

# Partners

September 2022

## Philanthropy Done Right

The Besroul Centre for Global Family Medicine (Besroul Centre) is a hub of international collaboration dedicated to advancing family medicine globally through partnerships in low- and middle-income countries. The Centre was founded in 2015 in collaboration with Dr. Sadok Besroul, whose experience, gained while developing family medicine in his native Tunisia, Africa, inspired the Centre's mandate.

In August 2022 Dr. Besroul and his family took a decisive step in establishing their legacy as champions of family medicine on the global stage with the creation of the Fond Janine Bombardier pour le Centre Besroul, brokered by the Foundation for Advancing Family Medicine (FAFM). The Fond is a charitable trust dedicated to supporting the activities of the Besroul Centre through annual donations and it has been seeded with generous gifts from Dr. Besroul and his eponymous foundation. As the Fond grows with philanthropic contributions from friends and supporters of Dr. Besroul's vision, the College of Family Physicians of Canada™ (CFPC)-based Besroul Centre will benefit from increasing funding support.

Dr. David Ponka, Director of the Besroul Centre, joined Claudia Zuccato Ria, Executive Director of the FAFM, in expressing his gratitude to Dr. Besroul for choosing the Besroul Centre as the recipient of his generosity and the vehicle to establishing his legacy.

"The Besroul name is highly recognized in the international family medicine community as a symbol of inspiration for building equitable access to health care around the world," Dr. Ponka said. "The Fond Janine Bombardier pour le Centre Besroul solidifies Dr. Besroul's and his family's commitment

to the Centre and its vision – to lead the way in creating a world where no one is left behind when it comes to accessing quality primary care."

Learn more about the Besroul Centre for Global Family Medicine at: <https://www.cfpc.ca/en/besroul>.

## New Endowment Fund Honours the Legacy of Dr. David Gass



On March 19, 2021, the world of family medicine in Canada lost one of its most respected and cherished members with the sudden passing of Dr. David Gass. The loss reverberated across the country, through the halls of medical universities, federal health departments, and patient communities. The outpouring of heartfelt tributes that followed included generous in-memoriam donations to the FAFM.

In discussion with Dr. Gass' partner, Dr. Cathy Cervin, Past President of the CFPC Board, the FAFM has established the Dr. David Gass Legacy Education Endowment Fund to sustain the FAFM's Scholarly Work in Family Medicine Education Grant. This grant is conferred annually to academic and community-based family physician members of the CFPC in leading projects in medical education.

"Dr. Gass' legacy as an educator, leader, colleague, and friend to so many is reflected in the spirit of the

Scholarly Work grant,” said Dr. Ivy Oandasan, Director of Education at the CFPC. “His memory will be sustained through this education endowment fund and inspire future generations of family medicine educators in Canada.”

The FAFM is honoured to be the recipient of Dr. Gass’ fund. The fund accepts donations on a continuous basis.

For details, visit <https://fafm.cfpc.ca/donate>.

## Co-RIG Global Reaches Indonesia and South Africa

Shortly after the World Health Organization declared a global pandemic in 2020, the FAFM and the Besrour Centre recognized the urgent need to support family medicine’s pandemic response in at-risk communities around the world. Inspired by the Canadian Co-RIG program, developed by the FAFM with the generous support of the CMA Foundation, the Besrour Centre launched Global Co-RIG.

Global Co-RIG Phase I granted \$50,000 to two projects, one in Aceh, Indonesia, and the other in Cape Town, South Africa. These projects are tackling challenges of chronic disease management made more acute by the pandemic in their communities.

Here’s how Co-RIG Global is changing the world: <https://www.cfpc.ca/en/global>.

## Recognizing Family Physicians in the Territories

The FAFM is proud to announce a new Family Physician of the Year – Reg L. Perkin Award, highlighting the contributions of family physicians in the territories.

This annual award will recognize an outstanding CFPC member from Yukon, Nunavut, or the Northwest Territories who exemplifies excellence in the practice of family medicine and is selected based on nominations of fellow CFPC members.

Thank you to our long-standing partners, Scotiabank and MD Financial Management Inc. for generously supporting this new offering of the FAFM’s Honours and Awards program. Join us November 11, 2022, at the FMF 2022 Awards Gala where we’ll unveil the first Family Physician of the Year Award from the territories.

Read more about this new award: <https://fafm.cfpc.ca/fpoy-territories>.

## Family Medicine Forum 2022 – FAFM Events

Join us for the return of FMF live and in person from November 9 to 12, 2022.

- November 9, 2022: 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. – Section of Researchers Awards Celebration
- November 10, 2022: 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. – Celebrating Family Medicine Teaching Excellence Event
- November 11, 2022: 6:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. – Awards Gala
- November 12, 2022: 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. – the CFPC Convocation Celebration

If you can’t join us in person, be sure to check out the FAFM Virtual session: Facets of Advancing Family Medicine, on November 16th from 8:55 a.m. to 9:55 a.m.

Register today at <https://fmf.cfpc.ca>.