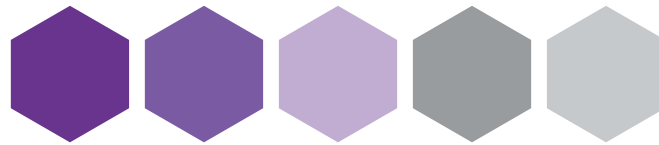


AWMIR

Association
of Women in
Rheumatology



**2025 Sponsorship
Prospectus**

AWIR sincerely thanks our current partners who have sponsored our efforts to promote the science and practice of rheumatology, foster the advancement and education of women in rheumatology, and advocate access to the highest quality healthcare and management of patients with rheumatic diseases.

AWIR is the only rheumatology association in the country with a select group of women-only leaders, all from diverse backgrounds, that is focused on developing women as leaders in medicine and addressing the issues of diversity, equity and inclusion for clinicians and patients.

While AWIR is proudly 100% women led, we welcome all to join us in shaping the future of our field.

Happy 10th anniversary AWIR



2014
AWIR launched by 4 Rheumatologists

2015
AWIR's 1st National Conference
in Hilton Head, SC

2016
AWIR's Alliance of Women in Research
formed; Local Chapters launched

2017
Caribbean Global Chapter launched

2018
Global Partnership formed with Italy

2019
Global Chapters India, Pakistan,
Bangladesh and Brazil launched;
Global Partner Australia joined;
1st Hill Day Visits by Advocacy

2020

AWIR 2020 goes Global with
a Virtual Annual Conference
and > 30 countries attending;
Global Chapter Canada launched

2021

AWIR 2021 Hybrid Annual Conference
in Hilton Head, SC

2022

AWIR 2022 Hybrid Annual
Conference moves to Orlando

2023

New Summit format launched
with more than > 80 Watch
Parties across 3 Summits

2024

Global Chapters – In progress:
Argentina, Colombia, Mexico,
Dominican Republic, Guatemala
and UK

Our mission focus:

VISION:

- Educate and create networks within the Rheumatology clinical community
- Increase the movement of women into leadership positions in Rheumatology
- Support greater diversity, inclusion, and equity for all clinicians and patients in the field of Rheumatology

STRUCTURE:

Global organization creating a core curriculum of educational and organizational content.

BUDGET:

- Strategy, Marketing, Operations and Logistics teams
- Website content development and maintenance
- Analytics and data generation
- Support for Global partner organizations & expansion into new markets
- Support for development of educational content

CLINICAL TRIALS:

Partnering with our sponsors on:

- 1) independent research to address the unmet need in rheumatic diseases and ways to improve patient outcomes
- 2) education and efforts to increase diversity and equity amongst both investigators and patients in clinical trials

ELEMENTS:

- Development: Practice/Business, Leadership, Professional, and Fellowship (see separate Request)
- Educational Programming to address the workforce shortage
- Encourage greater diversity, equity and inclusion in the clinical community
- To keep the Rheumatology community up to date on the latest science

Our mission focus:

MENTORING AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT:

- Networking events: AWIR Annual Conference; Global, Local Chapter meetings; other Global, U,S, and Regional Congresses
- Mentoring for health care practitioners in the Rheumatology community, including Physicians, Fellowship training programs, Advanced Practice Providers, Academia, Research and Allied specialties
- Private, web-facilitated mentoring network through AWIR's website, in-person and virtual meetings, fostering personal and professional growth

PRACTICE/BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT:

- Education and Implementation in business development and management to accommodate changing work environments to improve quality and access to care
- Enhancing physician/patient encounters, physician quality metrics
- Incorporating Advanced Practice Providers in patient care
- Enhancing communication skills to healthcare providers and patients

EDUCATION:

- Developing educational content to support:
 - 1) Clinical Competence in Rheumatology and comorbidities
 - 2) Cultural Consciousness to improve patient outcomes and eliminate disparities amongst patients and clinicians
 - 3) Collaborative Care to promote a holistic approach to care and improve patient outcomes
- CME and non-CME HCP education with partner organizations
- Leadership development
- Highlighting diversity, equity, and inclusion gaps and recommendations for change in the clinical community
- Content specific to the needs of Advanced Practice Providers
- Partnership with other organizations to disseminate relevant content in small groups face-to-face, as digital content, and as web-hosted material

AWIR by the Numbers

AWIR went from **4** members to
> **4,000** in **TEN** years!

