



2024 ANNUAL REPORT



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Letters from Leadership



Christine Petrin, MD, MPH
Board Chair

The results of the recent election have heightened the challenges facing health care – and while these obstacles may seem overwhelming, Doctors for America has faced these fights before. Our organization was born in 2008 during the equally daunting struggle to pass health care reform. After a decades long battle, our members helped to carry the baton in the final leg, across a finish line that many thought impossible.

In the 17 years that have followed, we have continued to defend and protect the Affordable Care Act as well as broaden our reach into the areas of gun violence prevention, reproductive justice, Medicaid expansion, and judicial advocacy, among many others.

Our organization is stronger than ever. As you read through the incredible work our organization has done this year, I hope you will remember that we have faced these challenges before, each time standing arm-in-arm to advance policies that will improve the health of our patients and their communities. Your support has never been more valuable.



Angie Bakke, MBA
Executive Director

For those of us committed to health care access and social justice, our resolve is being tested at every turn. Resilience, hope and action are needed at the federal, state and local level. Doctors for America (DFA) advocates bring lived experience with bedside expertise giving voice to diverse perspectives and needs that proposed policies are meant to address.

In 2024, DFA advocates worked tirelessly to safeguard access to care across multiple fronts, laboring to advance equity by shifting narratives and building movements that create real change. With our advocates engaged in so many far-reaching efforts, it can be helpful to take a breath and reflect on all of the incredible work we have done and the progress that we have made. I encourage you to review our Annual Impact Report to share in the success of your colleagues and friends.



