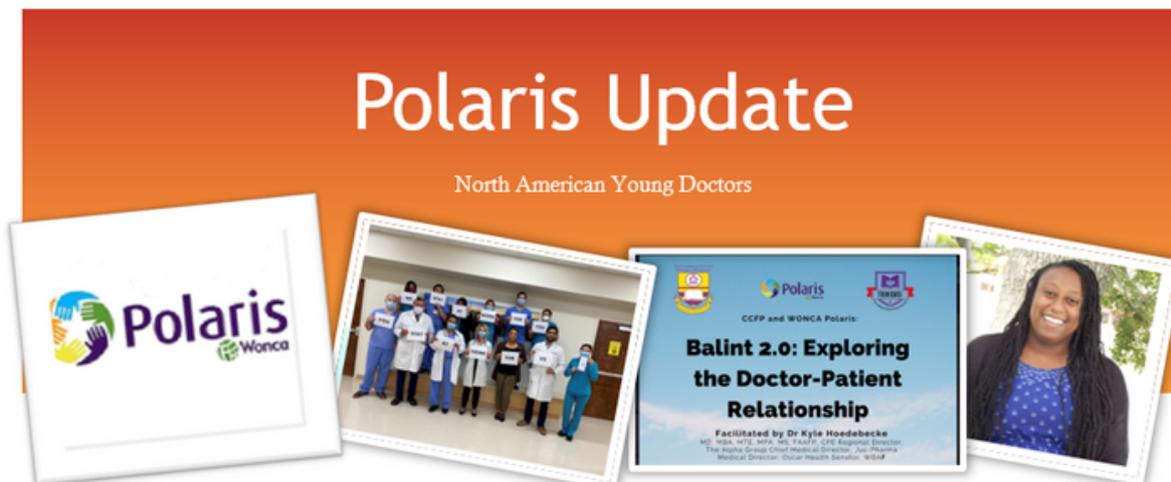


# YOUNG DOCTORS' MOVEMENT NEWS



## POLARIS- NORTH AMERICA

### COVID, Equity and NCDs

Family Medicine Early Career Physicians, Residents and Medical Students, have been immersed in the response to COVID, caring for our patients, caring for our colleagues and caring for our communities as well as looking to the future. To this end Polaris has supported the Caribbean College of Family Physicians in establishing a BALINT group and webinar. We have also been active planning the Global Health Summit for the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) and we have been chosen to be founding members in the inaugural Global Equity Task Force of the AAFP, and on the Border Health Initiative.

Global injustice and systemic racism are reaching headlines in the USA and Polaris has been active in the movement to address inequalities which undermine the health of our patients and providers. Dr. Shawnecca Burke writes an excellent piece addressing a resident's role in addressing racism (see our newsletter).

We have also hosted a Webinar series on the Ethics of Global Health hosting panels of speakers discussing the Ethics of Short Term Mission Trips and another on Global Partnerships.

People suffering from Non-communicable disease have been hit hardest by the COVID pandemic and our members have focused on local as well as global efforts to address the underlying factors through Lifestyle Medicine and partnering with the American College of Lifestyle Medicine.

### Thank you to Dr. Cheyanne Vetter

At our last executive meeting Dr. Vetter stepped down from her role as Chair. We will be sad to see her go, and we offer our heartfelt thanks for all that she has contributed. She has assisted in the establishment of Family Medicine 360 – a global exchange program for trainees from all over the world to come to North America for a four week elective, she has established a firm constitutional foundation and structure for Polaris, and she has been active in strengthening international networks for new family doctors. We wish her the best in her future endeavors.