Our membership is **more than 97%**
prescribing clinicians in Rheumatology:
MDs, DOs, Fellows, PAs, NPs.

70% 
30% 

97%
Adult/Pediatric Rheumatology
prescribing clinicians

3%
Other (e.g. students,
retired clinicians, PhDs)

 > **8,000** subscribers

 > **80** local chapter leaders
 > **50** local chapters

 > **8,000/month** site visitors



Amethyst

Corporate Membership

\$100,000 AND ABOVE

- One Corporate meeting (in-person or virtual) with the Board at AWIR 2025
- Podium recognition at all AWIR conferences
- Company name and logo and recognition of support on the Association's website
- Opportunity to host a 2- or 4-hr Advisory Meeting with the Board at an AWIR event (Annual Conference or in-person meeting)**
- Opportunity to host a 2-hr Advisory Board with our Local Chapter Leaders at an in-person event **
- First right of refusal on all additional sponsorships (e.g. Product Theaters)**
- Opportunity to educate clinicians about ongoing clinical studies and/or recruitment using AWIR's membership as appropriate (requires Board approval)
- 13 invites to AWIR's ACR and EULAR receptions

** Additional event sponsorship required



Sapphire

Corporate Membership

\$75,000

- One Corporate meeting (in-person or virtual) with the Board at AWIR 2025
- Podium recognition at all AWIR conferences
- Company name and logo and recognition of support on the Association's website
- Opportunity to host a 2 hr- or 4-hr Advisory Meeting with the AWIR Board at an AWIR event**
- Second right of refusal on on all additional sponsorships (e.g. Product Theaters)**
- Opportunity to educate clinicians about ongoing clinical studies using AWIR's membership as appropriate (requires Board approval)
 - 8 invites to AWIR's ACR and EULAR receptions

** Additional costs required

Ruby

Corporate Membership

\$50,000

- A Corporate meeting (In-person or Virtual) with the AWIR Board at AWIR 2025
- Podium recognition at all AWIR conferences
- Company name and logo and recognition of support on the Association's website
- Opportunity to sponsor a reception at an international meeting
- 6 invites to AWIR's ACR and EULAR receptions

Emerald

Corporate Membership

\$35,000

- Podium recognition at all AWIR conferences
- Company name and logo and recognition of support on the Association's website
- 5 invites to AWIR's ACR and EULAR receptions

Educational Opportunities

Vasculitis - GCA/PMR/Takayasu

Whilst there are several trials ongoing for new treatment options in vasculitis, there is a significant lack in knowledge about GCA, PMR, Takayasu disease; assessing patients at risk, early identification of patients at risk of relapse, and the significant impact on patients quality of life. With the abundance of recent and ongoing data releases, AWIR seeks to educate Rheumatologists on the methods of action, efficacy, and safety data, and potential patient profiles for these treatment options.

AWIR proposes a 1.0/1.5 CEU live program for Rheumatologists to begin educating a wider audience on the potential for new treatment options and the need for early detection.

Funding is being sought to support a live program and then enduring content that will be hosted on myCME (our CME accredited Learning Platform for AWIR); the live program will be either at a Summit or at the Annual Conference. Healthcare Practitioner attendance live at either event is estimated between 400 - 500 attendees with an estimated 700 completed learners and > 1200 viewers across specialties and primary care on the enduring myCME platform post the live event.

Sponsorship is being sought from multiple partners - total costs are **\$200,000**.

Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE) and Lupus Nephritis (LN)

Recent clinical trials have shown that novel options to treat SLE and LN are quickly evolving and promise additional opportunities for patients who have been unable to achieve or maintain disease control with glucocorticoids or other conventional treatment approaches. Community Rheumatologists are often too busy to keep up with the growing body of evidence; furthermore, there is a huge unmet need in SLE and LN patients, to identify and treat them early for improved patient outcomes. Given that the vast majority of patients in the U.S. are women and often women of color, we will include discussions of health equity, diversity, and inclusion to help HCPs provide equitable access to all.

AWIR proposes a 1.0/1.5 CEU live program for Rheumatologists to begin educating a wider audience on the potential for new treatment options and the need for early detection.

