

722 West High Street Jefferson City, MO 65101-1526 Phone: (573) 635-0830 Fax: (573) 635-0148

www.mo-afp.org

PRESS RELEASE - For Immediate Release

For More Information Contact:

Kathy Pabst 573-635-0830 (office) e-mail: office@mo-afp.org Web: www.mo-afp.org

November 29, 2022 - Cole Receives MAFP Exemplary Teaching Award

The Missouri Academy of Family Physicians (MAFP) presented Sarah Cole DO, FAAFP, of Saint Louis, Missouri, with the 2022 Exemplary Teaching Award at the Academy's 74th Annual Meeting on November 12, 2022 at Big Cedar Lodge in Ridgedale, MO. A committee of family physicians selected Dr. Cole from nominations made by patients, community members, and fellow physicians.

The Exemplary Teaching Award acknowledges MAFP members who deserve recognition for exemplary teaching skills and individuals who have implemented outstanding educational programs and/or developed innovative teaching models.

Dr. Cole has served on the MAFP board since 2014 and is a past president. She served as cochair of the MAFP Education Commission where she helped plan quality and scientific Continuing Medical Education (CME) for members in addition to serving as a member of the Advocacy Commission. She continues her commitment to family medicine as an alternate delegate to the AAFP Congress of Delegates.

Dr. Cole is the program director of Mercy Family Medicine Residency and supports andragogical teaching approaches for her residents. She encourages her residents to follow individualized learning plans to develop their ability to define goals and work toward them from subject-centered to learner and community-centered. Her proactive and innovative approaches to teaching at Mercy prepare our future family physicians to lead in their communities with compassion, expertise, and joy.

On a national scope, Dr. Cole is a board member of the Association of Family Medicine Residency Directors and is the liaison with the American Board of Family Medicine, where she works on a project to adjust residency curriculums to achieve graduate outcomes. One resident said she wanted "to be Dr. Cole when she grows up" – a teaching family physician.

Dr. Cole earned her undergraduate degree in biology from Truman State University in Kirksville, MO, and her medical degree from Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine. She completed her family medicine residency at Mercy Family Medicine Residency in St. Louis, MO.

About the Missouri Academy of Family Physicians (MAFP)

Founded in 1947, the MAFP represents over 2,300 physicians and medical students nationwide. It is the only medical society devoted solely to primary care. Headquartered

in Jefferson City, MAFP is dedicated to optimizing the health of patients, families, and communities of Missouri through patient care, advocacy, education, and research.

Family physicians conduct approximately one in five of the total medical office visits in the United States annually – more than any other specialty. Family physicians provide comprehensive, evidence-based, and cost-effective care dedicated to improving the health of patients, families and communities. Family medicine's cornerstone is an ongoing and personal patient-physician relationship where the family physician serves as the hub of each patient's integrated care team. More Americans depend on family physicians than on any other medical specialty.

The Missouri Academy of Family Physicians is the state chapter of the American Academy of Family Physicians, which represents 136,700 physicians and medical students nationwide and is located in Leawood, Kansas.

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