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**2025 Davee Foundation Lecture**

**and Resident Research Day**

**Abstract**

**Kelsey McAfee, MD**

**Northwestern McGaw Family Medicine Residency at Lake Forest**

**Title: Implementing an Advocacy Curriculum in Family Medicine Residency**

**Background:**The 2022 ACGME competencies for family medicine training require residents to demonstrate basic skills in advocating for patients in the healthcare system. As this is a relatively new requirement, strategies for training in advocacy are still emerging. This project aims to create a curriculum to improve residents’ advocacy skills. The sessions focus on hands-on activities and addressing current legislative proposals on the local and federal level to increase residents’ confidence in various advocacy techniques.

**Methods:**All Northwestern Lake Forest Family Medicine residents completed a survey at the first advocacy session of the academic year assessing their current knowledge, confidence, and barriers regarding advocacy. A curriculum was designed around closing those gaps using input from residents as well as resources from the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine and Illinois Academy of Family Physicians. The curriculum focuses on skills-based sessions and provides time to participate in advocacy. Topics in the curriculum include advocacy basics, letter writing, public narrative, elevator pitch, and election advocacy. A post-survey was completed after the last advocacy session of the academic year to assess the efficacy of the curriculum and identify areas for improvement.

**Results and Conclusions:**35 residents responded to the pre-survey across 2 years and 18 residents responded to the post-survey in one year. Preliminary results suggest increased confidence in advocacy skills after participating in the curriculum. Full analysis in progress.

Implementing an advocacy curriculum improves resident confidence in navigating advocacy resources and advocating on a local and governmental level.