



AAFP *Foundation* PFIZER TEACHER DEVELOPMENT

Administered by the American Academy of Family Physicians Foundation

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News Release

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Chicago Family Physician and Educator Receives Prestigious Award

LEAWOOD, Kans. –Chicago, **Illinois**, physician Bechara Choucair, M.D., is among a select group of physicians honored by the American Academy of Family Physicians Foundation for his commitment to education in the field of family medicine. Dr. Choucair was selected to receive the 2007 Pfizer Teacher Development Award based on his scholastic achievement, leadership qualities and dedication to family medicine.

The \$1,500 award, supported by Pfizer Medical Humanities Initiatives, recognizes community-based physicians who have chosen to teach family medicine on a part-time basis. The award provides funding for each recipient to attend a seminar, workshop or fellowship to further his or her development and teaching skills.

“As past recipient of the Teacher Development Award, I am pleased that Pfizer continues to make awards available to our members,” said AAFP/F President Jerry P. Rogers, M.D., “this program recognizes dedication to mentorship among family physicians such as Dr. Choucair.”

Dr. Choucair received his M.D. degree from the American University of Beirut, completed his Residency at Baylor College of Medicine, Family & Community Medicine Department, and is currently teaching family medicine part-time at Northwestern University, Feinberg School of Medicine, Department of Family Medicine. He will be recognized for this achievement during a ceremony held by his teaching center.

In addition to his dedicated part-time teacher of family medicine, Dr. Choucair is the Executive Director of Heartland International Health Center (HIHC), a Federally Qualified Community Health Center serving low income people in the City of Chicago. HIHC is an affiliate of Heartland Alliance for Human Needs & Human Rights, a Chicago-based organization that helps improve the lives of people threatened by poverty and danger. He also serves as the Chair for the National Health Care for the Homeless Clinician's Network, sits on the board of the National Health Care for the Homeless Council and is also involved in several other not-for profit organizations in Chicago.

The AAFP Foundation (AAFP/F), which administers the Pfizer Teacher Development Award, is the philanthropic arm of the 94,000-member American Academy of Family Physicians. The AAFP/F supports programs which benefit people's health care delivery such as initiatives to raise immunization rates in children, opportunities for residents to promote mother/child relationships through the gift of a rocking chair, and research training opportunities for residents and medical students. Please visit www.aafpfoundation.org for more information about the AAFP/F.

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