

HONORS AND AWARDS

The American Academy of Dermatology has given its highest honor, the **Gold Medal Award** to past president **William James, MD**, the Paul R. Gross Professor of Dermatology at the University of Pennsylvania. The award recognizes Dr. James's lifetime of service to dermatology and the Academy, including service as AAD president in 2010.

Amit Pandya, MD's, dedication to compassionate patient care was honored with the **Arnold P. Gold Award for Humanism in Medicine**. Dr. Pandya's humanitarian contributions include working with underserved patients in the Dallas area where he created the dermatology program at the Agape Clinic, as well as on overseas service trips.

The first ever recipients of the **AAD's Professionalism Award** are dermatologists **Lionel Bercovitch, MD**, and **Jane Grant-Kels, MD**. The new award recognizes medical professionals (or organizations) that have exemplified the highest standards of professionalism and medical ethics over their careers.

Connie Tegeler, associate director of Community, Corporate and Philanthropic Relations at the American Academy of Dermatology was recently appointed as co-chair of the **National Council on Skin Cancer Prevention**. She will serve until 2017. She joins AAD fellow **Sandra I. Read, MD**, who has been a co-chair since 2011. Learn more about the National Council at www.skincancerprevention.org. •



Angela Bowers, MD:

Texas practice helps abuse victims put a new face forward

Dermatologists dedicate their careers to helping patients achieve healthy skin, healthy lives; they understand better than anyone that the scars on a patient's skin can run deep. This is especially true of women who find themselves in abusive situations, facing the physical, emotional, and economic fallout that results. One Texas dermatology

practice recently came together to take action to help women in this situation who are seeking a new life for themselves and their families.

"It doesn't matter what socio class you are in. Suddenly a bad marriage, abuse, and divorce can drastically change a woman's life. Some who are thinking about divorce are not divorcing despite an abusive situation. We wanted to help by empowering women. We want to help get their independence back," says dermatologist Angela Bowers, MD.

Dr. Bowers and her staff at Southlake Dermatology in Southlake, Texas, have sponsored a family at the Gatehouse Community and will provide pro bono skin health advice to all Gatehouse residents. Opening in

November 2014 in Grapevine, Texas, Gatehouse provides refuge and resources to women seeking to leave abusive relationships as well those pursuing a pathway out of poverty or transitioning to life outside of prison. Services include providing shelter for women and their families as well as practical resources to help them find a new life.

Dr. Bowers explained that Southlake Dermatology's commitment goes beyond financial. "We also plan to take them out to eat or to a movie and develop a relationship. Most of these women have never known what that looks like. We're helping them trust again," she says. "Their skin, confidence, and self-esteem... we can play a role in helping to get them on a new road and new lease on life. In five years many will graduate from Gatehouse and we hope they give back and pay it forward." •

Learn more

about Gatehouse Community at
www.gatehousegrapevine.com.