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South Carolina Chapter

American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®



SCAAP Newsletter

December 2022

President's Message

Friends,

So much to be thankful for in this last month of 2022! Hope you have some time to reflect and rest over the winter holidays. Your board and executive committee have been busy...

- **It's time to register for the CATCH meeting** Jan 20-22, 2023, at Francis Marion Hotel in Charleston! Click [here to register](#).
- We continue to participate in the [SC Coalition for Safer Schools](#) which is growing, making statements, in the media, and making plans to turn the policy agenda into action.
- Our partners at the Institute for Child Success have put together a [report](#) on the state of child mental health and we would like to form a task force of ~5-7 SCAAP members to develop some action items focused on awareness, advocacy, partnership, capacity building, funding. If you're interested in joining Dr. Dane Pierce in this work, pls email mackeli@musc.edu

Elizabeth Mack, MD, MS, FAAP

President



Teens & Trees

SCAAP member, Melinda Lengel O'Leary MD, MPH, was awarded a CATCH implementation grant for 2022 for her Teens & Trees health promotion program. This program was created for adolescents to promote mental health and well-being. The program integrates time spent in nature, exercise, and mindfulness practices. These three simple evidence-based practices are each individually known to improve mental health and reduce anxiety and depressive symptoms. The 8-week program consists of hour-long sessions which include a 30 minute walk in a natural green space adjacent to the school followed by a simple mindfulness lesson and practice. Mindfulness practices include open listening, breath work, body scan, gratitude and loving kindness practices, noticing thoughts, and learning how to pause and reflect and respond rather than react in stressful situations. In October, Dr. O'Leary began implementing this program with middle school students who attend Irmo Middle School in Irmo, SC which is in the community where she practiced with Sandhills Pediatrics (2000-2020). To learn more about this program, you can contact her at mlleary1@me.com

CATCH 2023 Call for Proposals Now Open

The Community Access to Child Health (CATCH) program is a flagship initiative of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) which supports pediatricians to lead innovative, community-based projects that increase children's access to optimal health or well-being. The [Call for Proposals](#) for funding through the CATCH program opened on November 1, 2022, with applications due on January 23, 2023. [CATCH grants—including CATCH](#)

chapters. Pediatricians and residents with innovative ideas to plan or implement initiatives that address critical child health issues in their local communities may apply for \$10,000 and \$2,000, respectively. The [Resident Call for Proposals guidelines](#) includes additional targeted funding opportunities on 12 topics.

Browse the Community Pediatrics [Funded Project list](#) to learn about more than 300 community based projects funded from 2017 to the present and review over 30 recent CATCH projects' impacts in the [CATCH Poster Hall](#). Further information can be found at www.aap.org/catch and by reaching out to your [Chapter CATCH Facilitators](#), [District Resident Liaisons](#), and [AAP CATCH staff](#).

Advocacy Corner

Check out www.scaap.org/advocacy for our latest actionable state issue! If you sent an action before on this issue, do it again...we adjust the recipients based on where the bill is in the process.

And check out the national AAP advocacy action center for opportunities to advocate [here!](#)

Register Today for “Preparing for the 2023 Legislative Sessions”



Join AAP state advocacy staff for the next webinar episode in our ongoing series, “A Conversation Between Chapters: Preparing for the 2023 State Legislative Sessions,” being held on Tuesday, December 6, 2022, from 3:30–4:30 pm CT. This webinar series allows chapters to engage with each other and AAP advocacy staff about effective advocacy strategies.

This webinar is an opportunity to prepare for the 2023 state legislative sessions and

state election results and provide forecasting and strategy guidance on policy issues such as immunizations, gun violence prevention, Medicaid and the Unwinding, mental health, transgender health and well-being, and more.

Please [register today](#) and join us on December 6. If you cannot join in person, a recording will be made available to chapter executive directors, lobbyists, and public policy staff following the webinar.



The graphic features a photograph of the Francis Marion Hotel at night, with its lights glowing. Overlaid on the right side is a large, stylized graphic of the number '1' in orange and blue. Text on the right includes: 'South Carolina Chapter', 'INCORPORATED IN SOUTH CAROLINA', 'American Academy of Pediatrics', 'DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN', 'SCAAP CATCH MEETING', 'January 20-21, 2023', and 'Francis Marion Hotel Charleston, South Carolina'. At the bottom center is a dark blue button with the text 'Register Now!'.

