



AWMIR

Association
of Women in
Rheumatology

2024
**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. As such, the organization is uniquely positioned to address the challenges of diversity, equity and inclusion in the field of rheumatology for both providers and patients.

While AWIR is proudly 100% women led, we welcome all to join us in transforming the way everyone develops as leaders in academia, clinical and other professional settings.

Our Influence

AWIR’s messaging and education via our Global Chapters / Partners, Members, and Attendees, Reaches



Our Members

- 97%** Adult/Pediatric Rheumatology prescribing clinicians
- 3%** Other (e.g. students, retired clinicians, PhDs)



Our mission focus:

VISION:

- Educate and create networks within the Rheumatology clinical community
- Develop leadership skills to increase the movement of women into positions of leadership in Rheumatology
- To support greater diversity, inclusion, and equity for all clinicians and patients in the field of Rheumatology

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



Our mission focus:

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 education and efforts to increase diversity and equity amongst both investigators and patients in clinical trials

ELEMENTS:

- Advocacy (see separate Request)
- Clinical Trials Education
- Mentoring/ Networking

ELEMENTS (Cont'd):

- 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

MENTORING AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT:

- Networking events: AWIR Annual Conference; Global, Regional and Local Chapter meetings; other Global, National 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 and

Our mission focus:

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 (in concert 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

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

Corporate Membership



Amethyst

Corporate Membership

\$100,000 AND ABOVE

- A Corporate meeting (In-person or Virtual) with members of the Board at AWIR 2024
- Podium recognition at all conferences
- Company name and logo and recognition of support on Association's website
- Opportunity to host a 2- or 4-hr Advisory Meeting with AWIR Board at an AWIR event (Annual Conference or in-person meeting)**
- Opportunity to host at additional costs a 2-hr Advisory Board with our Local Chapter Leaders at an in-person event **
- Opportunity to sponsor a roundtable event at international Rheumatology meetings**

** Additional costs required

- First right of refusal on all additional sponsorships (e.g. Product Theaters, Summit Product Theaters, etc additional event sponsorship required)**
- Opportunity to collaborate with AWIR to educate clinicians about ongoing clinical studies and/or recruitment using the AWIR members as appropriate (requires Board approval)

Sapphire

Corporate Membership

\$75,000

- A Corporate meeting (In-person or Virtual) with the Board at AWIR 2024
- Podium recognition at all conferences, annual meeting
- 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**
- Opportunity to sponsor a roundtable event at international Rheumatology meetings**
- Second right of refusal on additional sponsorships (e.g. AWIR 2024 Product Theaters, Summit Product Theaters, etc additional event sponsorship required)**

- Opportunity to collaborate with AWIR to educate clinicians about ongoing clinical studies using the AWIR members as appropriate (requires Board approval)

** Additional costs required

Ruby

Corporate Membership

\$50,000

- A Corporate meeting (In-person or Virtual) with the AWIR Board at AWIR 2024
- Podium recognition at all conferences, annual meetings
- Company name and logo and recognition of support on the Association's website
- Opportunity to sponsor a reception at an international meeting

Emerald

Corporate Membership

\$35,000

- Podium recognition at all conferences annual meeting
- Company name and logo and recognition of support on the Association's website

Promotional Opportunities

AWIR e-Newsletter Banners

SPONSORSHIP: \$30,000

Available to Corporate Sponsors only.



> 6,000 Subscribers

22 - 40% Newsletter Open Rate

- Sponsorship of AWIR's e-Newsletters with embedded, clickable branded or unbranded banners
- Final content of banners to be approved by AWIR Leadership as well as placement with appropriate newsletter content
- Placement in four e-Newsletters.

AWIR Clinical Updates Series

SPONSORSHIP: \$15,000

Available to Amethyst and Sapphire Corporate Sponsors only.

- AWIR seeks to create a landing page on our website that would contain up to date, relevant clinical data released by our industry sponsors and investigators
- Our aim is to drive our readers and members to this page to learn about the latest science and available therapeutics in Rheumatology. Many AWIR members and community Rheumatologists are unable to go to medical conferences such as ACR or EULAR or missed data updates released in these settings and in peer reviewed journals
- **The content would be top line information and data such as you would find in an abstract or press release**
- Final content to be approved by AWIR Leadership.

