



# HUMAN Touch



**Spring 2021**



It is National Osteopathic Medicine (NOM) Week! A time when we shine a spotlight on our amazing profession and strive to increase awareness of osteopathic medicine and DOs in communities across the country. At the American Osteopathic Foundation, NOM Week is also a time to reflect on how we have been able to grow in our service to the profession because of the commitment of people like you.

You've told us over the years there are many aspects of our work that resonate – the incredible focus on academic excellence; our drive toward diversity and inclusion; humanitarian outreach both locally and internationally; support of innovative research; and skill-building for the next generation of leaders. In our newly redesigned HumanTouch e-newsletter, we've highlighted just a small sampling of this work. I hope you find it informative and inspiring.

As Board President, I am honored to be building on the legacy of those who came before me, and I'm committed to leveraging creativity and innovation as we develop purposeful, osteopathic-focused programs essential to our future.

Thank you!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey S. Grove".

Jeffrey S. Grove, DO, FACOFP *dist*  
President

**LGBTQ+ EQUITY AND  
INCLUSION FUND**

**AOF INITIATIVE**

The Foundation has taken deliberate steps to build and strengthen its programs centered around Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, including growing the [AOF William G.](#)

Anderson, DO, [Minority Scholarship](#) program to support more minority students, and most recently, by establishing the AOF LGBTQ+ Equity and Inclusion Fund.

The [LGBTQ+ Equity and Inclusion Campaign](#) is currently underway to build resources so that we may undertake the vital work of better understanding and addressing the healthcare needs of the LGBTQ+ community and to empower, encourage, and inspire LGBTQ+ osteopathic medical students, residents, and physicians.



Learn more about our [three-pronged platform](#)

We will have so much more information to share soon, including opportunities to participate in virtual networking and educational events, the first one being planned in conjunction with Pride Month this June.

[Sign up to stay informed](#) about this vital initiative.

## OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE CAMPAIGN

## AOF PARTNERSHIP

### The Heart of the Osteopathic Profession



The American Osteopathic Foundation is proud to partner with Mediaplanet on its Osteopathic Medicine campaign. This timely campaign shines a spotlight on the valuable contributions DOs are making and the growing influence and impact of osteopathic medicine.

The print campaign was inserted in the March 24 edition of USA Today with the expanded version

[online](#), featuring articles, [The Heart of the Osteopathic Profession](#) by CEO, Rita Forden and [Strengthening Healthcare Through Diversity and Inclusion](#) by Board President, Dr. Jeffrey Grove.

The informative issue also features [an interview](#) with AOF President-elect, Dr. Barbara Ross-Lee, the first Black woman to serve as dean of a U.S. medical school.

## GRANTS, SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

## SPRING CYCLE

## **The Foundation is now accepting applications for many of our scholarships, grants, and awards!**

We're looking for YOU — DOs, residents, students, educators, and researchers are encouraged to apply. Do you qualify? Visit our website to learn more about each scholarship, grant, and award, and its criteria.

### **Education**

[AOF Golden Ticket Scholarship](#)

[AOF William G. Anderson, DO, Minority Scholarship](#)

[AOF Karen J. Nichols, DO, LEAD Scholar](#)

[AOF/AOA Presidential Memorial Leadership Scholar](#)

### **Research**

[AOF Rocovich Research Grant](#)

### **Osteopathic Recognition Awards**

[AOF Physician of the Year](#)

[AOF W. Douglas Ward, PhD, Educator of the Year](#)

The American Osteopathic Foundation is also partnering with state osteopathic associations to recognize new physicians in practice through the [AOF State Emerging Leaders Awards](#) and with osteopathic specialty colleges to recognize outstanding residents in programs across the country through the [Osteopathic Resident of the Year Awards](#).

## **SURVEY MONKEY APPLY**

As our grants, scholarships, and awards programs continue to grow, so has the need for a system that can grow with us and provide a better, integrated user experience.

