



For Immediate Release  
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## **Vermont Medical Society Annual Meeting Focused on Health Equity and Collaboration in the Practice of Medicine**

**Stowe, Vt.** (Nov. 7, 2023) – The Vermont Medical Society (VMS) physician and physician assistant members met this month for the 210<sup>th</sup> VMS Annual meeting. Hosted in partnership with the American Academy of Pediatrics Vermont Chapter, the Vermont Academy of Family Physicians, and the Vermont Psychiatric Association, this meeting focused on health equity and the power of collaboration in the practice of medicine in Vermont. During the meeting, VMS members elected a new slate of Society officers, awarded the Mildred Reardon medical student scholarship and honored the 2023 VMS Leadership awardees.

VMS members elected a new slate of officers for 2023-2024 and named as the new VMS President **Rebecca Bell, M.D., M.P.H.**, pediatric intensivist at University of Vermont Medical Center (UVMMC) and past-President of the American Academy of Pediatrics Vermont Chapter, **Katherine Gamble Marvin, M.D.**, family physician and past-President of the Vermont Academy of Family Physicians, as President-Elect; **Naiim Ali, M.D.**, diagnostic radiologist at UVMMC, as Vice-President; and **Mark Fung, M.D.**, pathologist at UVMMC, as Treasurer. Click for the full press release: [Vermont Medical Society Taps New Officers.](#)

VMS members also recognized six individuals and one organization who have made outstanding contributions to the health and well-being of Vermonters and the nation during the past year. **Norman Ward, M.D.**, family medicine physician and American Medical Association (AMA) Delegate for Vermont, received the **Vermont Medical Society's 2023 Distinguished Service Award**. Both **Lauren MacAfee, M.D.**, Director of the Division of General Obstetrics and Gynecology at

the University of Vermont Medical Center, and **Denise Paasche, M.D.**, family medicine physician at Brattleboro Memorial Hospital, received the **Vermont Medical Society's 2023 Physician of the Year Award**. **Robert Hilo, D.O.**, emergency medicine physician and site director for the Brattleboro Memorial Hospital Emergency Department, received the **Vermont Medical Society's 2023 Physician Award for Community Services**. **Let's Grow Kids** was awarded the **Vermont Medical Society's 2023 Citizen of the Year Award**. **Rebecca Bell, M.D.**, pediatric intensivist at University of Vermont Medical Center received the **Vermont Medical Society's 2023 Founder's Award**. Click for the full press release: [Vermont Medical Society Honors Outstanding Service 2023](#)

The Vermont Medical Society's Education and Research Foundation (VMSERF) awarded a \$10,000 scholarship to University of Vermont Larner College of Medicine student **Elizabeth Kelley**. The scholarship was created to encourage young physicians to return to Vermont after completing their residency training and is named in honor of Dr. Mildred Reardon, former faculty member at the Larner College of Medicine at UVM and past-President of VMS. Click for the full press release: [Vermont Medical Society Awards Medical School Scholarship 2023](#)

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**About the Vermont Medical Society Education and Research Foundation:** The VMSERF is a nonprofit charitable organization sponsored by the Vermont Medical Society and organized exclusively for charitable, educational and scientific purposes. The purpose of VMSERF is to advance the public good by supporting educational and research activities in the field of health.

**About the Vermont Medical Society:** The Vermont Medical Society is the leading voice of physicians in the state and is dedicated to optimizing the health of all Vermonters and the health care environment in which Vermont physicians and physician assistants practice medicine. The Society serves its 2,900 members through public policy advocacy on the state and federal levels, as well as by providing legal, administrative and educational support, producing a rich flow of news and information and offering member benefits that increase medical practice effectiveness and efficiency. For more information, visit [www.VTMD.org](http://www.VTMD.org).