



Our philanthropic support allows the AAD to go beyond what dues alone can accomplish. From camp for kids, to helping residents attend our meetings, our donations benefit both our specialty and the recipients.

— STEPHEN P. STONE, MD, FAAD



Supporting the shade structure at the St. Joseph YMCA allowed us to solve a dire need, putting charitable donations gifted to our society in years past to good use. The State Society Board of Directors has pledged to continue to support similar endeavors in the future, with the goal of annual donations to support shade structures in the state for a minimum of the next three years.

— **MILAN J. ANADKAT, MD, FAAD**

AAD and Missouri Dermatological Society member



My experience participating in the AAD Diversity Mentorship Program was incredible. The one-on-one mentorship helped strengthen my clinic abilities and allowed me to work with underserved populations in Chicago. This opportunity further solidified my choice to pursue dermatology as a career. I highly recommend the AAD Diversity Mentorship Program to every URM student seeking exposure to the field of dermatology. This experience is truly one of a kind and is immensely rewarding.

— **VIRGINIA JONES, MD, MS**

Diversity Mentorship Program participant and future dermatologist, class of 2025



I witness first-hand the challenges of skin disease, both in daily practice and when I spent time at Camp Discovery. Because of this I find it tremendously important to support all AAD Children's Programs, which make a positive impact in the lives of kids.

— FRANZISKA RINGPFEIL, MD, FAAD



I was amazed to hear from the people who wrote the textbooks I was reading. It made learning come alive. The personal value of being in the room with someone who is an internationally recognized expert or someone who has unlocked the keys to a disease is palpable. And, not only to hear from them, I could meet them, ask them questions, and engage with them in a very personal way.

— **WILLIAM D. JAMES, MD, FAAD**

AAD Fellow since 1982



The Leadership Forum sessions and activities helped me realize my potential as an early career dermatologist. It helped me connect with peers and mentors which is an invaluable resource for professional growth. I would highly recommend this program for anyone.

— **THOMAS J. KNACKSTEDT, MD, FAAD**

Leadership Forum participant



When I began to approach retirement, I knew volunteering would be important to me, and the AAD has provided so many fulfilling opportunities. My first AAD skin cancer screening led to a passion for performing them not only in San Diego, but as far afield as Anaheim, at Disneyland. Thanks to generous AAD support with informational and procedural materials, I have had the pleasure of screening hundreds of individuals who might not have otherwise seen a dermatologist.

— **SUSAN BOIKO, MD, FAAD**

Skin cancer screener



Mentorship is key for students who identify as URiM. For me, having a mentor – a person who could guide me in overcoming unique challenges, who advocated for me – was essential.

— **KANDICE C. BAILEY, MD**

AAD Diversity Mentorship Program participant



When I went to camp right after I was diagnosed, I met a few kids with alopecia who had no hair. Without them even knowing it, seeing other kids with alopecia who were confident and happy showed me that I could be confident and happy with alopecia, too. They showed me that I didn't have to be nervous or shy about it. I guess what I really mean to say is that it's so comforting to see other kids like you when you're at Camp Discovery.

— **SILAS DEHAVEN**

Twelve-year-old Camp Discovery camper



My experience in Botswana, though short-lived due to the COVID-19 pandemic, was one that I will remember throughout my career and reflect on often. Beginning my clinical work was initially intimidating, but I am grateful that I had the opportunity to learn so much about the presentations of different conditions in skin of color. I return to the U.S. appreciative for the patients that allowed me to care for them and trusted me with their health.

— **JULIA M. MHLABA, MD, FAAD**

Past participant in the Resident International
Grant Program



Skin Cancer, Take a Hike!™ has allowed us to actively engage our families, patients, colleagues, and our local communities to support a shared challenge that unites us.

— **TRAVIS W. BLALOCK, MD, FAAD**

Skin Cancer, Take a Hike!™ participant



As a first-year medical student, I participated in the American Academy of Dermatology's Good Skin Knowledge program because I believe in the importance of educating youth about common skin conditions and healthy skin habits. Recognizing that I could have benefited from this program as an adolescent, I partnered with a local organization serving underserved communities in surrounding counties. With each session, I noticed the growth in knowledge, confidence, self-esteem, and team-building skills. The session about sun protection made the greatest difference. Some kids started the session with misinformation about sunscreen use in Black people but after breaking down the facts with a small demonstration of using my own sunscreen products on my skin, I saw literacy about sunscreen use improve.

**— CHARISSA OBENG-NYARKO, MS, MEDICAL STUDENT AT
FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF MEDICINE**

Good Skin Knowledge volunteer



Through philanthropic teledermatology outreach, I can make an impact in my local community on the larger problem of healthcare disparities.

— **CORY SIMPSON, MD, PHD, FAAD**

AAD Teledermatology Program volunteer



Having a place where kids can be in the shade when they're in school and when they're outside is very, very important, as are the other things like wearing sunscreen and staying covered up.

— **ALEXANDER S. GROSS, MD, FAAD**

Adopt-a-Shade donor