

March 3, 2022



### President's Message: Dr. Leslie Algase

March has arrived and March 3 happens to be National Hospitalist Day. National Hospitalist Day is celebrated on the first Thursday of March to recognize the contributions of our hospitalists nationwide. The holiday encourages us to celebrate our members that make up the hospital medicine community. Hospitalists continue

to be a critical part of the nation's health care service delivery. In COVID times, there is no one more important than hospitalists and intensivists who have risked their own health daily to care for our patients. With the dedication and fortitude they have shown, those who care for hospitalized patients have truly earned our utmost admiration and respect. Thank a hospitalist today and, if you are one of our many hospitalist members, please know that NYACP celebrates you and we have your back.

I had the privilege of being on the NYACP council when Steve Walerstein, MD, MACP was a Governor and President of the Chapter. He was critical in teaching all of us the process of writing and debating the resolutions that eventually resulted in ACP policy and our advocacy agenda. When he sadly passed away far too young, we felt it important to name our advocacy internship in his honor. NYACP's Steven Walerstein, MD, MACP Advocacy Internship Program is in full swing. This program is designed to introduce medical students and residents to the various ways in which state health policy issues impact the practice of medicine. I would like to encourage residency programs within NYS to submit applicants for the 2023 Legislative Session (January-June). We are hoping that more programs will take advantage of this incredible opportunity for interested and energetic individuals.

We welcome Kevin Wang, MD, PGY3 at Northwell, NYACP Advocacy Intern for the period 2/14 – 3/11 and Tarayn Dhansew, DO, PGY4 at Northwell, NYACP Advocacy Intern for the period 2/28 – 3/25. The program continues to accept donations in Dr. Walerstein's memory and in honor of his many years of service to NYACP.

In other hopeful news, ACP and NYACP are returning to in-person meetings this Spring! We are looking forward to :

ACP Annual Meeting in Chicago: April 28 – 30, 2022. [Please register and come cheer on speakers from NY!](#)



ACP Leadership Day in Washington DC: May 17 – 18, 2022

NYACP Resident and Medical Student Forum in Albany: May 27, 2022

We are also excited to be planning our NYACP Annual Scientific Meeting in Westchester: November 5, 2022

Our hearts and prayers go out to the people of Ukraine at this horrific time. Please take good care of yourselves and stay safe!

Leslie

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### Update or Submit Your Application for the Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) Program

In 2021, the U.S. Department of Education released [executive actions](#) to ease the application and approval process for borrowers

who want to take advantage of the federal Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) program, which forgives the remaining balance on direct loans after the borrower makes 120 qualifying monthly payments under a qualifying repayment plan while working full-time for a qualifying employer such as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, government organization and/or other not-for-profit organization that provides certain types of qualifying public service. Military service also qualifies. In addition, for many, their time in residency counts toward qualified employment, as the majority of training programs are in public or nonprofit 501(c)(3) hospitals.



A new limited waiver will help an estimated 550,000-plus borrowers who previously consolidated their federal student loans see their progress toward forgiveness grow automatically. Through the limited waiver, the Department of Education will be offering a temporary opportunity to give borrowers credit for prior payments they made that would not otherwise count toward the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program. Any prior payments made while working for a qualifying employer will count as a qualifying payment, regardless of loan type or repayment plan.

The waiver will run through Oct. 31, 2022, so current applicants should check in with the Department of Education [website](#) and make sure their contact information and other information are up to date. In addition, those who have direct loans but have not yet applied for the program can also apply by the Oct. 31, 2022, deadline.

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### Governor Hochul's Budget Proposes to Raise Medicaid E & M Codes to 70% Medicare Rate

NYS DOH presented an overview of the 2022-23 Executive Budget summarizing proposals for health care expenditures. In the summary, DOH staff noted that this year's budget proposal includes an

increase in payments for physicians providing care to Medicaid fee-for-service patients to 70% of Medicare. Summary details are included below.

## Promote Access to Primary Care

- Invests in primary care by benchmarking Medicaid fee-for-service physician reimbursement rates for Evaluation & Management and Medicine codes to 70% of current Medicare reimbursement rates.
- Medicaid reimbursement rates for most physician services have not been updated since 2009 – Increased rates will incentivize providers, including primary care providers, to increase their participation with Medicaid, which will improve access to primary care services.
- SFY 2022-23 costs are prorated based on a July 1, 2022 implementation date.

2022-23 State Impact	2023-24 State Impact
\$4.93M	\$6.60M

February 2022



## 2022 Spring ACP Board of Governor Resolutions - NYACP Seeks Member Input

NYACP Governors request your input on the proposed resolutions to be acted on at the ACP Board of Governors (BOG) Spring meeting in April 2022.



By March 7, 2022, please review the [ACP BOG Spring 2022 Resolutions](#) and submit comments [via the online response form](#). You may select: Support; Do Not Support; or Support with Amendment. If you select support with an amendment, you will be asked to enter a specific language to be added or deleted.

We value your input and remind you to [consider submitting your own ideas for new resolutions to be presented to the Chapter at any time](#). We look forward to hearing from you!