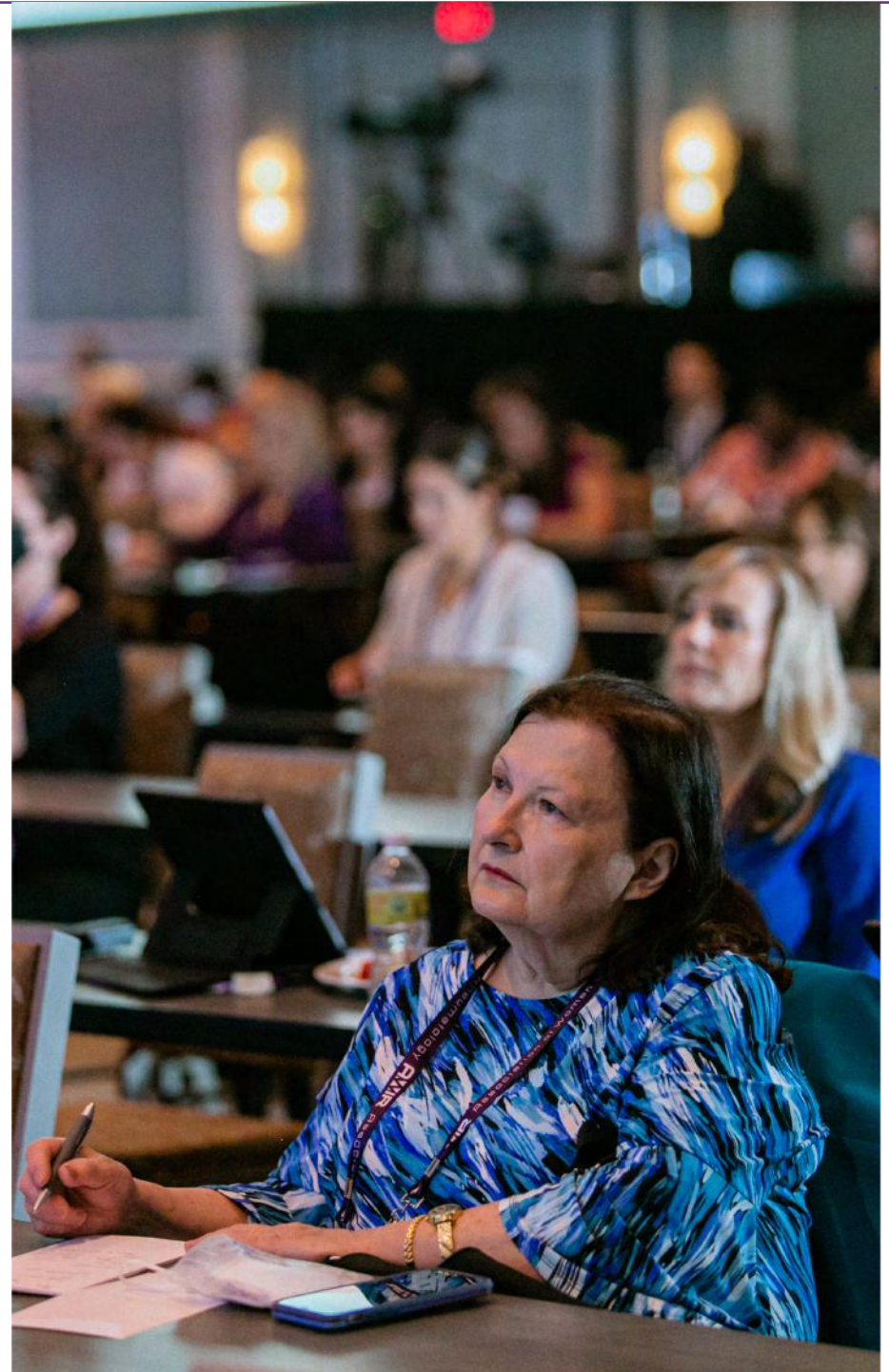
Promotional Opportunities

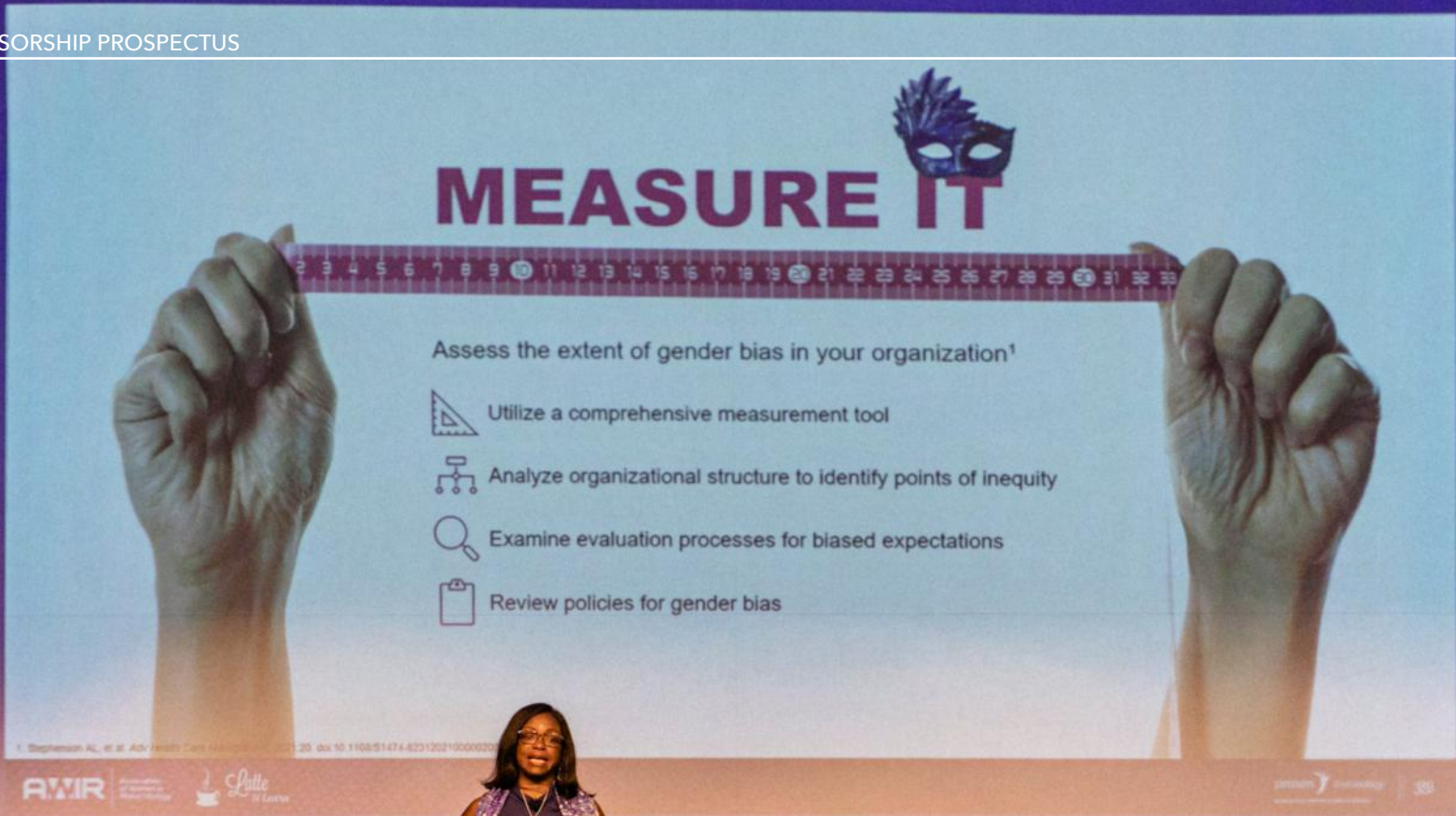
Quarterly Webcast Announcements on Evidence Based Care

SPONSORSHIP: \$30,000

Available to Amethyst Corporate Sponsors only.

- AWIR recognizes that not all HCPs are able to attend the larger Rheumatology conferences to receive up to date information on the treatment options, patient care and clinical trial outcomes. Our Corporate partners have extensive resources to create programs addressing these needs; AWIR has an audience and channels to distribute such programs.
- Opportunity to collaborate with AWIR to educate the wider Rheumatology community on the latest treatment options and care for patients with a range of rheumatic conditions and their comorbidities
- **Offered once a quarter**, AWIR will promote a partner's branded or non-branded webcast via its social media channels, digital newsletter and via the Local Chapters





Leadership & Professional Development

Leadership & Professional Development

Building a Clinical Pipeline with Greater Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in the Rheumatology Field

Part of AWIR's mission is to develop AWIR Fellows and early career Rheumatologists as leaders in the clinical community. In addition to supporting learning in leadership skills, AWIR seeks to mentor women and men on the challenges faced by women and how men can advocate for women in the workplace. We seek to emphasize how everyone deserves a seat at the table to improve patient outcomes and the clinical experience.

