



### **Dr. David Walsworth**

Each year, we honor the outstanding contributions of a physician who exemplifies the tradition and contributions of family medicine by bestowing the Michigan Family Medicine Physician of the Year Award.

Family physicians in Michigan play a pivotal role in the healthcare landscape, offering comprehensive, patient-centered care to individuals and families across the state. With their broad training and expertise, they serve as primary care physicians, addressing a wide range of medical needs from acute care to chronic care, and from preventive to palliative care for patients of all ages and stages of life.

In rural areas, family physicians often serve as lifelines, providing vital healthcare access to underserved communities. They forge enduring relationships with patients, fostering trust and continuity of care.

Their contributions extend beyond clinical settings as advocates for

public health initiatives, community wellness programs, and healthcare policy reforms.

Fortunately, our state is privileged to have physicians like Dr. David Walsworth, who exemplifies the spirit of leadership and advocacy the field of family medicine demands. He currently serves in numerous roles, including that of son, brother, husband, father, the Associate Chair for Clinical Affairs, associate professor in the Department of Family Medicine at Michigan State University's College of Human Medicine, and is a medical director and practicing family physician at MSU Health Care - Family Medicine in East Lansing. In each of these areas of responsibility, he shows amazing commitment, dedication, and excellence.

Along with these significant responsibilities, Dr. Walsworth balances an intricate array of advocacy roles, in which he helps ensure the advancement of both the specialty of family medicine and the profession of medicine. His impact can be felt through the American Academy of Family Physicians, where he serves as a national educator, chair of the Care of Chronic Conditions National Live Course, and a member of the Educational Advisory Panel. His leadership is making a difference through the American Medical Association, where he serves as delegate to the House of Delegates from the Michigan State Medical Society. Closer to home, he is a board member for the Michigan State Medical Society, chair of the board reference committee on Health Care Delivery, and a member of the Ingham County Medical Society Board of Directors. He even makes time to serve on his church board. This is someone with passion. Purpose. And the skills and talents to deliver on every commitment he holds.

Of course, a physician like this has received numerous honors. He has been recognized as an Outstanding Clinician by MSU's College of Human Medicine, earned the Physicians Health Plan Diversity Award, and much more. In 2008, our own organization, the MAFP, awarded him the Golden Crow award.

Dr. Walsworth's resume is so jam-packed with his clinical and educational work, service, advocacy, and honors that it literally spans 50 pages. For a 30-year career, that represents someone whose superhuman ability to manage time, resources, and his own talent and intellect are immensely deserving of our recognition today.

It's always been clear that David Walsworth would be an extraordinary human being. Born in mid-Michigan and raised in southeast Michigan, he was at the top of his high school graduating class. He graduated magna cum laude from Albion College. Following graduation from the Wayne State University School of Medicine and completing the Oakwood Hospital and Medical Center - Dearborn Family Medicine Residency Program, serving as a chief resident.

He completed the MSU CHM OMERAD Primary Care Academic Medicine Fellowship in Academic Leadership, a program in leadership for physician executives at Harvard Medical School. It is his gift to all of us that he uses his vast intellectual gifts to heal, guide and shape the lives of his learners and the people under his care.