

2022

Doctors for America Impact Report

Doctors and their allies in health care are consistently rated as having the highest levels of trust among a broad and diverse population. Doctors care for patients across racial, socioeconomic, gender, geographic, and political spectra; they can give voice to diverse perspectives, stories, and needs that proposed policies are meant to address. Doctors can powerfully speak to the core values of medical professionalism – to care for all patients, fairly and equitably. Doctors for America’s (DFA) work is focused in three comprehensive Impact Areas: Access to Affordable Care, Community Health and Prevention and Health Justice and Equity. The patient is at the center of all that we do to improve the health of our patients, communities and nation. DFA is the organization that puts patients over politics and patients over profits!

Offered 12 Advocacy Grand Round sessions on cutting edge topics like reproductive rights, clinical trial diversity, turning rage against gun violence into action, to how to be an upstander instead of a bystander by understanding the impact of bias, microaggressions and microinvalidations.

Advocates provided comments for the final rule issued by the Department of Justice that bans the business of manufacturing ghost guns.

Co-founded the Reproductive Health Coalition in partnership with the American Medical Women’s Association to create a coalition of over 40 organizations with over 152M collective members.

Sent 321 messages educating US House members on the importance of addressing common sense firearm regulations by supporting Protecting Our Kids Act.

Through funding by the Kellogg Foundation the State Policy Sub-Committee was able to make important strides in advocating for Medicaid Expansion.



Social Media



9.1 % post engagement rate
(1.84% - industry average)



50k Facebook page reach
(previous year = 15k)



9.09 % post engagement rate
(1.04% - industry average)



3.46% post engagement rate
(1.42% - industry average)



over \$8k raised during
end-of-year campaign



Access to Affordable Care



Doctors for America members focus on all of the ways our patients access, pay for, and receive their medical care by advocating for universal health coverage, affordability, quality, and equity. The Access to Affordable Care Impact Area consists of two subcommittees, Federal Policy Sub-Committee and the State Policy Sub-Committee. These sub-committees are further broken down into task forces that execute various pieces of advocacy work.

ADVOCACY GRAND ROUNDS

May - Advocates learned about “The Many Roads to Medicaid Expansion” featuring speakers from North Carolina and South Dakota discussing the ballot initiative process and how to work on expansion legislatively in a red state. Watch the entire session [here](#).

October - Provided new skill opportunities in “Leverage the Rulemaking Process to Impact Policy”. Participants learned how to provide public comment in the rulemaking process to create powerful changes within public health. Watch the entire session [here](#).

610
messages



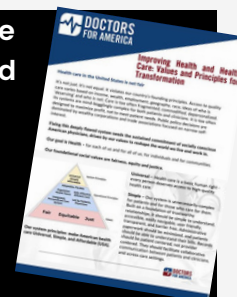
from DFA advocates sent educating Members of Congress on the importance of supporting health care provisions in the Inflation Reduction Act.



40 million
children

on Medicaid and CHIP to have uninterrupted access to health care throughout the year.

The Access to Affordable Care Committee created a one-pager outlining the Values and Principles for Health Care Transformation. [Download here.](#)



AAC hosted a Day of Action on 3/23/22 to celebrate the 12th Anniversary of the Affordable Care Act. In partnership with AMSA, we hosted a four-hour Advothon Zoom Room that was easy for members to call their legislators. The Advothon was followed by a sign-on letter and a kick-off press conference event with partners from Patients for Affordable Drugs and AARP on the health care provisions from our Day of Action. Dr. Rita Kuwahar spoke on behalf of DFA at this event.



Community Health and Prevention



We advocate on a diverse array of issues that affect our communities, from firearm violence to substance use disorder, from homelessness to access to mental health services. All the while, being ready to respond to emerging threats, such as COVID response and recovery, and fight for long term change and funding for public health and medical research institutions and through our support of the health workforce.

**335
messages**



were sent to state legislators encouraging them to adopt firearm safe storage practices.



**450
forwards**

of messages to US Senators about the importance and necessity of confirming Steve Dettlebach as the director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.



The Substance Use Disorder subcommittee created and finalized a position statement on the Decriminalization of Cannabis Possession and Use. [Download here.](#)

**ADVOCACY
GRAND ROUNDS**

February - Offered a hands-on session to “Learn How to Combat Misinformation” when talking to patients, media and friends to build confidence in COVID-19 vaccines.

July - Dr. Joe Sakran & Greg Jackson helped us to “Channel Your Outrage into Action” with concrete methods for policy advocacy on gun violence prevention.

November - Advocates learned how to engage in policy reform with an interactive presentation on the “The Fight for Federal Drug Reform” featuring the Drug Policy Alliance.

The most attended event by the Health Justice & Equity group was the phone banking held following the Dobbs decision. Over 156 advocates came together to learn from physicians who have been at the forefront of combating COVID-19 vaccine misinformation and call their representatives.



Health Justice and Equity



Doctors for America members work to make the healthcare system more just and equitable for all, acting to erase inequities based on race, ethnicity, sex, gender, sexuality, age, immigration status, and more. The Health Justice and Equity Impact Area works on reproductive rights, gender affirming care and decriminalization and liberation all with the goal to eliminate health inequity.

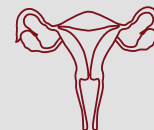
ADVOCACY GRAND ROUNDS

January - Advocates learned how to be an upstander instead of a bystander by “Understanding Bias, Microaggressions and Microinvalidations.

May - Advocates explored mechanisms of confronting law enforcement in healthcare settings along with identifying toolkits to use as resources.

October - Doctors for America held a special event on Sex Education that featured speakers from SIECUS. Attendees examined the tenets of a comprehensive sex education, reviewed a case study, and then learned the different levels of local advocacy they can engage in.

649
messages



from DFA advocates sent to state legislatures on the importance of access to reproductive rights including abortion.



99
advocates

called their representatives and left messages during the most attended Health Justice and Equity event that followed the Dobbs decision.

Created an in carceral toolkit in partnership with Medical Justice Alliance and Chicago People's Rights Collaborative.
[Download Here.](#)



The Gender Affirming Care subcommittee addressed legislation by educating legislators in dozens of states related to LGBTQ discrimination. Some bills sought to advance nondiscrimination laws, but most attempted to single out and target LGBTQ for unfair and unequal treatment.



FDA Task Force

The FDA Task Force is a working group within Doctors for America that advocates for a stronger FDA. We do that by educating legislators and medical professionals and by acting as a non-partisan counterweight to the pharmaceutical industry.



ADVOCACY GRAND ROUNDS

August Advocacy Grand Rounds

Hosted physician and policy experts from Harvard University on the possible role the FDA could take in helping people access reproductive care.

December Advocacy Grand Rounds

Discussed the pregnancy drug Makena and its recent scrutiny by the FDA.

1,533
messages



Sent to Members of Congress to support legislation to help the FDA improve patient safety including the enforcement of diverse clinical trials and a reform of the accelerated approval pathway.



1,101
advocates

Reached out to their elected officials on the importance of patient protections in the User Fee Bill.

- Collaborated with Columbia school of law clinic exploring legal grounds for pre-emption of mifepristone, a key move that could help strengthen FDA's enforcement power.
- Coordinated an academic and organizational letter with over 35 signatories to the Senate HELP Committee leadership urging the inclusion of reforms to the accelerated approval pathway as well as measures to ensure clinical trial diversity.

Make change with us

 join: doctorsforamerica.org/get-involved/become-a-member/

 donate: doctorsforamerica.org/donate/

