2023:
The Year in Review

We are proud to reflect on the incredible accomplishments of the last year and how we worked collectively to advance our shared vision of just and equitable abortion and contraception informed by science.

The Society of Family Planning grew to a community of more than 1,700 members. We are bigger, bolder, more tightly-connected, and — if possible — more committed than ever before.

4 new Complex Family Planning Fellowship sites launched, 29 new fellows started Fellowship, and nearly 200 people became newly certified Complex Family Planning subspecialists.

4 new clinical guidelines covering timely and pressing health issues — medication abortion, management of hemorrhage at the time of abortion, abortion nomenclature, and emergency contraception — are now shaping clinical practice.

1,300 people came together at our Annual Meeting to share new research and clinical practices, consider new questions and approaches, learn from one another, get inspired, and receive support to continue to advocate for evidence-informed and person-centered abortion and contraception care.

We celebrated each other’s accomplishments throughout the year and through our annual awards, presented this year to Christina Bourne, MD, MPH; Caitlin Bernard, MD, MSCI; Kathryn Curtis, PhD; Caitlin Gerdts, PhD, MHS; and Reni Soon, MD, MPH.
Scholars received millions in grant money to launch and enhance careers in family planning and to conduct research for impact regarding high-risk pregnancy care, tradeoffs in abortion care, contraceptive side effects, and more. The body of evidence this community is creating — reflective of the field’s most pressing needs — will advance policies and practice.

Working with clinics and scholars, we have begun to understand how the Dobbs decision shifted abortion volume across the country. We have told that story loudly to highlight the extraordinary efforts being undertaken to ensure people get care in impossible circumstances. #WeCount

We launched a new public affairs and advocacy program and used our voices and, most importantly, our EVIDENCE to respond to threats to access to abortion and contraception and to inform advocacy regarding self-administered DMPA-SC, telehealth medication abortion, misoprostol only, progestin-only pills, and more.

We have held ourselves accountable as we take action to become a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive Society, and have made demographic data for Board, staff, and program participants accessible and transparent to establish a baseline for our progress.

Sadia Haider, MD, MPH (President); Anitra Beasley, MD, MPH (President-Elect); Crystal P. Tyler, PhD, MPH (Treasurer); and Kate Shaw, MD, MS (Secretary) have taken on the commitment to be our new board officers in the new year and, with that, taken on even greater responsibility to ensure the Society realizes our bold vision.

What will we be able to do together in 2024? We cannot wait to find out!