Funding is being sought to support a live program and then enduring content that will be hosted on myCME (our CME accredited Learning Platform for AWIR); the live program will be either at a Summit or at the Annual Conference. Healthcare Practitioner attendance live at either event is estimated between 400 - 500 attendees with an estimated 700 completed learners and > 1200 viewers across specialties and primary care on the enduring myCME platform post the live event.

Sponsorship is being sought from multiple partners - total costs are **\$200,000**.

Educational Opportunities

Obesity and Rheumatic Disease – Anti-inflammatory roles of GIPs/GLP-1s and the potential for better patient outcomes.

AWIR has advocated for increased collaboration across specialties and supports education to address co-morbidities like obesity and the overlapping inflammatory processes with rheumatic disease and other conditions.

In 2025, we are planning to include educational offerings for rheumatologists to highlight obesity as a comorbidity in rheumatology patients, focusing on inflammatory processes and clinical outcomes, as well as disease management strategies and novel treatment targets (such as GIP and GLP1s).

Early research has suggested that these overlapping mechanisms have the potential of improving outcomes in rheumatic disease, independent of weight gain/loss.

Funding is being sought to support the development of a live program (either at our Annual Conference or Summit) and endured as an on-demand video on myCME (our partner for CME Learning Platform). Through AWIR's and myCME's reach, we estimate live event attendance of 400-500 rheumatology HCPs, and on-demand enduring reach of 700 learners and >1200 viewers across specialties.

Educational support is being sought from multiple partners; the total costs are **\$250,000**.

CAR-T Therapy and Rheumatic Diseases – A new frontier for treatment options

Chimeric antigen receptor T cells have demonstrated their capability to intervene in B-cell mediated diseases such as SLE amongst others. The possibility of depleting B-cells and autoreactive B cell response to 're-set a patients immune system' is intriguing to Rheumatologists; however, there is a lack of understanding around the immunology and CAR-T data to date. AWIR proposes a 1.0/1.5 CEU live program for Rheumatologists to begin educating a wider audience on the potential and challenges with CAR-T.

Funding is being sought to support a live program and then enduring content that will be hosted on myCME (our CME accredited Learning Platform for AWIR); the live program will be either at a Summit or at the Annual Conference. Healthcare Practitioner attendance live at either event is estimated between 400 - 500 attendees with an estimated 700 completed learners and > 1200 viewers across specialties and primary care on the enduring myCME platform post the event.

Educational support is being sought from multiple partners; the total costs are **\$250,000**.

Educational Opportunities

Incorporating APPs into Clinical Care: Increasing the Diversity of Providers in Rheumatology

- AWIR seeks to help close the gap in the looming workforce shortage by providing guidance and examples of how to train and incorporate APPs into Rheumatology care.
- Our objective is to create a podcast series dependent on level of funding), with speakers from AWIR Leaders (MDs, DOs, NPs and PAs) representing clinical settings where APPs are already incorporated, with case-based patient presentations on:
 - 1) Rheumatology and immunology
 - 2) Co-management of patients
 - 3) Business practicalities
 - 4) Treatment options
- Video podcasts will be accredited and hosted on myCME, and disseminated through AWIR and myCME channels.
- Available to Corporate Partners; Educational support is **\$75,000** per video podcast (30-min each).



Educational Opportunities

Nuts and Bolts of Rheumatology Care: On-demand video library for APPs, Fellows, and Early Career Rheumatologists

Multiple strategies have been proposed to expand the rheumatology workforce, including increasing the number of rheumatology fellowship training positions as well as recruiting NPs and PAs for specialized rheumatology care.

AWIR has begun to build out a targeted educational on-demand resource center for APPs, Fellows and, early-career physicians who are interested in joining or have started working in the rheumatology workforce.

We recently launched the resource center on myCME, which is being widely disseminated through myCME and AWIR channels.

The resource center features a collection of video modules, grouped by chapters for easy navigation, self-paced learning, and attention retention.

Each chapter focuses on individual disease states, broken up into short video modules covering key topics, as well as case-based discussions and expert perspectives on best practices for the management of each disease.

As part of Phase 1, the resource center includes two video modules (one in RA and one in SpA) which garnered more than 600 learners and 1200 viewers in the first two months post-release.

This program is accredited and marketed via myCME.

myCME™ is a medical education website that delivers certified CME/CE activities that meet the continuing professional development needs of clinicians worldwide. MyCME (<https://www.mycme.com/>) is one of the largest online providers of accredited content; currently they have more than 100 courses on offer for NPs/PAs. The NP PA community, as well as any clinician treating patients with Rheumatic diseases, will be targeted via claims data to push them towards the myCME platform.