Access to Affordable Care

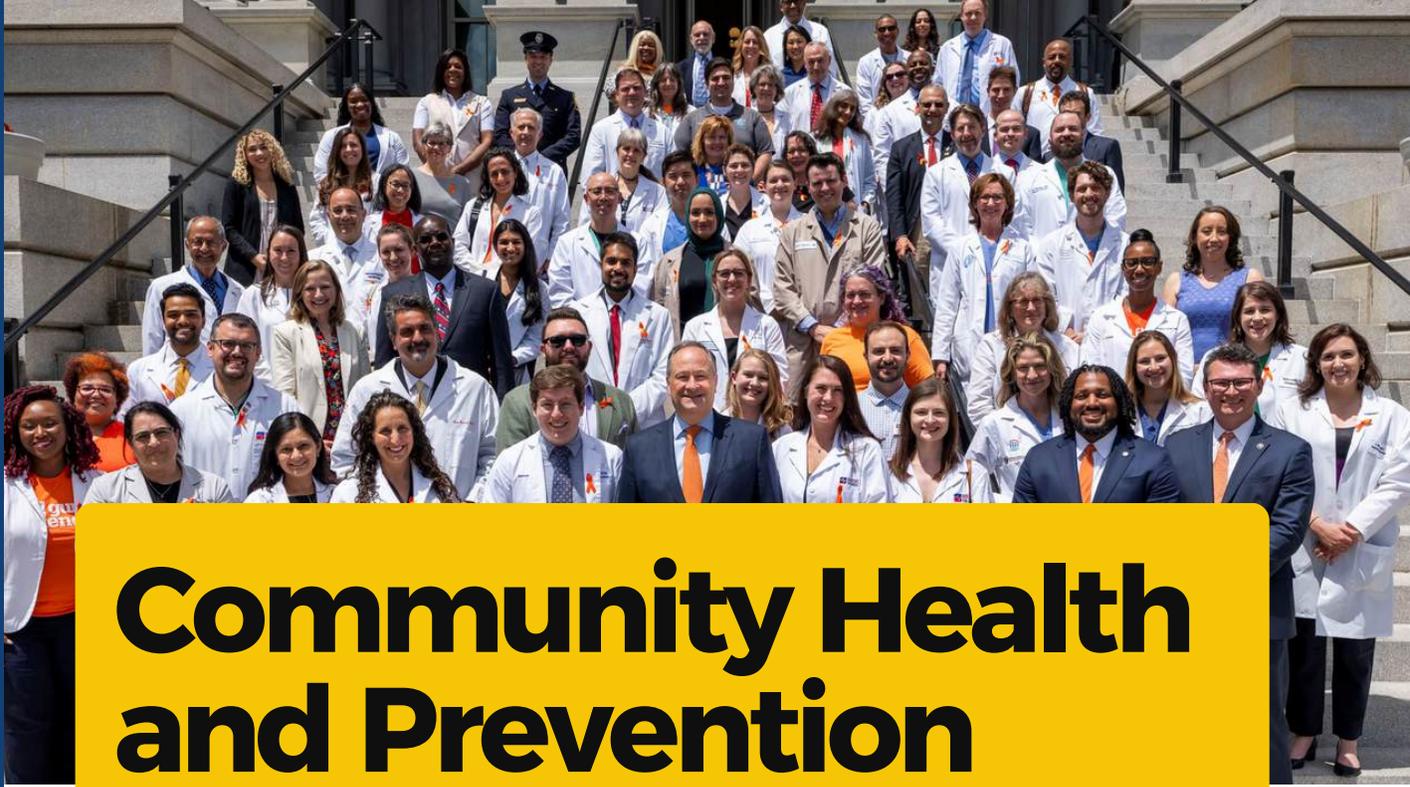
Accomplishments

- Successfully defended the Inflation Reduction Act's ability for Medicare to negotiate drug prices with four amicus briefs, educational events, op-eds and numerous joint letters to Congress.
- The Federal Legislation subcommittee engaged in numerous undertakings to educate lawmakers on the importance of protecting Medicare, along with drug pricing reforms, opposing cuts to Medicaid, championing pharmacy benefit manager reforms, and submitting comments to CMS on regulatory issues.
- The FDA Task Force conducted five meetings with leadership at the Food and Drug Administration, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, and Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation.
- FDA Task Force Members have also had the opportunity to testify at congressional hearings and roundtables, such as the Senate HELP Committee [roundtable](#) on the high price of obesity treatments.

40 in-person meetings with congressional leadership, including committee staff from both chambers and sides of the aisle.

30 sign-ons with partner organizations including Public Citizen, US PIRG, Families USA, Drug Policy Alliance and more.

10 states where Medicaid Expansion efforts were driven by our work: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Mississippi, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Wisconsin, Wyoming.



Community Health and Prevention

Accomplishments

- Created numerous advocacy resources ranging from talking to patients about [safe firearm storage](#) to [extreme risk protection orders](#), as well as resources covering [pain management](#), measles, and [how to treat misinformation and disinformation](#) and more.
- Designed an impactful [“Why I Vote”](#) campaign to address voting as a social determinant of health and our responsibility to help patients share their voice.
- Developed a Safe Storage Pledge asking clinicians to commit to talking to their patients about safe firearm storage.

40

white coats, 30 health professionals, and Second Gentleman Doug Emhoff were present at a DFA hosted event with the White House Office of Gun Violence Prevention. The purpose of the White House event was to elevate the critical role of health care professionals in combating gun violence.

WHY I VOTE





Health Justice and Equity

Accomplishments

- DFA partnered with Columbia Law School's Science Health & Information Clinic and Harvard Law School's CyberLaw Clinic to create Abortion Shield Law Guides for [New York](#) and [Massachusetts](#). The guides protect clinicians from civil, criminal, and professional penalties by other states when delivering legal care.
- Filed multiple [amicus briefs](#) in support of access to mifepristone in the Alliance of Hippocratic Medicine v. the FDA and GenBioPro v. West Virginia.
- DFA advocates collaborated with the Center for American Progress regarding [EMTALA in the Idaho v. United States](#) case to protect patients, doctors and medical trainees about the impact of imposing legal principles on the practice of medicine and criminalizing the standard of care. This work included videos, multiple op-eds and infographics.
- Hosted specialized training on how to provide testimony on gender health issues, and in concert with the ACLU and Whitman Walker, created evidence-based talking points on [Gender Affirming Care](#) that spurred op-eds across the country.
- Developed several advocacy resources on a variety of issues including the [2024 HIPAA Reproductive Rule](#) and [healthcare for undocumented patients](#).