To address greater diversity and equity amongst practicing clinicians at all levels, AWIR would like to ensure more members of our organization are prepared with skills and background to be viewed as future leaders.

Part 1. Leadership Experiences and Strategies Podcast

PODCAST SERIES SPONSORSHIP: \$125,000

AWIR proposes to develop a series of podcasts (5) in which men and women talk about their experiences and how they overcame challenges to advance as leaders, how men have championed women in the workplace, and tools for both men and women to be seen as leaders in the field.

The podcast series will be accredited and marketed by MyCME.

Part 2. Leadership and Career Development Workshops

WORKSHOP SPONSORSHIP: \$250,000 per meeting

In agreement with the sponsor, AWIR plans to hold East and West coast meetings; inviting AWIR local chapter leaders, AWIR Fellows and other early-stage Rheumatologists from our membership to equip them with the tools to grow professionally.

To support leadership in the Rheumatology workforce we will include tips on communication skills, building CVs, engaging in peer reviewed publications, and communicating with the media and from the stage, all necessary to build a pipeline of leaders in the clinical community.

Each meeting will be 1.5 days.

Sponsors are invited to attend the meetings.

AWIR Leadership approves final content for the training. Available to Corporate Partners only.

Medical Education 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 short videos (5+ 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
- Videos to be accredited and hosted via the AWIR Website and myCME (see page 16 for more information on myCME), marketed by AWIR via our social media channels, AWIR's digital newsletter to more than 6,000 subscribers, a direct email campaign with a purchased list of clinicians, and presented at Local Chapter Meetings.
- Available to Corporate Partners; Sponsorship is \$125,000

Medical Education Opportunities

Series: Meeting the Rheumatology Providers Where They Are with Axial Spondyloarthritis: A Call to Action to Recognize and Treat the Disease

- Goal: address the unmet need to timely diagnose and treat men and women with Nr-AxSpA
- Non-branded disease education video series to include concepts such as:
 - 1) The diagnosis and differences between ankylosing spondylarthritis (AxSpa) and non-radiographic AxSpa
 - 2) Assessing disease activity and treatment response while maintaining a personalized approach to patient care
 - 3) Leveraging a team-based approach to care, including APPs, when treating AxSpa to ensure the best patient outcomes
 - 4) Review of the current and emerging treatment options based on mechanism of action, efficacy, and safety

Video series of 20-minute segments (up to 5 - final number dependent on funding), hosted online, marketed by AWIR via our social media channels, AWIR's digital newsletter to more than 6,000 subscribers, a direct email campaign.

Content Collaboration with Sponsors as appropriate. Sponsors Corporate logo included, and support acknowledged.

SPONSORSHIP: \$125,000

Available to Corporate Sponsors only.

Medical Education 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 proposes building out a targeted educational video library for APPs, Fellows and, early-career physicians who are interested in joining or have started working in the rheumatology workforce.

Phase 1 consists of a landing page widely disseminated via my CME, our online learning partner featuring a collection of short video modules, grouped by chapters for easy navigation, self-paced learning, and attention retention.

Each chapter will focus on an individual disease state, 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.

This program will be 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.

Medical Education 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 (final topics TBD dependent on sponsorship)

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

Total Sponsorship of Phase 1 is \$400,000; each proposed video segment is \$125,000 plus costs for the landing page.



2024 Phase II: Learning & Resource Center with additional videos (Final Topics TBD dependent on sponsorship)

1. Lupus/SLE
2. Comorbidities and Extra-Articular Manifestations (Videos; 1-hr)
3. Patient-Centered Strategies in Rheumatology Care (Videos; 1-hr)
4. Imaging Techniques in Rheumatology (Video; 30-min)
5. Lab Monitoring Requirements for Rheumatology Therapies (Video; 30-min)
6. Medication Guide and Quick Reference (Downloadable Resource)
7. Vaccination Guide (Downloadable Resource)
8. Testing and screening Guide (Downloadable Resource)
9. Clinical Trial Comparison Guide (Downloadable Resource)

Total estimated Sponsorship of Phase II is \$450,000

Available to Corporate Partners only.

