



“I can’t afford to give.”

Actually, you can’t afford not to give. It is important for family physicians to support FamMedPAC because of its efforts on behalf of our specialty. Even if you just give \$1.00 a day, your participation in FamMedPAC helps ensure AAFP’s continued strong presence on Capitol Hill. Keep in mind that groups whose priorities are counter to ours are supporting their PACs with renewed vigor. Contributing to FamMedPAC is like purchasing insurance on the specialty, so we all need to make it a priority.

“My contribution doesn’t make any difference.”

Family physicians are data driven. The results of political activity can be difficult to measure. For example, one family physician was unable to persuade her Representative to support AAFP’s position, but she was able to convince him not to oppose AAFP’s position. Many political victories are similarly ambiguous. We do know that overall participation in a PAC is a marker of the strength of an organization’s commitment to its principles. More important to the amount you contribute is the fact that you join in broad support of FamMedPAC.

“I don’t like FamMedPAC’s candidates. Actually, I don’t like politics, period.”

In an organization with more than 100,000 members, it’s virtually impossible that everyone would share the same political viewpoints. Try to remember that politicians from both political parties and with vastly different ideologies have been – and continue to be – supportive of issues that affect family medicine. FamMedPAC must work with elected officials and political candidates to advance the interests of our specialty – regardless of personal preference or political affiliation. The political process works best if you support AAFP’s efforts to advance the interests of the specialty, and in your personal life, work to support the elected officials you feel best represent your personal political views. It’s important to be objective in this matter just as you are when you practice medicine.

“I don’t believe money has a place in politics.”

The whole issue of money in politics has become very controversial. Keep in mind, though, that PACs were established as the legal channel of political contributions. They allow organizations like AAFP to become involved in the political process by supporting candidates who support their priorities. And virtually every contribution we receive or disbursement we make is reported to the Federal Election Commission (FEC), making the process completely transparent.

“Giving to FamMedPAC is a hassle. I hate being contacted repeatedly.”

There are multiple ways to contribute to FamMedPAC: at the annual meeting, by mail, or on-line, for example. You can pick the one that is best for you. You can even set up regular, automatic payments from your credit card to FamMedPAC. The logistics of fundraising require us to use the most cost effective ways of contacting donors, and sometimes you will receive multiple requests. We are aware of and sincerely appreciative of your contribution.

“I’ve never given to FamMedPAC before, so there’s no need to start now.”

On the contrary, NOW is the perfect time to begin your involvement with FamMedPAC! AAFP is fighting a number of legislative battles, and your support is crucial to maintaining a visible presence on Capitol Hill. Take steps to support FamMedPAC today! Visit www.fammedpac.org or call 1-888-271-5853.