## Enroll in the Advocates for Internal Medicine Network (AIMn)

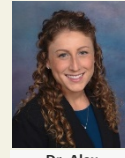
Join more than 15,000 colleagues in the AIMn program in advocating for the interests of internal medicine in Washington, D.C. By joining, you will receive legislative updates on key policy issues and engage in outreach to your federal lawmakers. If you are already an AIMn member, you do not need to register again. Sign up here: <http://cqrcengage.com/acplac/app/register?3&m=13815>





Dr. Fathima  
Suhail

## Interested in Starting a WiRL (Women in Residency Life) Program at your Institution -Here's how:



Dr. Alex  
Goodman

Women in Residency Life (WiRL) was established by two senior (PGY-2) residents, Dr. Alexandra Goodman and Dr. Fathima Keshia Suhail from SUNY Upstate Medical University. They started a discussion about their career goals, aspirations, home life, and everyday challenges women face while pursuing a career in medicine. They also recognized other residents who felt the same way. Dr. Suhail and Dr. Goodman gave an elevator pitch of their idea to leadership in their residency program, department and institute. They gained support and approval to start a women's support group for residents, also known as WiRL in 2019.

These two senior residents, along with the support of their training program, mentors, and other co-residents, spearheaded a group that stood for creating awareness regarding gender disparity and prioritizing the institutions' connection with the surrounding community. The group aims to increase productivity, collaboration, mentoring, and networking amongst women, in order to advance their careers amidst everyday challenges.

In December 2021, WiRL elected its third board of members and established its first board of trustees. WiRL is a platform to support women in residency to have stimulating, yet tough, conversations pertaining to women's experiences within the medical community. WiRL strives to serve as a source of support and guidance for women looking to advance their careers, serve as mentors, and give back to the community.

WiRL has successfully run 8 fundraisers, 12 professional development workshops, established mentoring programs with the youth in the community and held a gratitude campaign for residents during the pandemic. WiRL has successfully launched a second WiRL Chapter with Allegheny General Hospital in Pittsburgh, PA in January 2020. Starting a WiRL at your institution will serve as a source of support and an outlet for residents during some of their toughest years of training, and in doing so, will allow for increased community and institutional involvement.

We encourage you to reach out to Dr. Suhail and Dr. Goodman through [upstatewirl@gmail.com](mailto:upstatewirl@gmail.com) or their personal email addresses [suhailf@upstate.edu](mailto:suhailf@upstate.edu) and [goodmana@upstate.edu](mailto:goodmana@upstate.edu). You can follow them on Instagram: [@upstate\\_wirl](https://www.instagram.com/upstate_wirl), Twitter: [@upstatewirl](https://twitter.com/upstatewirl), Facebook: [WiRL Upstate](https://www.facebook.com/WiRLUpstate), or [check out their website](#). Please see the [Twelve steps](#) to starting a support group for women resident physicians and a recent webinar [hosted by the NYACP](#).

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### Upcoming Events

*Hosted by: Oregon Chapter ACP, Southern California Region III Chapter ACP, Cascade State Medical Association - Oregon, Golden State Medical Association - California*



### Race and Kidney Function: Understanding Historical Context

## and the Science to Move Forward

Earn 1.5 CME Credits

Wednesday, March 9, 2022 / 9:30 pm - 11:30 PM

Join us for an evening session designed as a source of knowledge surrounding the underpinning of the use of race in cornerstone medical calculation in the use of creatinine clearance, aka kidney function. Learn the implications of the use of race-based calculations on the health of minority populations and the current health disparities that exist with respect to diagnosis of CKD, dialysis initiation and kidney transplantation rates.

Target audience includes: General and Subspecialty Internists, Hospitalists, Family Medicine, and other Health Care Professionals. Medical Students and Residents in-training are welcome!

[More Details](#)  
[Registration](#)

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## Small Feedings of the Soul: Readings and Reflections

Thursday, March 17, 2022 / 7:00 - 8:15 pm

March's Theme: Stories from Medicine

Readings and Guest Authors:

Michael LaCombe, MD, MACP - Associate Editor for 'On Being A Doctor'

Readings will be shared closer to the event date.



[Titles of the stories to be read and discussed include:](#)

- Diagnosis
- An Innocent Tale
- Left-handed Favor
- The Academician
- Entertaining Angels Unaware

Facilitated by: Lynn Cleary, MD, MACP

Program Directors: Nandini Anandu, MD, FACP, Lynn Cleary, MD, MACP, and Cori Salvit, MD, FACP

[Registration](#)

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Zoom Session: Story/Talent Slam for Trainee's "Expressions in Medicine"

Wednesday, April 6, 2022/ 6:00 - 7:00 pm

Are you a Trainee with a special talent you would like to share with your peers? We are looking for story tellers, poem writers, musical talents and even art that you would like to share!



Brought to you by  
NYACP Resident/  
Fellow Committee

Do you have a story to tell from the past two years of your COVID experience you would like to share? Hearing a single story can inspire change, acts of kindness, empathy, and more. Telling your story has an impact!

Submit your story or outline by April 1st to [klabello@nyacp.org](mailto:klabello@nyacp.org)

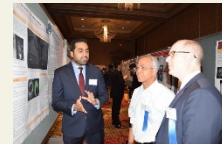
[More information](#)  
[Register to listen or share](#)

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**Save the Date!**  
**2022 NYACP Resident and Medical Student Forum**  
**Friday, May 27, 2022**

Save the date and plan to join us on Friday, May 27, 2022 as we return to an in-person poster competition and welcome back Dr.'s Dilemma!

Crowne Plaza/Desmond  
660 Albany Shaker Rd  
Albany, NY 12211



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**Save the Date!**  
**2022 NYACP Annual Scientific Meeting**  
**Saturday, November 5, 2022**

Join us as we return to an in-person Annual Scientific Meeting on Saturday, November 5, 2022.

Westchester Marriott  
670 White Plains Rd  
Tarrytown, NY 10591

