Thank you for the opportunity to serve as the leader of our state chapter. I look forward to working with all of you over the next two years toward our goals of establishing a safe environment for children, promoting the availability of universal vaccines, promoting health care access and financial reform of the health care system, promoting family support and a nurturing environment, and advocating for children’s needs.

On a daily basis, pediatricians engage in a variety of advocacy efforts for patients who cannot speak on their own behalf. It is essential to develop and implement tools throughout our chapter to support community child health and advocacy efforts. With some time to reflect on a busy summer and fall, I am amazed with all that has taken place in our world. New challenges have presented themselves with many growth opportunities for pediatricians to become better integrated within our region, state, national organization, and most importantly our communities. While much progress has been made toward a vision of a comprehensive care that will serve children and their families, much remains to be done.

We have welcomed a new class of pediatric residents across the three training programs in our state and will guide them through their advocacy training over the next three years, recognizing those who receive formal training in community health and advocacy during residency are more likely to participate in community activities that promote child health throughout their careers. Additionally, we continue to work on integration of pediatric population health across our systems and communities through shared initiatives. To do this work successfully, the power of relationship building could not be more essential. As a chapter, our teamwork and dedication to our mission and vision will get us where we need to go.

As we strive to deliver high quality programs and services to the children and families in our state, we continue to explore and deepen our relationships with our community and our community partners. Working together we have the power to drive change and move the needle on important health indicators for children and subsequently future generations. We not only want to engage our partners in the conversation around health but more importantly build strong collaboratives that maximize each individual’s role in the conversation. This level of meaningful commitment to each other and to our community is what will ultimately drive change. I am excited about our work thus far and our opportunities to share across many different platforms. Adopting a mindset of continuous learning and improvement is how we will get to where we need to go. Thank you for joining me on this journey and I can’t wait to see where we will go. No doubt it will be hard work and there will be challenges ahead, however, nothing worth doing is ever easy!
The Marriott Resort (Grand Dunes) in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, was the site of the South Carolina Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics’ 2018 Annual Meeting.

An outstanding program was planned by Dr. James Roberts and the CME Committee members. The speakers and topics were well received by the participants. The distinguished Awards Ceremony was held on Saturday evening. The following recipients were honored:

- **Child Advocate Award Recipient:** Thomas J. Moran, MSW

The Child Advocate Award is given by the South Carolina Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics to a South Carolinian who has made significant contributions to the health and well-being of our state’s children and whose achievements on behalf of our children clearly merit the title of Child Advocate.

This year’s award is presented to Thomas J. Moran, MSW.

Mr. Moran graduated from Salem State College in Salem, Massachusetts in 1978 and earned his Masters’ Degree in social work from the University of Louisville. He went on to study Health Care Financial Management and Human Resource Management at the Medical University of South Carolina.

In 1982, Mr. Moran became a Social Worker for the Shriner’s Hospital for Crippled Children followed by Director of their Department of Family Services. He moved on to the Children’s Hospital of the Greenville Hospital System. He held numerous positions during his tenure. Mr. Moran was Program Director of the Neonatal Developmental Follow-Up Clinic, Administrative Director of the Center for Developmental Pediatrics, Director of Physician Practices, Director of Outpatient Services, and Director of Medical Center Clinics until his retirement earlier this year.

- **Career Achievement Award Recipient:** William F. Schmidt, MD, PhD, FAAP

This award is presented to a pediatrician who has had an outstanding career in medicine.

Dr. Schmidt graduated with a BS Degree from Hobart College and received his PhD Degree from the Duke University, Department of Physiology and Pharmacology. Dr. Schmidt went on to receive his MD Degree from Duke University School of Medicine in 1976. He completed his residency training at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia and went on to complete his fellowship in Pediatric Hematology at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia in 1981.

In 1985, Dr. Schmidt moved to Columbia, South Carolina and became Associate Professor of Pediatrics at the University of South Carolina and Director of Research for the Center for Cancer Treatment and Research at Richland Memorial Hospital. In 1995 he moved to Greenville and became the Administrator of the Greenville Health System Children’s Hospital followed by Chairman of the Department of Pediatrics, a position he held until 2017 when he stepped down from that position. Dr. Schmidt is Chair Emeritus of the Department of Pediatrics, Vice President of Development and Vice President of Resource Development-Organizational Transformative Initiatives.

Through the years, Dr. Schmidt’s medical affiliations have included the South Carolina Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, American Academy of Pediatrics, South Carolina Medical
Dr. Schmidt’s many years of faithful service stands as a tribute to all pediatricians.

- **Chapter President’s Award:** Lynn E. Martin, MSW

  Ms. Martin graduated from Winthrop College in 1984 with a Bachelor’s Degree in social work. She went on to receive her Master’s Degree from the University of South Carolina in social work also.

