FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - July 2, 2019



MISSOURI ACADEMY OF <u>FAMILY PHYSICIANS</u> STRONG MEDICINE FOR MISSOURI



For More Information Contact: Kathy Pabst 573-635-0830 (office) E-mail: kpabst@mo-afp.org Web: www.mo-afp.org

June 22, 2019 – Weldon Springs Physician Named MAFP Family Physician of the Year

The Missouri Academy of Family Physicians (MAFP) presented Beth Zimmer, MD, of Weldon Springs, Missouri, with the 2019 Family Physician of the Year Award at the Academy's 71st Annual Show Me Family Medicine Conference held June 21-22, 2019 in Osage Beach, Missouri. Dr. Zimmer was chosen as the award recipient by a committee of family physicians from nominations made by patients, community members, and fellow physicians.

She and her husband, Dr. Stanley Carter, DVM, are advocates for suicide prevention after losing their only child, CPL Christopher James Carter, to suicide while on active duty as an Army Ranger at age of twenty-two. They formed a non-profit charitable foundation, the Chris Carter Charity for Life, which supports those struggling with mental health issues and those who have experienced human loss. Dr. Zimmer also has voluntarily devoted much effort towards suicide prevention, reducing stigma, promoting mental health wellness and improving suicide care in both the military and civilian populations.

Dr. Zimmer is a retired Lieutenant Colonel from 22 years of service in the US Army Reserves and has volunteered for many medical mission trips to Peru, China and Belize. She earned her undergraduate and medical degrees from the University of Missouri Columbia. Dr. Zimmer trained in the Family Medicine Residency at St. John's Mercy Medical Center in St. Louis, MO, where she served as Chief Resident.

She has practiced Family Medicine in St. Charles County, MO, for 30 years. Dr. Zimmer has served on numerous local, state and national medical association committees, and military and veteran organizations. She has been recognized for her service to others and to prevent suicide. In January, Dr. Zimmer received the 2018 Greater St Louis Community Health Award from the St. Louis Academy of Family Physicians.

About the Missouri Academy of Family Physicians (MAFP)

Founded in 1947, the MAFP is a non-profit professional medical society of more than 2,400 physicians, residents and medical students across the state. It is the only medical society devoted solely to primary care.

Family physicians conduct approximately one in five office visits -- that's 192 million visits annually or 48 percent more than the next most visited medical specialty. Today, family physicians provide more care for America's underserved and rural populations than any other medical specialty. Family medicine's cornerstone is an ongoing, personal patient-physician relationship focused on integrated care.

Headquartered in Jefferson City, the MAFP is dedicated to optimizing the health of patients, families, and communities of Missouri through patient care, advocacy, education, and research. The MAFP is a constituent chapter of the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP), representing over 134,600 physicians and medical students nationwide. The AAFP is headquartered in Leawood, Kansas.

###

Photo attached.

MAFP | p: 573.635.0830 | f: 573.635.0148 | office@mo-afp.org | www.mo-afp.org

STAY CONNECTED



Our Mission: The Missouri Academy of Family Physicians is dedicated to optimizing the health of the patients, families and communities of Missouri by supporting family physicians in providing patient care, advocacy, education and research.