Registered myCME users encompass a broad reach of physicians, NPs, PAs, nurses, pharmacists, and other healthcare professionals in various practice settings and specialties. Given the small number of specialized Rheumatology NPs and PAs (approximately 650) and active Fellows, MyCME will also target the primary care providers that have expressed interest and/or have been identified by their prescribing patterns in Rheumatology; effectively marketing to a wider audience. MyCME statistics for the past 12 months include 629,697 registered members; 7,373,045 page views; and 300,000 completed exams.

Educational Opportunities

Nuts and Bolts of Rheumatology Care: On-demand Video Library for APPs, Fellows, and Early Career Rheumatologists (Cont'd)

2024 Phase 1: Landing Page (completed)

1. Rheumatoid Arthritis (Video segments totaling 1-hr)
2. Spondyloarthritis (Video segments totaling 1.5-hr)

2025 Phase II: Learning & Resource Center with Potential Video Topics

1. Lupus/SLE
2. Obesity Management and Treatment
3. Identifying and Treating Skin Conditions across Skin Colors (HS, PSO, AD)
4. Sjogrens - Identification and Treatment
5. Imaging Techniques in Rheumatology (Video; 30-min)
6. Lab Monitoring Requirements for Rheumatology Therapies (Video; 30-min)
7. Medication Guide and Quick Reference (Downloadable Resource)
8. Vaccination Guide (Downloadable Resource)
9. Testing and screening Guide (Downloadable Resource)
10. Clinical Trial Comparison Guide (Downloadable Resource)

Estimated sponsorship for each segment is **\$275,000**; each downloadable resource is **\$200,000**.

Available to Corporate Partners only.



Advisory Boards with AWIR Leadership Sponsorship

SPONSORSHIP:

- 4-hour Advisory Board **\$35,000**
- 2-hour Advisory Board **\$25,000**

- AWIR Leadership routinely meet throughout the year and during live events for internal business; this opportunity is open for sponsors to add on a 4- or 2-hour advisory board with the AWIR Board and Local Chapter Leaders.

- Available for Corporate Sponsors only

- Must be held in conjunction with an existing meeting; AWIR provides meeting space, ability to utilize our AV partner on-site, and leadership members already in attendance, with no additional travel or hotel costs

- Dependent on the sponsor requirements, additional AV, logistics and/or support costs will be the responsibility of the sponsoring company



Local Chapters Sponsorship

AWIR's Local Chapters continue to expand throughout the US and offer opportunities for education, sharing of resources, and networking in smaller, intimate groups designed to facilitate communication for didactic presentations or round tables.

AWIR currently has more than 80 Local Chapter Leaders and 50 Local Chapters across the country.

Sponsorship; total cost is **\$100,000**.



BENEFITS:

- Host an educational company sponsored event/speaker program, on a topic and date mutually agreed on by the Local Chapter Leader and supporting partner
- Additional costs required for meals and AV as required by the sponsor
- Company personnel must be invited to attend and/or participate in the in-person meetings, in consultation with the Local Chapter Leader
- Industry participation for speaker engagements is at the discretion of the Local Chapter Leader

NOTE:

Corporate Membership is required to sponsor Local Chapters.

DATES:

Varies throughout the calendar year. Sponsors may hold as many programs as approved by our Local Chapter Leaders.

ATTENDEES:

Prescribing clinicians within the Rheumatology Community (MD, DO, NP, PA, and Allied Professionals) from the local chapter area

CONTENT:

HCP centered education

Clinical Research Opportunities

We welcome all our Corporate Partners to collaborate with our Leaders on mutually agreed upon research endeavors. AWIR has leaders with expertise in conducting observational and clinical studies, and surveys. We want to encourage the development of more investigators within our membership.

AWIR also has Global Chapters in many markets with large numbers of biologic-naïve patients and looking to become more educated on conducting clinical trials and/or already engaged in trials.

