

MAFP Lifetime Achievement Award – 2026

During our Annual Meeting in March 2026, we presented two awards to MAFP members. Francis Bellino MD, FAAFP was honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award. This award honors a MAFP member who has demonstrated continuous dedication to family medicine throughout their career and whose work has made a lasting, significant impact on the specialty in Maine and on the health and well-being of all Mainers. [Click to read more.](#)

Dr. Bellino completed his undergraduate and medical degree studies in a combined 6 year program at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and Albany Medical College in 1974. He then came to Maine for his family medicine residency at Maine Medical Center (the inaugural class) and he remained precepting residents there for 30 years from 1977- 2007

He remained practicing in Maine after residency starting a solo practice in Steep Falls where he remained for almost 20 years. He then transitioned into administrative roles becoming the medical director for several organizations including UNUM, United Health Group, and Professional Disability Associates over a 25 year period. Throughout this time as a primary care physician and as a medical director, he also served as the physician for several camps and a local school, was medical director for Pinetree Treatment Center for Women, Lincoln National Health Plan of Maine, and several other organizations. In addition, he was a Medical Examiner for the State of Maine for over 25 years and was a Clinical Assistant Professor for the University of Vermont Medical school for over 25 years.

He was conferred a Degree of Fellow by AAFP in 1986 and from 2015 - 2025 he has served on the board of MAFP as a director, vice president, president, and treasurer. The only position he didn't hold was as delegate but he made up for that by stepping in as the treasurer unexpectedly while he was the immediate past president. he inspired many board members during his time on MAFP. Anyone who met him quickly felt his caring and calming presence. As President he showed us all how to lead by example, how to be supportive and involved but not micro-manage, and how to respect one another. Personally, I learned so much from him and wouldn't be the President of MAFP today if not for him.

Family was also very important to him which you could clearly see on his face whenever he would talk about his wife, kids, and grandkids. His career encompasses what many of us aspire - compassionate, dedicated doctors, teachers of our profession, champions of our specialty, and balancing all of that by being a loving family member.