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Association for the Advancement of Wound Care Celebrates 20th Anniversary

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On this day in 1995, a dream was realized: The [Association for the Advancement of Wound Care](#) (AAWC) was incorporated as a 501(c)3 organization in Pennsylvania. Fifteen multidisciplinary specialists comprised the first AAWC Board of Directors led by Founding President Evonne Fowler, RN (1995-1998), who deemed AAWC “an association created by design and driven by passion.”

[AAWC](#) is the largest, not-for-profit membership organization in the US dedicated to interprofessional wound healing and tissue preservation. With a mission to advance the care of people with and at risk for wounds, AAWC’s focus is on education, public policy, and evidence-based care.

Many other Association Presidents have taken the helm to ensure AAWC’s steadfast direction including Morris Kerstein, MD (1998-2000); Dot Weir, RN (2000-2002); Robert Kirsner, MD (2002-2004); Diane Krasner, RN (2004-2005); John Macdonald, MD (2005-2008); William Ennis, DO (2008-2010); Terry Treadwell, MD (2010-2012); Robert Snyder, DPM (2012-2014); and Vickie Driver, DPM (2014-2016).

“AAWC is privileged to be supported by numerous past and current [board members](#) and [volunteers](#). Our position as the leading organization for wound care in the US is evident through recognized efforts with governmental healthcare agencies as well as reverence by an increasing [corporate support base](#),” stated AAWC President Dr. Vickie R. Driver.

AAWC Executive Director Tina Thomas, who has been with the association for nearly 17 years, added, “With nearly 2300 members nation-wide and abroad, AAWC has grown tremendously due to inspiring individuals who agree that by working together as a multidisciplinary community we will achieve great outcomes for the wound care field.”

AAWC offers membership to healthcare professionals, patients, lay-caregivers, clinics/facilities, corporations, students, retirees, and advocates. Professional members include physicians, nurses, physical therapists, researchers, educators and other healthcare professionals. The organization rounds out its constituency with over 240 patient and lay-caregiver members who receive targeted information free of charge.

Professional membership [benefits](#) include discounts on premier conferences and access to members-only interactive tools and information. Several leadership opportunities exist via the [AAWC Global Volunteers](#) program, [AAWC Speakers Bureau](#), [AAWC Scholarship Program](#), state-of-the-art [AAWC Career Center](#), and the option to participate on over 30 [committees and task forces](#).

AAWC is sustained on membership dues and donations. Tax-deductible contributions are accepted via a [Giving Program](#), which allows donors to choose where funds are applied. Learn more at www.aawconline.org.