Select current & recent research endeavors and publications:

1. *Increasing Advocacy Awareness in Early Career Rheumatologists: A Web-Based Educational Tool* (<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/acr.24719>)
2. *Geographic Variation in Disease Burden and Mismatch in Care of Rheumatoid Arthritis Patients in the United States.* *ACR Open Rheumatology*, 5: 181-189. <https://doi.org/10.1002/acr2.11532>
3. *Associations of Cost Sharing on Rheumatoid Arthritis Disease Burden.* (<https://doi.org/10.1002/acr2.11575n> press, *ACR Open Rheumatology*, 2023 *Arthritis Care*)

4. *Ethnic Differences and Regional Variability in Psoriatic Arthritis Disease: Examining Disparities in Patient Burden and Physician Care.* A retrospective analysis of psoriatic arthritis patients enrolled in the RISE registry. (ongoing)
5. *Characteristics, Social Determinants of Health and Health Equity: Determinants of Inequity in bDMARD Utilization in Psoriatic Arthritis patients in the United States: Opportunities for Intervention.* A hybrid retrospective-prospective study engaging psoriatic arthritis patients enrolled in the RISE registry (initiation 2023)

In Development:

6. *Administrative Barriers to Access to bDMARD and Outcomes in Psoriatic Arthritis patients.*
7. *Understanding the Definition of Equity in Health Care: Patients and Provider Perspectives*
8. *Contributors of SLE Disease Flares and Hospitalizations:*
9. *Optimizing the Rheumatology Workforce: The Impact of Clinical Settings on Patient Outcomes*

Amethyst Corporate Partners have the opportunity to collaborate with AWIR on clinical trial recruitment for patients and for study sites that are in line with AWIR's mission.

Virtual 2-hr Summits with Community Watch Parties

Looking for opportunities to educate HCPs on your products benefits and improve patient outcomes? AWIR's virtual Summits with Community Watch Parties are the perfect solution with consistent HCP audiences.

In Q4 of 2023 through Q2 of 2024, AWIR successfully held 3 Summits with an average of 25 Watch Parties for each Summit.

We averaged 400 - 480 live and virtual registrants at each Summit. Audiences ranged from 5 to 25 at the locally held Watch Parties across the country.

Sponsors of Local Chapters have the opportunity to have up to 6 company representatives attend individual watch parties - limit one attendee / watch party.

Of Note: To hold a Summit Product Theater and/or Educational Symposia partners must also **secure a Magenta Summit sponsorship (see next page).**

In 2025 AWIR will hold **4 virtual Summits** that will livestream content to AWIR Community Watch Parties and others registered; creating a hybrid experience but with fewer logistical hurdles that limit audience participation.

Each watch party will have a host with a link to project the program on a screen at their location.

AWIR provides the location, food and beverage for each Watch Party.

To hold a virtual Summit AWIR:

- Builds out a customized virtual platform for attendee interaction and live streaming for the Watch Parties and all viewers registered
- Gives sponsors the opportunity to hold a **30-minute Product Theater or Medical Symposia at a Summit.** Available to Corporate Sponsors at the Amethyst and Sapphire levels
- Each Magenta Sponsorship comes with a **5-minute Corporate Roundtable presentation** opportunity for the sponsor to speak directly to the virtual audience

Summit Sample Agenda

11:50 - Welcome & Opening Remarks

12:00 - Educational Symposium

12:30 - CME Presentation

14:00 - Corporate Roundtable

14:50 - BREAK

15:00 - Educational Symposium

15:30 - AWIR Update & Closing Remarks

Virtual Summit Sponsorships

Magenta Individual Summit

\$25,000

Three banner ads in AWIR newsletters to promote a Product Theater or Educational Symposia (sponsor supplies art files)

Corporate Roundtable presentation of 5 minutes

5-minute pre-recorded video played before and during the breaks on the live stream

6 attendees at Community Watch Parties - limit one attendee / watch party

Recognition of support at the event

Opportunity to sponsor Product Theater or medical symposia*

Lavender Individual Summit

\$20,000

5-minute pre-recorded video

4 attendees at Community Watch Parties - limit one attendee / watch party

Product Theater*

\$50,000

A 30-minute Scientific Podium presentation or Product Theater, presented by a credentialed Speaker (topic and Speaker to be approved by the Board)

Summit meeting sponsorship at the Magenta level is required

Sponsors have the option to provide AWIR with a promotional banner to be included in AWIR newsletters

Inclusion of the Product Theatre in AWIR marketing and promotion in digital media and our newsletter

Please discuss topic and Speaker prior to submission (grace.wright@awirgroup.org)

*Open to Amethyst and Sapphire Corporate Sponsors

Dates

- Saturday, February 8
- Saturday, March 22
- Saturday, September 13
- Saturday, December 6

Why Partner with AWIR?