South Carolina Chapter
INCORPORATED IN SOUTH CAROLINA
American Academy of Pediatrics
DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN

**SCAAP
CATCH
MEETING**

January 20-21, 2023

Francis Marion Hotel
Charleston, South Carolina

Register Now!

Student, Resident, and Fellow Membership Fees: Nudge a Trainee Today to Join!

Medical Students: \$25 national AAP, \$0 SCAAP

Residents: \$135 national, \$30 SCAAP (usually sponsored by a programs)

Fellowship Trainees: \$145 national, \$30 SCAAP

Visit www.scaap.org and go to membership to join.

In order to comply with provisions of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) paused the typical annual eligibility review process for the state's Healthy Connections Medicaid members effective Jan. 27, 2020. When the current federal COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE) ends, state Medicaid agencies will be required to resume reviewing the eligibility of all Medicaid members.

During the federal PHE, it is very important that Healthy Connections Medicaid members notify SCDHHS if their address has changed. If SCDHHS does not have accurate contact information for its members, they may miss important information on renewing and maintaining their health care coverage.

Providers can play an important role in helping SCDHHS communicate this and other important information about the federal PHE, to their patients who are Healthy Connections Medicaid members. SCDHHS, along with South Carolina's five managed care organizations, has produced a new [fact sheet](#) for providers that explains how the eventual end of the federal PHE may impact their patients' Medicaid eligibility. The [fact sheet is available](#) on SCDHHS' new Medicaid annual reviews website, www.scdhhs.gov/annualreviews.

The end date for the federal COVID-19 PHE is still unknown. For questions about annual reviews and the unwinding of the PHE, please email AnnualReviews@scdhhs.gov. SCDHHS policy guidance and flexibilities issued during the federal COVID-19 PHE remain available at www.scdhhs.gov/COVID19.

Mark your calendars!

SCAAP Activities:

- **SCAAP O. Marion Burton CATCH meeting:** January 20-22, 2023, at Francis Marion Hotel in Charleston
- **SCAAP/ICS State House advocacy day:** March 9, 2023
- **SCAAP summer meeting 2023:** August 10-13, 2023, at Grove Park Inn

National AAP activities:

- **Due 12/1/2022:** [2023 AAP National Conference Proposals](#)
- **Due 12/2/2022:** [Optimize Infant and Toddler Feeding for Obesity Prevention Quality Improvement Project Applications](#)

- **Due 12/4/2022:** [NeoReviews Index of Suspicion \(IOS\) Case Reports Associate Editor Applications](#)
- **Due 12/6/2022:** [Promoting Food Security Work Survey](#)
- **Due 12/6/2022:** [2023 AAP Council and Section Call for Nominations](#)
- **Due 12/9/2022:** [2023-2026 ICATCH Grant Cycle Applications](#)
- **Due 12/12/2022:** [Clinical Pediatric Hospital Medicine Course Early Bird Rates](#)
- **On 12/13/2022:** [Neonatal Resuscitation Program® \(NRP\) Advanced Provider Course](#)
- **Due 12/15/2022:** [AAP Food Insecurity ECHO Registration](#)
- **Due 12/22/2022:** [AAP Rural Pediatrics: Obesity ECHO Registration](#)
- **Due 1/6/2023:** [National Drowning Prevention Quality Improvement Project Applications](#)
- **Due 1/13/2023:** [Advocacy Training Grant Applications for Pediatric Faculty-Resident Pairs](#)
- **Due 1/23/2023:** [CATCH 2023 Proposals](#)
- **On 2/2023:** [AAP Infection Prevention and Control Quality Improvement ECHO Begins](#)
- **Due 2/10/2023:** [Healthy People 2030: Next Generation Medical Home](#)
- **Due 2/17/2023:** [AAP National Committees Nominations](#)
- [Future NCE dates](#)
- AAP advocacy conference: March 26-28, 2023

SCAAP Information

SCAAP officers (August 2022 – July 2024):

- Elizabeth Mack, MD, MS, FAAP mackeli@musc.edu - President
- Martha Edwards, MD, FAAP mmcedwards@yahoo.com - VP
- Ramkumar Jayagopalan, MD, FAAP Ramkumarjayagopalan@gmail.com - Secretary/treasurer
- Bob Saul, MD, FAAP robertsaul@me.com – Past president & Nominating committee chair

[SCAAP Executive committee, Board, Committees, Liaisons.](#)

Lutine Management Associates: <https://lutinemanagement.com/our-team/>

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