Advocacy*.

- Students may apply for this new cohort or the general health cohort online starting on January 13, 2025.
- The Foundation is now recruiting volunteers to help review applications in March and April.
- If you would like to volunteer to serve as a mentor or review applications, please contact Allie Wesel at allison.wesel@ama-assn.org or 312-464-4436. You can also fill out the volunteer interest form [here](#).



The **Physicians of Tomorrow scholarship program** offers \$10,000 scholarships across a variety of focus areas and includes students underrepresented in medicine. Since 1950, the Foundation has awarded more than \$61 million through the Physicians of Tomorrow program. With 16 categories, all final-year medical students are encouraged to apply. Do you know a student who might be interested? They can [apply here](#).

- The Foundation is now recruiting volunteers to help with the review and selection process in March.
- If you have questions about nominating a deserving colleague or would like to volunteer to review nominations, please contact Allie Wesel at allison.wesel@ama-assn.org or 312-464-4436. You can also fill out the volunteer interest form [here](#).

The **Excellence in Medicine program** recognizes physicians and medical advocates who exemplify the highest values of volunteerism, community engagement, leadership and dedication to the care of underserved populations.

During the Annual meeting last June, the Foundation honored 10 recipients with Excellence in Medicine Awards. Accomplishments ranged from Courage in Women’s Health Advocacy to Leadership in Medical Ethics and Professionalism to Excellence in Volunteerism.

- Nominations for the Excellence in Medicine Awards may be submitted online until February 7, 2025.
- The Foundation is now recruiting volunteers to help with the review and selection process in February and March.
- If you have questions about nominating a deserving colleague or would like to volunteer to review nominations, please contact Allie Wesel at allison.wesel@ama-assn.org or 312-464-4436. You can also fill out the volunteer interest form [here](#).





3. Promoting Health Care Equity and Reducing Health Disparities

Restorative Justice

Made possible by a \$1.6M grant from Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, this project is an initiative designed to acknowledge the harmful effects of the AMA's past discriminatory actions, detail the systemic inequities in the health care system and other social institutions, and chart a path toward a more promising and equitable future for patients and physicians alike. Recent activity includes AMA archives staff meeting with Harvard Kennedy School's Institutional Antiracism and Accountability Project and the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights. Additionally, Restorative Justice staff presented at health care conferences including GLMA, NMA, and AAIP.

Equity and Justice in Medical Education

In collaboration with AMA's Medical Education and Center for Health Equity, the Foundation has invested \$2.3M to help increase physician workforce diversity in a post-affirmative action environment. In-person convenings of representatives from a variety of stakeholder organizations (e.g., the National Medical Association, the National Hispanic Medical Association, and the Association of American Indian Physicians) are scheduled for every other month through June 2025. The first of these in-person convenings is set to take place on December 5 & 6 in Washington DC.

The **National LGBTQ+ Fellowship Consortium** is comprised of four key components: a fellowship program, bi-annual convening meetings, a milestone and implementation toolkit, and a fellowship planning guide. It includes three funded grant sites – Harvard Medical School-Fenway Health, University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, and Vanderbilt University Medical Center as well as two self-funded sites – UCLA and the University of Cincinnati and our pilot site – Mt. Sinai-Ichan school of Medicine. In April, the Foundation will convene institutions, fellows, physicians and other health care professionals at the AMA Headquarters to address health inequities faced by the LGBTQ+ community. If you or someone you know is interested in [sponsoring](#) this event, please contact Sandi Smith at sandi.smith@ama-assn.org.

Make a Gift or Learn More About the AMA Foundation

Please stop by the Foundation booth to learn more about the Foundation's programs, initiatives, and volunteer opportunities or to make a tax-deductible gift. If you have questions about the AMA Foundation, please contact Carie Lovstad at carie.lovstad@ama-assn.org or 312-467-4716 or visit the Foundation website at amafoundation.org.