Medical Education Opportunities

Call to Action White Papers

SPONSORSHIP: \$50,000 per paper

- AWIR proposes the development of a jointly developed publications on the topics that are part of AWIR's mission
 - Final dissemination determined with sponsors; dependent on the type and length of the publication
Options for dissemination include publication by Dr Wright on AWIR's social media channels
 - Available to Amethyst and Sapphire Corporate Sponsors only. Additional costs may be required
1. Clinical Competence - Identifying and treating women with nr-AxSpa
 2. Cultural Consciousness - Lupus, Managing the Risk of Kidney Damage, and Treating a Diverse Patient Population
 3. Collaborative Care - Healthcare Disparities in Skin and Joint Disease
 4. Under-recognition of gout and its Impact in women and underserved populations at risk of poor outcomes
 5. Hidradenitis suppurativa - the hidden skin condition impacting women of color and concomitant Rheumatic diseases
 6. Access to therapy (IV, small molecule, injections) - impact on patient outcomes

Advisory Boards with AWIR Leadership Sponsorship

SPONSORSHIP:

- 4-hour Advisory Board **\$25,000**
- 2-hour Advisory Board **\$15,000**

- 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
- Held in conjunction with an existing meeting; AWIR provides meeting space, ability to utilize our AV partner on-site, and faculty 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

\$85,000 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.

By the end of Q2 in 2023, AWIR successfully held more than 40 Local Chapter Meetings; we anticipate 70 meetings will be held by the end of the year.

BENEFITS:

- The opportunity to have 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:

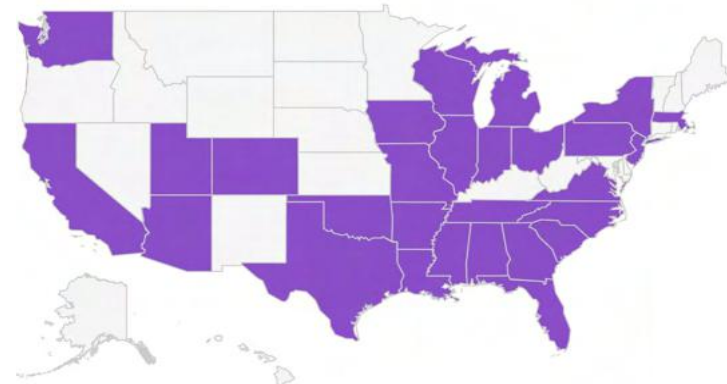
Throughout the calendar year. Sponsors may hold as many programs as approved by our Local Chapter Leaders.

ATTENDEES:

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

CONTENT:

HCP centered education



46 LOCAL CHAPTERS

Clinical Research



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.

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.

AWIR also has Global Chapters in many markets with large numbers of biologic-naive 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.*

A retrospective analysis of rheumatoid arthritis patients enrolled in the RISE registry which revealed the importance of practice location, and demonstrated the challenges in the achievement of disease remission as treatment mandate.

(<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/acr.2.11532>)

3. *Associations of Cost Sharing on Rheumatoid Arthritis Disease Burden.*

The association of copayments: office visits and medications, with comorbidity (RDCI) in rheumatoid arthritis patients. from 10 AWIR member practices across the US, was evaluated RA patients in the South had higher cost sharing payments. Yet, RA patients with higher RDCI had lower copayments. A call for adjustments in cost-sharing to accommodate patients with high disease burden is needed to ensure access to care.

(<https://doi.org/10.1002/acr.2.11575n> press, ACR Open Rheumatology, 2023 Arthritis Care)

Clinical Research Opportunities (Cont'd)

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*

Summits



(New) 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.

Adapting to the needs of our members, AWIR offered shorter virtual-only Summits in 2023. **We piloted the model and garnered more than 150 attendees at the May virtual Summit.**

In 2024 we will again offer up shorter virtual Summits with community watch parties hosted around the country, organized by AWIR.

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

The inclusion of community watch parties will support both networking at the local level and virtual education to all attendees.

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

In 2024 AWIR will hold 3 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.

