

ADFM Representation, Engagement, Access, Community and Health (REACH) Committee Charge

Approved by ADFM Board September 19, 2025

Background:

Family medicine (FM) departments promote the health of individuals, families and communities, and provide optimal learning and working environments for trainees, faculty and staff. Family medicine is charged to care for people of all backgrounds, situations or health statuses. FM physicians see patients with a variety of health conditions longitudinally through the course of their lives.

This comprehensive outlook provides the opportunity to engage with our communities and provide access across all representations to maximize health outcomes and quality of life. FM departments seek physician and staff talent plus representation of the communities they serve.

Purpose of the Committee:

The Committee Acts on behalf of member departments as they seek to engage all department members, patients and learners from all backgrounds and situations through the following:

- Builds a shared framework of goals, action items, lived experience, and literature for family medicine departments to use—no matter who, in what circumstances, demographic or other group they identify with.
- Optimizes health outcomes and quality of life for every patient and provides every learner with the opportunity to develop interest and be successful at pursuing family medicine.
- Helps prepare peer consultation or “hot topic” sessions for department leaders and is available to help plan and facilitate sessions at the ADFM meeting.
- Recognizes that engaging all patients and learners regardless of background and situation cuts “horizontally” across all the work that departments do—including clinical care, education, advocacy, and research/scholarship.

Key Committee relationships:

The Committee maintains connections within ADFM and affiliated FM organizations sharing similar goals for reaching all patients and learners. Connections can also be maintained with professional and community organizations engaged in similar purposes outside FM. The committee’s strategic connections may shift over time and be longitudinal or project specific.