After conducting a rigorous research and RFP process in 2020, the Foundation selected the SurveyMonkey Apply software platform to facilitate the application and review process for all its grants, scholarships, and awards programs.

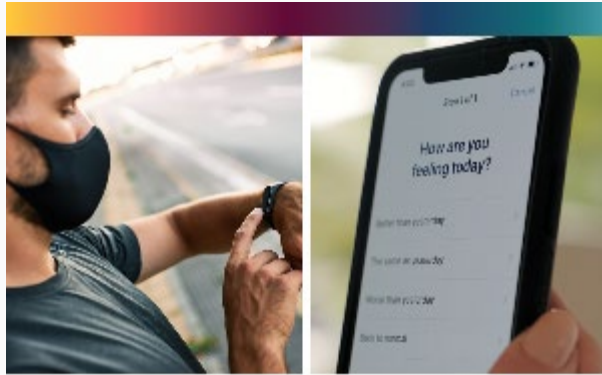
SurveyMonkey Apply is an online application management solution that helps nonprofits and foundations and education and private sector organizations manage grants, scholarships, awards, and other programs. The system delivers a seamless experience for users, allowing them to upload, send, and track data in one place.

The Foundation engages with hundreds of applicants and reviewers every year, making usability a primary point of focus in the decision. "SurveyMonkey Apply will help make our programs accessible to all involved. It ensures that applicants, nominators, administrators, and reviewers are all able to

easily submit, manage, and review applications,” said Leticia Terry, Director of Programs, Scholarships, and Awards.

## SCRIPPS DETECT STUDY

## AOF PARTNERSHIP



### Let's be partners to combat viral illness

Your wearable device might help spot viral outbreaks

**The world is moving fast to tackle the COVID-19 pandemic. And you can help.**

The American Osteopathic Foundation is proud to continue as a partner in the Scripps Research **DETECT Study** by promoting the use of wearable devices in spotting viral outbreaks such as COVID-19.

The Foundation and its network of physicians, industry supporters, and affiliates have been informing and engaging a wide audience about participation in the **DETECT study** to provide

valuable input on addressing significant research questions and we hope you consider joining in.

As a participant in the DETECT health study, you will be asked to share your resting heart rate and other health information, including virus symptoms anonymously with scientists at Scripps. This real-time, crowd-sourced information could help complement traditional public health methods, leading to earlier detection and containment of current and future outbreaks in different geographical locations.

If you have a wearable device that tracks your heart rate, please consider joining the **DETECT study**.

Visit [www.detectstudy.org](http://www.detectstudy.org) and simply install the app, MyDataHelps™, and help out with scientific research that has the potential to improve the health of people everywhere.

## MAKING AN IMPACT

There is new excitement surrounding osteopathic medicine! It is growing and flourishing in ways that we could have only imagined just a short time ago. Did you know the profession has grown 63% in the past decade and nearly 300% over the past three decades? There are now nearly 60 colleges of osteopathic medicine and more than 150,000 osteopathic medical students and physicians. With this exponential growth comes tremendous opportunity for the American Osteopathic Foundation to build and multiply its impact and we welcome you to play a part.

Whether a one-time gift, annual donation, or a planned gift, your [contribution](#) will benefit thousands of osteopathic medical professionals and have a tremendous impact on the osteopathic community. [Consider making a donation.](#)

## MEET THE STAFF



**Rita Forden**  
Chief Executive Officer



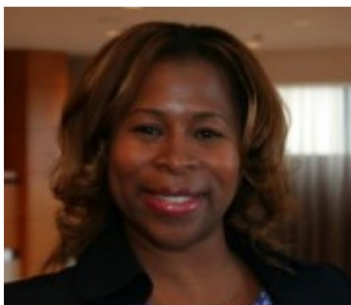
**Richard Blair**  
Finance Director



**Gina Gottlob**  
Manager Internal/  
External Relations



**Terry Sanders**  
Director of Development



**Leticia Terry**  
Director of Programs,  
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**Carolyn Torgersen**  
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