To hold a virtual Summit AWIR will:

- Build out a customized virtual platform for attendee interaction and live streaming for the Watch Parties and all viewers registered
- Opportunities to sponsor a 30-minute Product Theater or Medical Symposia at a Summit are available to Corporate Sponsors at the Amethyst and Sapphire levels, with Amethyst Corporate Sponsors holding the right of first refusal for all Product Theaters and Educational Symposia
- To hold a Summit Product Theater and/or Educational Symposia partners must also secure a Magenta Summit sponsorship
- Each Magenta Sponsorship comes with a 10-minute Corporate Roundtable presentation opportunity for the sponsor to speak directly to the virtual audience
- Sponsorship has been requested from multiple companies

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 15 minutes

5-minute pre-recorded video

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

\$15,000

5-minute pre-recorded video

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

Recognition of support at the event

Product Theater*

\$15,000

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*

- March 23rd
- September 14th
- December 7th

*These dates may be subject to change

Sample Agenda

11:50 - Welcome & Opening Remarks

12:00 - Educational Symposium

12:30 - CME Presentation

13:30 - Corporate Roundtable

13:50 - BREAK

14:00 - Educational Symposium

14:30 - AWIR Update & Closing Remarks



Advocacy



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.

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.




AWIR Advocacy

The AWIR Advocacy Committee is proud to report that the momentum gained throughout 2022 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.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE PRIOR 12 MONTHS INCLUDE:

- Established, maintained, and grew relationships on Capitol Hill by executing a successful virtual (December 2022) and in-person Hill Day (March 2023) to promote federal legislative priorities - including meetings and engagement with female physicians in Congress.
- Successfully advocated in support of the Safe Step Act, which advanced out of the Senate HELP Committee.
- Organized a well-attended federal legislative briefing with the Global Healthy Living Foundation and The Aids Institute to educate congressional staff on copay accumulator programs - highlighting the HELP Copays Act.
- Successfully advocated and built co-sponsorship of the HELP Copays Act - which was reintroduced in the House and introduced in the Senate in April.
- Actively participate in stakeholder coalitions to advance step therapy, copay accumulator reform, and help alleviate physician shortage issues.
- Helped support the Alliance for Transparent and Affordable Prescriptions (ATAP) organize their legislative briefing on educating offices about reforming Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBMs) with Rep. Buddy Carters office.
- Active member of the All Copay Counts Coalition in supporting the federal HELP Copays Act. AWIR also is part of the state sub-group in working to pass state legislation to ban accumulator adjustment programs.
- Created successful engagements through our Voter-Voice program to support state and federal legislative priorities that includes the Safe Step Act, HELP Copays Act, Paycheck Fairness Act, state accumulator bills, state non-medical switching bills, state step therapy bills, state rebate pass-through bills and state white bagging bills.
- Successfully recruited and developed new AWIR advocates through our advocacy committee advocate program. AWIR has advocates in every state with a local chapter.

AWIR Advocacy

- At the beginning of the 117th Congress, we issued a letter of congratulations to all the women legislators elected and offered our support and input for health-related policies.
 - Regular communications with the Congressional Arthritis Caucus Chairs, GOP Doctors Caucus, Social Determinants of Health Caucus, and other healthcare leaders to educate them on our priorities.
 - In 2024 AWIR will focus on how to connect our health equity series with policy solutions.
 - AWIR advocates utilized our online grassroots tool to send emails to their state and federal lawmakers in support of our priority issues. Over 200 advocates from California, Texas, Florida, Illinois, Wisconsin, New York, Arizona, Ohio, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, Georgia, Mississippi, Massachusetts, and Delaware acted using this easy online tool in 2022.
 - Promoted advocacy training to Rheumatology Trainees/Fellows interested in advocacy via our online advocacy program and other programs impacting fellows through Local Chapter Leaders.
 - Throughout the year, AWIR convenes its advocacy leaders for strategic state and federal policy planning. In 2024, the advocacy committee will meet 4-6 times per year to provide feedback and receive education on the latest issues of impact to the rheumatology community.
- 

2024 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

2024 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



Rheumatology Fellows Funding

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 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

Credit card payments to incur service fees dependent on the percentage of the total. Available via our website on this landing page via **PAYMENTS:**
<https://awirgroup.org/about/corporate-sponsorship.html>.

Credit card and EFT accepted, please note that an initial one time only microdeposit is required for security reasons for credit cards.

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