  She is currently very active with the South Carolina Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics’ QTIP (Quality Through Technology and Innovations In Pediatrics) Program. Ms. Martin has been the Program Director of this program since 2010. Her responsibilities have included the administration and management of the grant by coordinating with contractors, pediatric practices, and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Service. Ms. Martin continues to manage the continuation of the quality improvement initiative which includes ensuring the quality measure along with the implementation of behavioral health services and medical home model within the pediatric practice.

  The Chapter President’s Award is given to someone who has rendered outstanding service to the Chapter and contributed to the State of South Carolina in the medical profession; and, it is therefore an honor to present the 2018 Chapter President’s Award to Ms. Martin.

**RESIDENT POSTER PRESENTATION**

At the Chapter’s Sunday morning Breakfast Meeting the Poster Competition Awards were presented.

- **South Carolina Chapter of the AAP’s Residents’ Poster Competition Award Recipients** (36 posters were submitted for competition this year)

  **First Place:**
  
  **Kindel Dankovich, MD and Madison Merritt, MD**– Poster topic “Y You Feeling So Low, Sugar?: Standardizing Inpatient DKA Management”

  **Second Place:**
  
  **Luke Cielonko, DO** - Poster topic “Making a Healthier Shift: Implementation of a Childhood Obesity Management Curriculum In a Pediatric Residency Program”

  **Case Report:**
  
  **Laura Brown, MD** – Poster topic “A Case of Iatrogenic Cushing Syndrome Secondary to Inhaled Steroids and Protease Inhibitor Use”
On October 12, 2018, practice representatives and leadership of the South Carolina Pediatric Practice Research Network (SCPPRN) met for our annual review of recent project results and to discuss new ideas of interest to Network members. We presented results on 4 projects that are in various stages of completion. These projects are as follows:

- **Promoting Lactation Education, Access and Support Efforts (PLEASE) for Preterm Infants (PLEASE)**
  - Collaboration with Sarah Taylor, MD, Division of Neonatology at MUSC
  - This is an NIH-Funded, completed Cluster Randomized Controlled Trial designed to evaluate the ability to maintain breastfeeding in preterm infants

- **Safety Awareness and Injury Prevalence in SC Adolescent Softball/Baseball players**
  - Collaboration with Joseph Eichinger, MD, Department of Orthopedics at MUSC
  - Survey of baseball and softball players aged 10-17, to evaluate overuse injury and adherence to pitch count guidelines
  - Goal of a future grant-funded study to develop and evaluate a pitch count App

- **Obesity: using an App for communication**
  - PI: Christine San Giovanni, MD, MSCR
  - Survey data of physicians in SCPPRN regarding attitudes towards the usefulness of a smart phone App to communicate with patients regarding obesity management
  - Qualitative data collections of overweight/obese teens to identify interests in using an App
  - Goal of a grant funded study to evaluate effectiveness of using frequent communication between provider and patient via a smartphone App

- **Importance of the Entire Office in Delivery of Adolescent Vaccines**
  - PI: James R Roberts, MD, MPH
  - A survey of front office staff, nurses, physicians, and parents about attitudes towards importance of vaccines and use/recollection of vaccine recommendations

We also discussed the following upcoming potential activities for SCPPRN members:

- **Managing Abstinence in Newborns (MAiN) Study**
  - Dr. Jennifer A. Hudson; Medical Director, Newborn Services; Greenville Health System
  - Statewide initiative aimed at teaching up to 10 birthing hospitals in SC the MAiN model, which demonstrates that using a multidisciplinary, coordinated treatment program whose foundation is collaborative, community-based care may provide a safe alternative to NAS management that does not negatively affect quality of care.

- **Practice Transformation: Funding Opportunity for Practices**
  - William T. Basco, MD, MSCR; Professor of Pediatrics; MUSC General Pediatrics
  - There is an opportunity for practices to nominate one physician or physician’s assistant to receive additional training in practice transformation.
  - Please see the accompany article in this edition of the SC AAP News for more information.

According to tradition, we concluded our meeting with a roundtable discussion by all participants in order to gather their interests and suggestions for other potential projects and issues affecting their practice. The subject of vitamin D deficiency and Vitamin D supplementation generated much interest among the membership. We will begin to explore with some researchers with expertise in vitamin D about some preliminary data SCPPRN can collect in the practices.
In addition, we also discussed in greater detail Dr. Hudson’s MAiN study. While participation in the MAiN Study for most practices is dependent on whether their local hospital participates, we also discussed a potential survey approach to evaluate practitioner knowledge of the management of NAS babies. We will explore this idea in more depth.