The Association of Women in Rheumatology advocates for access to the highest quality healthcare and management of patients with Rheumatic diseases. We believe in creating a strong network of advocates that will support AWIR policy priorities at both the state and federal level.

What Does AWIR do in Advocacy?

Our advocates are working on the frontline of healthcare and have first-hand knowledge of the struggles our patients endure. To help provide support for our advocates and encourage more to participate, AWIR has created on-line education, and provides in-person virtual training for upcoming Rheumatologists and others in the clinical community.

The AWIR Advocacy Committee is proud to report that the momentum gained throughout 2024 has continued to evolve and produce new opportunities. Our advocacy committee, which includes chapter leaders from around the country, is vital in helping the AWIR spread awareness and increased participation in grassroots advocacy campaigns at the state and federal levels. Even amid the pandemic, our army of advocates was able to participate in a number of state-based coalitions that supported patient access and affordability policies.

State & Federal Advocacy

AWIR focuses on educating legislators, government officials and the corporate community on the impact that policy/procedural changes may have to the patient's quality of care and disease management options.

AWIR also collaborates with patient organizations and other national societies to elevate awareness and provide a forum for an exchange of ideas, fostering a collaborative environment.



Advocacy Highlights (2024)

AWIR-Supported Non-Medical Switching Legislation Advances Out of Iowa House Committee

In January, AWIR submitted a letter in support of Iowa HF 626, which would prevent non-medical switching. "Non-medical switching" is an insurance utilization management protocol forcing a patient to switch from a current, effective, and stable medication to another medication for a non-medical reason. The letter emphasized the importance of advancing this policy, "HF 626 would protect Iowa patients from non-medical switching to ensure continuity of oftentimes complex medical therapies. As such, we request full support of the legislation and thank you for your willingness to consider advancing this critical legislation to ensure patient access to care." The letter is signed by AWIR's Co-Chairs of Advocacy and Iowa Local Chapter Leaders. HF 262 advanced out of the Iowa Commerce Committee and has been placed on the full Senate calendar for consideration.

Advocates Fly In to D.C. for AWIR's 2024 Spring Hill Day on Capitol Hill

On March 13th, 2024 advocates from across the country came flew into Washington, D.C. to attend AWIR Spring 2024 Hill Day on Capitol Hill. AWIR Advocates to urge congress support and advance the HELP Copays Act, the Resident Physician Shortage Reduction Act, the Safe Step Act, and to address long term solutions to Medicare payment to improve patient access. AWIR is planning to hold its next Hill Day virtually this Fall. To read more about AWIR's 2024 Spring Hill Day - please see here.

AWIR-Supported Copay Accumulator Ban Legislation Advances Out of Missouri Senate Committee

In January, AWIR submitted a letter in support of Missouri SB 844, which would ban copay accumulator programs. Copay accumulator programs prevent the value of copay assistance from being applied towards a patient's deductible as an out-of-pocket expense. The letter states, "Most patients will not be able to afford their medication once the co-pay card benefit is exhausted - resulting in otherwise stable patients discontinuing their treatments and leading to negative health outcomes. Patients should not be punished by forcing them to choose between severe health consequences, or severe financial consequences." The letter is signed by AWIR's Co-Chairs of Advocacy and Missouri local chapter leader. SB844 advanced out of its respective committees and is before the chamber for consideration.

AWIR Joins Safe Step Coalition Members in Urging House Committee to Reform ERISA

AWIR joined members of the Safe Step Act Ad Hoc Coalition in responding to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce's request for information on ways to strengthen the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA). The organizations urged the committee to act to reform step therapy protocols, which negatively impacts patient care, and to mark-up and advance H.R. 2630, the Safe Step Act. The legislation, which AWIR has long supported, seeks to codify exemptions for step therapy protocols under ERISA. The Senate companion version (S. 652) advanced out of the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions last year.

