## **Board Candidate -Director Term through 2027** Josette Palmer, MD, MPH



Dr. Palmer is the kind of physician New Jersey is desperate to keep: a Jersey-trained, community-based, independent family physician who is passionate about making a difference in her community.

Dr. Palmer has a Master's in Public Health and did her residency training at Underwood Memorial Hospital. And then Dr. Palmer made the boldest move of all – when many independent practices were selling their practices to large health systems, Dr. Palmer left a health-system-owned group practice in 2016 to start a solo, independent practice in the high-need community of Glassboro. That decision alone is one of the reasons that NJAFP honored her as 2022 Family Physician of the Year.

But Dr. Palmer didn't stop there – in addition to running her own solo practice, she also works with the Gloucester County Department of Health and Human Services to improve health across her community.

When the COVID vaccine mega-sites opened in Gloucester County, Dr. Palmer thought "why can't I give COVID vaccines in my practice?" So instead of waiting for the vaccines to come to her, she went to the vaccines. She engaged with the mega sites in her community and introduced Governor Murphy to the Rowan mega-site. She worked tirelessly with the mega sites in South Jersey to get as many people vaccinated as possible, including some NJAFP staff members who were eligible but having trouble getting an appointment. She did what she had to do to improve the health of not just her patients, but the community where she lives and works, and THAT is what a family physician does.