We appreciate the efforts of all practices involved in SCPPRN and their participation in these projects. SCPPRN will continue to have grant submissions in the hopes of acquiring funding to work on some larger intervention-based projects. We are always looking to add interested practices! If your practice is not an SCPPRN member but you would like to participate in research that is meaningful to your practice, please feel free to contact the Network Director, James R Roberts, MD, MPH at robertsj@musc.edu, or the Network Coordinator, Beth O’Brien, RN, BSN, at obriene@musc.edu. If you would be interested in receiving a copy of the minutes of the 2018 Annual Meeting, please contact Erin Dawley, BA, hintone@musc.edu.

Pediatricians in South Carolina now have the opportunity for formal training and financial support to learn about practice transformation and quality improvement approaches to apply to their practices! The departments of General Internal Medicine, Pediatrics, and Family Medicine at the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) were awarded a Primary Care Practice Transformation grant by the Health Resources Service Administration (HRSA). The goal of the program is to train community-based practicing primary care provider champions to lead health care delivery system transformation to value-based care such as Patient-Centered Medical Home (PCMH) or Accountable Care Organization (ACO). The program will enroll 5 total practitioners per year among the three primary care specialties. Since it is a 5-year award, the program will train 25 practitioners in total. Applications should be submitted ASAP for the first cohort to begin January 1, 2019!

- **Eligibility:** Physician or Physician Assistant (PA) in practice for at least two years, who see medically underserved patients.

- **Commitment:** One year, one half-day per week.

- **Your practice can be reimbursed for your time and for travel to professional meetings**

For more information and a link to the application, please visit: [http://academicdepartments.musc.edu/medicine/Divisions/GIM/Fellowship/PCTE/index.htm](http://academicdepartments.musc.edu/medicine/Divisions/GIM/Fellowship/PCTE/index.htm)
Asthma Educator Support Available

The South Carolina Asthma Alliance (SCAA) started a program several years ago intended to increase the number of South Carolina pediatric practices which have certified asthma educators (AE-C) on their staff. The program, called M&Ms4Asthma (Money and Mentoring for Asthma Educators), provides grants to practices (or school districts) to support a staff member becoming certified as an AE-C. Grants will pay $250 reimbursement for the cost of a review course and another $250 for the exam once it is passed. It is expected that a practice will certify that it will adjust the caregiver’s job description to reflect the new certification. This doesn’t mean doing only asthma work (particularly education, device technique demonstration and spirometry), but becoming the expert in the office to assist all the prescribers. In addition to the money, if desired, a grantee will be assigned an experienced AE-C to assist them with challenges they will face in their new role. (It isn’t so much how to prepare for the exam as how to be effective with patients and families.) Information and the application can be found on the SCAA website – [www.scasthmaalliance.org](http://www.scasthmaalliance.org). Grantees have 8 months to complete their certification and get both parts of their grant.

In addition, the SCAA is sponsoring a prep course for those interested in taking the AE-C exam. This course, developed by the Association of Asthma Educators (AAE), is open to anyone, unrelated to the SCAA grant program. The course will be given January 17 and 18 in Columbia at Midlands Tech (airport campus). The course registration will be $300 and is intended to get attendees well-prepared to take the exam. The SCAA website has not only information about the grant program but also an FAQ section related to why someone would want to hire or become an AE-C. To register for the prep course, go to the AAE website: [www.asthmaeducators.org](http://www.asthmaeducators.org). Email me at cmbowmansc@gmail.com if you have questions.

Mike Bowman, PhD, MD, FAAP - SCAAP Asthma Liaison

PROS (Pediatric Research in Office Settings) Fall 2018 Update:

The PROS network is busier than ever with active studies in the field and more studies in the pipeline. Here is a quick look at some of the PROS studies currently underway.

DART (Dialogue Around Respiratory Illness Treatment): A distance learning initiative to improve appropriate antibiotic prescribing.

BMI2+: (Population Effects of Motivational Interviewing on Pediatric Obesity in Primary Care)- An intervention study evaluating the effects of motivational interviewing delivered by trained pediatricians and dieticians on childhood obesity.

Flu2 Text: An intervention study evaluating the effectiveness of text messages to parents on the rate of completion of the 2 dose flu vaccine series in young infants.

Stop HPV: Improving HPV Vaccination Delivery in Primary Care: An intervention study to evaluate the effect of provider training on communication and vaccine prompts on HPV vaccine rates.

We Care: Implementing an intervention to address social determinants of health in pediatric practices. This study will evaluate the effect of training pediatricians to identify social needs and resources and to provide referrals for those resources.

Have we sparked your interest? There are opportunities for participation in the PROS research network at all levels. You can help to design studies, participate in ongoing studies, help to write manuscripts if that interests you and more. Please contact Debbie Greenhouse at greenhod@yahoo.com or check the PROS website at aap.org/pros for more information.

Deborah Greenhouse, MD, FAAP – SCAAP PROS Liaison
SC Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
2019 ANNUAL MEETING (SAVE THE DATE)

AUGUST 8-11, 2019

Omni Grove Park Inn Resort
Asheville, NC

South Carolina Chapter
American Academy of Pediatrics