Dr. Alex McDonald, co-founder of “ThisIsOurShot,” is AIM’s Immunization Champion Award Winner in California

Alex McDonald, MD, FAAFP, CAQSM, family medicine physician with Kaiser Permanente and Board of Directors Speaker for the California Academy of Family Physicians, has been named the Association of Immunization Managers (AIM) Immunization Champion for California. This annual award, given by the Association of Immunization Managers (AIM), honors exemplary immunization advocates across all 50 U.S. states, eight U.S. territories and freely associated states, and the District of Columbia.

Among Dr. Alex McDonald’s many achievements, Dr. McDonald co-founded "ThisIsOurShot,” a national, grassroots movement of healthcare heroes and allies that aims to build vaccine-trust and combat misinformation for a COVID-free world by elevating the voices of healthcare heroes as trusted messengers through stories, photos, and videos. Their sister campaign, #VacunateYa, speaks directly to Latinx healthcare heroes to reach the Latinx community. Here in California, Dr. McDonald has helped to train hundreds of healthcare heroes on how to effectively talk with diverse audiences about COVID-19 vaccines through his partnership with CDPH on the “COVID-19 Crucial Conversations Campaign.”

Immunization Champion selections come from a pool of health professionals, coalition members, community advocates, and other immunization leaders. These awards acknowledge the outstanding efforts of individuals who go above and beyond ensuring immunization access in their communities. State immunization programs coordinated the nomination process and submitted nominees to AIM. One winner is selected among all participating states and the District of Columbia.

Dr. Alex McDonald is an inspiration to all of us who care passionately about increasing awareness and vaccine trust, focusing on health equity across all communities. We are pleased and honored to congratulate Dr. McDonald on this well-deserved award.

For profiles of other Immunization Champion award winners, please visit the AIM website