<p>Cindy Davis OB-GYN practicing in rural South Dakota serving primarily farmers, Native Americans, and Hutterites</p>	<p>Polly Wiltz Emergency medical resident working in East Cleveland, Ohio, where the majority of the community lives below the poverty line</p>
	
<p>You have to support the medical ethics of supporting autonomy</p>	<p>I think I would first ask them to put their personal beliefs aside</p>
<p>5:14 / 6:47</p>	

Digital Communications

Social Media

We actively engage our community across multiple social media platforms, including Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, X, and our newly acquired presence on BlueSky. Through these channels, we share impactful news stories, key updates, and important initiatives, fostering meaningful connections with our audience.

2024 Total Followers

37,673

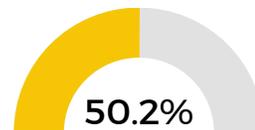
Post Impressions

484,593

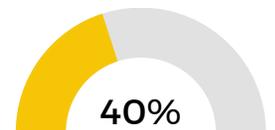
Email Newsletters

Our newsletters deliver key updates, upcoming events, and important initiatives directly to our audience's inboxes. Our "Pulse" and "Vitals" newsletters are sent biweekly and perform exceptionally well year after year.

2024 Engagement Rate



2024 Industry Average



Post Video Views

From storytelling and impact highlights to educational pieces and event coverage, our videos connect with audiences across platforms. By leveraging dynamic visuals, event recordings, and creative storytelling, we inspire action and deepen engagement with our work.

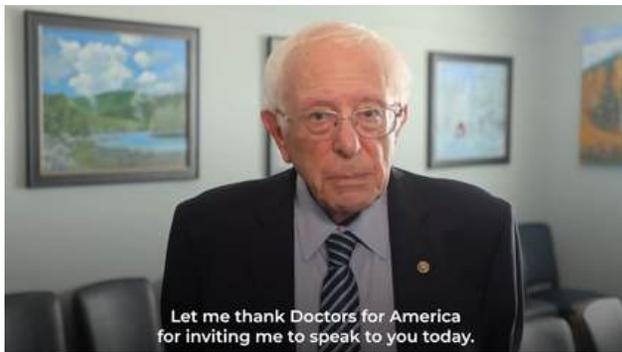
2024 Post Video Views

43,987

2023 Post Video Views

8,233

We garnered **35,754** more video views in 2024 than in 2023. That is a **434%** increase.



The surge in views was driven by a powerful [video message](#) from Senator Bernie Sanders, recorded exclusively for our 2024 National Leadership Conference. As chairman of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee, his support for the organization and insights on the healthcare system resonated widely, sparking heightened engagement and expanding our reach. The video garnered an impressive 32,936 views on the day it was posted.

Financials

Donations

Tax-deductible donations help Doctors for America mobilize doctors and medical students across the country to fight for everyone to have access to affordable, equitable, high-quality health care and the opportunity to lead a healthier life.

2024 Donation Total

\$79,000

2023 Donation Total

\$79,000

Membership Revenue

Doctors for America mobilizes the medical community to become leaders in placing patients over politics to improve the health of our patients, communities, and our nation. Members unlock a new world of advocacy with an all-access pass to advocacy alerts, events, resources, trainings, and more.

2024 Total Membership Revenue

\$42,561

2023 Total Membership Revenue

\$28,000

2024 Operating Budget

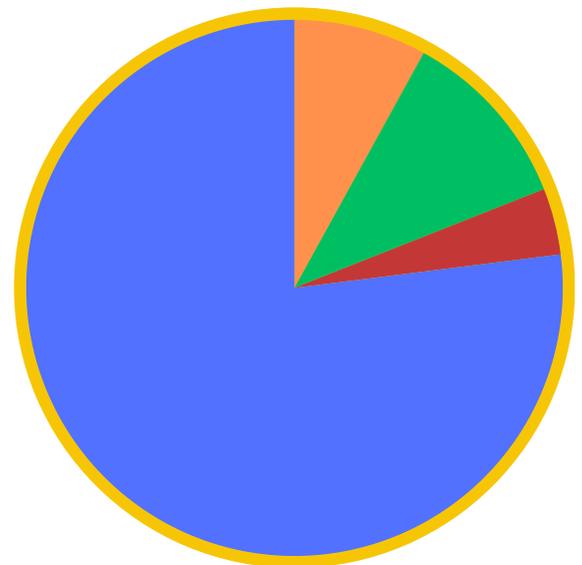
\$789,438

2024 Grant Funders

*



Other (NLC Registration) - 8% Donations - 11%
 Membership Revenue - 4% Grants - 77%