Advocacy Partnership Opportunities

PLATINUM LEVEL

\$90,000

Acknowledgement of support at Hill Day and AWIR's Annual Conference in our program materials and on conference signage

Receive monthly newsletter updates

Includes 2 registrations for company employees to the Annual Conference

Communications by phone with AWIR leadership to allow for important dialogue around mutual policy and advocacy issues at both the state and federal level

Receive AWIR public policy and position information

Opportunity to meet with AWIR advocacy committee at the Annual ACR Conference

Includes two (2) attendees at the Annual AWIR Hill Day Breakfast

Receive AWIR letters to federal and/or state legislators or agencies

Company logo on AWIR website as recognition of Platinum Level Partnership

Opportunity to sponsor board lunch or dinner at ACR, AWIR Winter Meeting or AWIR Hill Day

Opportunity to meet with Advocacy Committee at the Annual AWIR Winter Board Meeting

Advocacy Partnership Opportunities

GOLD LEVEL

\$70,000

Acknowledgement of support at Hill Day and Annual Conference in our program materials and on conference signage

Receive access to monthly newsletter updates

Includes one registration for company employees to the Annual Conference in August

Opportunity to meet with the advocacy committee at the Annual Conference

Communications by phone with AWIR leadership to allow for important dialogue around mutual policy and advocacy issues at both the state and federal level

Receive AWIR public policy and position information

Opportunity to meet with AWIR advocacy committee at the Annual ACR Conference

Company logo on AWIR website as recognition of Gold Level Partnership

SILVER LEVEL

\$50,000

Acknowledgement of support at Hill Day and Annual Conference in our program materials and on conference signage

Receive access to monthly newsletter updates

Company logo on AWIR website as recognition of Silver Level Partnership

Fellows Funding

More than **54 million** people in the U.S. are affected by arthritis. The U.S. Rheumatology workforce is drastically declining, creating a disparity between patient access to specialized care for rheumatologic diseases and the availability of a diverse Rheumatology workforce. The American College of Rheumatology 2015 Workforce Study evaluated availability and projected the supply and demand for rheumatology care from 2015 through 2030.¹

In the 2015 study there were **4,497** full time clinical Rheumatologists, but the demand for rheumatologists required **5,615** full time physicians, **36%** more than available supply. By 2030, that number was projected to decline further by **31%**. The study emphasized that even at a 100% position fill rate per year and no reductions in the number of fellow positions offered, the average number of clinical Rheumatologists would not meet demand.

Funding Rheumatology fellowship training programs is especially important in underserved areas of this country, where patients may not have access to lifesaving treatments that can prevent disability and decrease the risk of life-threatening comorbidities related to rheumatic diseases.

According to the National Resident Matching Program (NRMP) Match Data from 2018, there were **104** credentialed Adult Rheumatology fellow positions

unfilled.² The main reason for unfilled Fellow positions was the lack of funding. AWIR's goal is to enhance the diversity in Rheumatology providers and in so doing enhance care to a diverse and underserved patient population.

A Rheumatology fellowship involves a 2-3-year training period and the costs of funding a fellow is \$100,000 per year on average.

AWIR would like to provide funding to credentialed rheumatology training programs, who are unable to support Fellows and will create a process where credentialed 2-year Rheumatology Fellowship Academic programs with unfulfilled available slots would be invited to apply for this opportunity.

1. 2015 American College of Rheumatology Workforce Study: Supply and Demand Projections of Adult Rheumatology Workforce, 2015-2030. Battafarano DF, et al. Arthritis Care Res (Hoboken). 2018 Apr; 70(4): 617-626.

2. NRMP Results and Data Specialties Matching Service, 2018 Appointment Year Report. National Resident Matching Program, Washington, DC. 2018.

AWIR's Fellowship Funding Request:

- AWIR is seeking to fund two-year Fellowship programs at accredited US medical institutions
- Funding levels are Platinum **\$150,000**, Gold **\$100,000**, Silver **\$75,000** and Bronze **\$50,000**
- AWIR is requesting support from several corporate entities
- AWIR hopes to continue the program over the next 5 years



Payments

EFT TRANSFERS:

JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. P O Box 182051 Columbus,
OH 43218 -2051

Please contact AWIR for banking details.

MAIL CHECKS TO:

Attn: Grace Wright, MD PhD, 345 E 37th St, STE 303c, NY,
NY 10016



We support and envision a future for rheumatology that appreciates all members of the profession – one that facilitates and promotes the advancement and growth of women as well as men.

- GRACE C. WRIGHT, MD, PHD, FACR, AWIR PRESIDENT



AWIRGROUP.ORG