



2002

Dr. Sagov Honored as Family Physician of the Year

For the past 31 years, Stanley E. Sagov, M.D. has served as a role model for students, residents, and his fellow colleagues; as a compassionate family physician to his patients; and as an active leader in the community. In recognition of his illustrious career, he has been selected as the 2002 Family Physician of the Year by the Massachusetts Academy of Family Physicians.

Criteria for selecting the recipient of the MAFP's highest award includes involvement in community affairs and in activities that enhance the quality of life; to serve as a credible role model as a healer and human being; and to be a mentor in the science and art of medicine to colleagues, especially to young physicians in training, and to medical students.

Dr. Sagov's distinguished medical career, in the Boston area, began in 1969 at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge where he served as an Assistant Physician for two years. After passing his State Boards in 1970 and receiving his Massachusetts license in 1971 he began his long-standing association with Harvard University serving as an Assistant Physician at Harvard University Health Service in Boston. Dr. Sagov has held appointments at Brigham and Women's, Otis, Beth Israel, Malden, and New England Memorial Hospitals. Currently he holds appointments at Cambridge Health Alliance, Human Resource Institute, Somerville, Children's and Mount Auburn Hospitals.

Dr. Sagov's affiliation with Mount Auburn Hospital, a Harvard teaching facility, began in 1977. Over the years, he has served on numerous hospital committees and in 2001 was selected by his colleagues to serve as Medical Staff President, the first Family Physician to hold the position.

Medical Students throughout Massachusetts know the name Stanley Sagov. For more than 20 years he has been faculty at all four medical schools and regularly mentors four students concurrently. Dr. Sagov has taught over 1,000 students in his office and they leave in awe of the man as a doctor, teacher and humanitarian.

Community service activities are second nature to him, in the early 70's he spent two years as a volunteer physician at the Cambridgeport and Walnut Street Free Clinics. Over the years Dr. Sagov has worked with the American Cancer Society, Physicians for Social Responsibility, Physicians for Human Rights, the Boston Chapter of the Committee for Health in Southern Africa (CHISA). He participates in the food delivery program to Jewish families in need and volunteers as a Hebrew Tutor at the Eitz Chayim Hebrew School.

In nominating Dr. Sagov for this distinguished award, Dr. Wayne Altman stated "It is said that a family physician should know a little about a lot. Stanley Sagov knows a lot about a lot. His rare ability to combine breadth and depth allows him to provide truly comprehensive care to his patients. Stanley is able to combine his intellect with an empathic style that forges deep connections with his patients. Most of his patients will tell you that once you have had Stanley Sagov as a physician, you can never have another. In fact, he has a number of patients who have moved out of the State yet continue to use him as their primary care physician. Stanley's reputation as a brilliant provider of medical care is also apparent when specialists refer their most difficult patients to him."

In endorsing his nomination a patient wrote "Stanley has helped us understand how to be well. He emphasizes making you whole. He is a doctor, coach, friend and advisor. He is warm and caring. We are lucky to have him in our lives. The energy and passion in which he practices medicine is truly inspirational."

In announcing the recipient of the 2002 award, Dr. Laura Knobel, President-elect of the MAFP, stated "Dr. Sagov's commitment to medical students is unprecedented and his dedication to the practice of family medicine is extraordinary. We are privileged to recognize Stanley for his devotion to his patients, contributions to his community and for fostering the ideals of family medicine."

Dr. Sagov is a graduate of the University of Capetown and the University of Capetown Medical School in Capetown, South Africa. He resides in Chestnut Hill with his wife Elivia Savadier-Sagov. Dr. Sagov is the father of two daughters, Alex, age 30, and Sadye, age 11, and the proud grandfather of newborn Isabel.