* a sponsored project of Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors

2024 Copello Health Advocacy Fellowship

Overview

Launched in 2010 by the National Physicians Alliance (NPA) as the A. Gene Copello Physician Leadership Summit, the summit grew into a year-long fellowship to provide professional development to selected physicians across the country. After NPA merged with DFA in 2019, the fellowship expanded its impact while honoring Dr. Gene Copello's legacy through patient advocacy.

The 2024 Copello Fellow Cohort engaged in a variety of advocacy actions, created resources and events culminating with a capstone that encompassed their year-long experience. Here are a few of their highlights:



Nicole Damari, MD

Nicole led sexual and gender health initiatives, improving policies on pronoun badges, inclusive spaces, and LGBTQ+ patient care. She addressed legislative barriers with an op-ed on gender-affirming care's mental health benefits. She also chaired DFA's Sexual and Gender Health subcommittee.



Fabrizia Faustinella, MD

Fabrizia advocated for Medicaid expansion in Texas, organizing training, publishing op-eds, and highlighting benefits for care access, equity, and budgets. She also promoted voter engagement as a health equity strategy, linking policy to social determinants like education, jobs, and housing.



Carson Hartlage
Medical Student

As a trans advocate, Carson secured \$1.5M in medical debt relief for 50,000 residents. They led a 500-signature abortion rights campaign, testified against Ohio's gender-affirming care ban, and opposed Medicare Advantage through storytelling. Carson also wrote for DFA's *eGreedgious Newsletter*, exposing healthcare greed to advance justice and equity.



Shriya Veluri
Medical Student

Driven by personal experience with healthcare inequities, Shriya advocated for Medicaid expansion and Medicare reforms with DFA. She led health education sessions on insurance access and authored Texas Medical Association resolutions to expand cancer screening coverage. Nationally, she joined ACR Hill Day, addressing workforce crises and Medicare payment reform.

2024 Copello Health Advocacy Fellowship



Jennifer Jones-Vanderleest, MD

To address advocacy training gaps, she piloted a workshop for UW medical students on public narrative and policy. She integrated fellowship content at the Northwest Center for Public Health Practice and led a DFA session on decarceration. She plans to update Underserved Pathways curricula and advocate against policies like the EDUCATE Act.



Temitope Olasehinde, MD

Temitope presented award-winning research how primary language affects IBD outcomes, highlighting disparities among immigrants and minorities and, as a Fight Colorectal Cancer Champion, lobbied for funding and policy reform. She plans to pursue a GI fellowship, join advisory committees, and advocate for health equity in digestive care.



Rajadhar Reddy
Medical Student

Raj, from a South Texas border town and pursuing an MD-MS in health policy, championed care access and drug regulation. He testified to CMS on Medicare pricing, addressed biosimilar patents with the FDA, and shaped Medicaid and immigration policy. A skilled negotiator, he navigates advocacy's evolving landscape with strategic leadership.



Dominique Rehl
Medical Student

Dominique championed reproductive rights in Ohio, counseling on contraception and leading Medical Students for Choice. As co-chair of DFA's Reproductive Rights Subcommittee, she developed talking points, organized speakers, and co-created a toolkit. She used social media to support Ohio's Issue One and testified on reproductive and gender-affirming care bills.



Anand Singh
Medical Student

Anand co-chaired DFA's Gun Violence Prevention Subcommittee and created a national coalition of medical students focused on firearm safety. Inspired by tragedies like Uvalde, he organized advocacy events to push for state and national policy change. He also received the 2024 Founders Award for advocacy as a Copello Fellow.



Polly Wiltz, DO

Polly, an emergency medicine resident, shifted to systemic advocacy post-Roe, collaborating with the Center for American Progress and DFA. She testified on EMTALA's repeal, joined an abortion criminalization panel, and published op-eds. Her work led to a grant-funded study on first-trimester emergency care disparities, shaping policy and patient care.