

August is National Immunization Awareness Month, providing a timely opportunity to recognize ACP's ongoing, steadfast commitment to evidence-based immunization practices. Through clinical guidance, advocacy efforts, and member resources, ACP continues to support physicians in helping patients make informed decisions about vaccination. This month's newsletter highlights some of that ongoing work, including vaccination access as one of three key legislative priorities discussed with congressional offices during ACP Leadership Day as well as some of the other SC ACP activities.

Advocacy: 34th Annual Leadership Day



ACP Leadership Day was held May 12-13 in Washington, D.C., bringing together 454 ACP attendees, including 262 physician members, 106 residents and fellows, and 70 medical students. Across the event, ACP members participated in 444 congressional meetings representing 49 states and the District of Columbia, including 346 House meetings.

South Carolina was proudly represented by ACP members Leah Reid, MD, FACP, Joseph Messina, DO, FACP, Kizer Stovall, MD, FACP, Steve Saunders, MBBS, FACP and Joanne Daniel-Saunders, MD, FACP along with five IM residents/fellows who received SC ACP Leadership Day scholarships: Brittany Lyons, DO; Nisha Puri, DO; Anthony Bleyer, MD; Maria Jose Herrán, MD; and Jackson Hartley, MD.

During meetings with members of the South Carolina congressional delegation, our chapter advocated for ACP's three federal legislative priorities for 2026:

- Strengthen and stabilize the Medicare Physician Payment Fee Schedule: Requested co-sponsorship of H.R. 8163, which would help reduce annual payment cuts driven by the budget neutrality mandate.
- Protect and invest in primary care: Requested co-sponsorship of the REDI Act (H.R. 2028/S. 942), which would allow residents to defer interest on federal student loans during residency and reduce financial barriers to careers in primary care.
- Preserve coverage for safe and effective vaccinations: Requested co-sponsorship of H.R. 5448/S. 2857 to safeguard patient choice and vaccine access by requiring health plans to provide zero-cost sharing for ACIP-recommended vaccines.

Save the Date: SC ACP Annual Scientific Meeting | October 16-17

This year's SC Chapter Annual Scientific Meeting will be held October 16-17 at the Hyatt Regency in Greenville, South Carolina. We hope you will join colleagues from across the state for two days of education, scholarship, networking, and professional development. [2026 South Carolina Chapter Annual Scientific Meeting | ACP Online](#)

As in prior years, the meeting will begin with the Abstract and Poster Competition, showcasing outstanding work by trainees and faculty, followed by a program featuring timely and practical topics relevant to internists across the state.

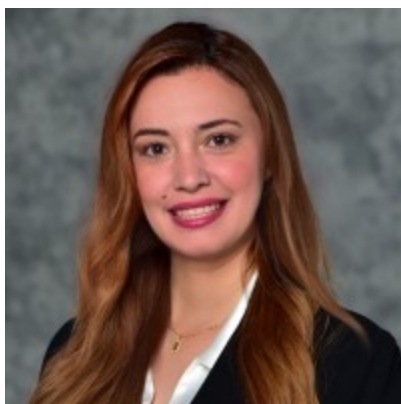
A highlight of this year's meeting will be the Charles Bryan Lecture, delivered by Lawrence Mohr, MD, ScD, FACP, FACEP. Dr. Mohr served as the White House Physician to Presidents Ronald Reagan, George H. W. Bush, and William Clinton. He will share reflections from his distinguished career in medicine and public service. We are also pleased to welcome Jason Goldman, MD, MACP, FPCP, Immediate Past President of the American College of Physicians, who will discuss physician advocacy and challenges surrounding vaccination.

Please join us in Greenville.



Residency Council

Thank you to the members of the newly established SC ACP Residency Council, who held their kickoff meeting on July 20th under the leadership of Dr. Selina Durukan. The council brings together resident representatives from Internal Medicine training programs across South Carolina to strengthen resident engagement, provide input on chapter initiatives, and help shape future programming for trainees. We are grateful for their enthusiasm, leadership, and commitment to ACP.



The Resident Council members are:

- Prisma Health Columbia: Emily Ranta

- Prisma Health Greenville: Tony Bleyer, Danielle Drew, Isabella Kammerer
- MUSC Charleston: Hayley Fowler, Jessie Hatcher, and Scott McCraney
- MUSC Florence: Danny Aboujamra, Sabzada Rasool, Rami Tfayli
- MUSC Lancaster: Mahmoud Amin, Muhammad Waqas Khan, Meghana Adusumilli
- HCA Grand Strand: Riley Lovett, Caroline Boyd, Jayden Navarro
- Trident Medical Center: Nisha Puri, Hannah Powers, Karissa Hill
- Aiken Regional: Ekin Uzunoglu, Ina Kulari, and Selina Durukan
- Bon Secours Greenville: Daniel Maysonet, Lauren Schell
- Lexington Med – New program
- McLeod Regional Medical Center (Florence) – New Program

ACP Strategic Planning Retreat and Wellness

On July 25, chapter leaders and members gathered at Saluda Shoals Park Environmental Center in Columbia for the SC ACP Strategic Planning Wellness Retreat. Participants engaged in thoughtful discussions focused on chapter priorities, member engagement, advocacy, and future growth. The day concluded with a wellness activity designed to promote connection and well-being. Thank you to everyone who participated, and special thanks to Dr. Ramasamy for coordinating the wellness program.



Women in Medicine Webinar

On July 27, SC ACP hosted a Women in Medicine webinar organized by Dr. Joanne Daniel-Saunders and moderated by Dr. Carolyn Guilloud. Panelists Mary Beth Poston, MD; Patricia Sadler, MD; and Kim Davis, MD, shared perspectives on leadership, career development, and professional growth. Thank you to the organizers, speakers, and attendees for a meaningful discussion. The webinar recording is available on the SC ACP website [Webinar Library | ACP Online](#).

Fall Resolutions

We welcome your input on the Fall Resolutions listed below (full details attached), which will be voted on at the September Board of Governors meeting. A separate survey will be sent to SC ACP members to gather feedback. Please take a few minutes to review the resolutions and share your perspective.

- Resolution 1-F26. Defining Physician Responsibilities for Electronic Smoking Device Cessation
- Resolution 2-F26. Ensuring Access to Medical Care and Sanitary Conditions for Immigrant Detainees
- Resolution 3-F26. Developing Policy on Alternate Pathways for Licensure to Support Internationally-Trained Physicians
- Resolution 4-F26. Developing CME-Accredited Online Climate Health Education Modules through ACP's Online Learning Center
- Resolution 5-F26. Approving Multi-Chapter Membership

A Closing Challenge

As we look ahead to a busy fall, I encourage each of you to consider how you might engage more actively with ACP. Whether through advocacy, education, leadership, mentorship, or chapter activities, there is a place for every member to contribute. Our chapter's strength comes from the commitment and expertise of physicians who are willing to share their voices and talents in service to our profession and our patients. To those already serving our chapter and College, thank you for your leadership, dedication, and continued support. I look forward to working with you in the months ahead.

In service,

Kim Davis, MD, FACP
ACP Governor, South Carolina Chapter

[2026 Fall BOG Resolutions](#)
