Friends,
Happy new year! Hope you have some time to reflect and rest over the winter holidays. Your team has been busy…

- **Don’t forget the CATCH/QTIP meeting** Jan 20-22, 2023, at Francis Marion Hotel in Charleston! **Registration is now closed**, contact us if you missed the deadline. See [here](#) for full agenda.
- 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. Most recently Family Connection of SC has joined the coalition.
- Your executive committee met with Lutine to make some website improvements!
- 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 Drs. Jan Key & Dane Pierce in this work, pls email mackeli@musc.edu

**Elizabeth Mack, MD, MS, FAAP**
*President*

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**Dr. Kevin Wessinger named SCDHHS medical director**
SCAAP is so proud to announce Dr. Wessinger’s (SCAAP past president) new role with SCDHHS! See the full announcement [here](#). This is an incredible opportunity for Dr. Wessinger and will certainly benefit South Carolinians.
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 Planning, CATCH Implementation, and CATCH Resident grants—are open to AAP member pediatricians and resident trainees in US and Canadian AAP 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!

The SOCC (Section on Critical Care) Advocacy Subcommittee in collaboration with the AAP Advocacy team has been hard at work for many months and has developed 3 new advocacy modules as a training adjunct designed FOR pediatric intensivists and other members of SOCC. They are loaded with great information! They are also perfect for fellowship directors or advocacy gurus to use as part of an advocacy track curriculum. We hope you will take time to watch these and will join us in our efforts to advocate for all
children. Funded by SOCC, the videos are a section member benefit.

**Module 1:** Finding Your Voice  
**Module 2:** Legislative Advocacy  
**Module 3:** Advocacy as Academic Product

Access and view the videos on the SOCC collaboration website at:  
Section on Critical Care (SOCC) Advocacy Training Videos (aap.org)

Check out this free MOC & CME opportunity for members - “Fighting Racism to Advance Child Equity”- [link here](#).

Registration is open for the 2023 American Academy of Pediatrics Advocacy Conference, which will take place March 26 – 28, in Washington, DC. For the first time since 2019, the conference is returning to the nation's capital – and we hope you can join us! The conference brings together pediatricians, pediatric subspecialists and pediatric trainees who share a passion for child health advocacy. During the conference, participants will hear from distinguished guest speakers, attend advocacy skills-building workshops and learn about timely policy issues impacting children, families, and pediatricians. On the final day, participants will attend meetings with their congressional offices and others from their state to discuss a timely child health issue. To learn more and register for the conference, visit [aap.org/adcon](http://aap.org/adcon). The early bird discount ends 2/15.

**Scholarships available!** General scholarship opportunities are available and cover the early bird registration fee ($500 for trainees; $700 for all other AAP members). Please complete [this application](#) to apply for a scholarship to attend the advocacy conference. [Apply here](#)!  

Scholarships are supported by the AAP Section on Pediatric Trainees, the AAP Section on Early Career Pediatricians, the AAP Committee on Federal Government Affairs, the AAP Committee on State Government Affairs, and the AAP Insurance Program.

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**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 program)
**Fellowship Trainees:** $145 national, $30 SCAAP

Visit [www.scaap.org](http://www.scaap.org) and go to membership to join.

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**DHEC pediatric advisory meeting**

Dr. Kent Jones attended the DHEC pediatric advisory meeting on 12/2/22. The immunization division shared that they will need a revision in regulations in order to continue reporting a number of metrics to the CDC. They will be meeting with stakeholders and eventually seek approval by the legislature. The agency is also starting an initiative (including informational sessions and community-based vaccine clinics) in the areas with the lowest immunization rates. DHEC has noted an increase in religious exemptions. The agency is considering requiring resubmission of exemption forms annually via a change in wording of the “school law letter” (which will not require a change in regulations).

RSV is not reportable in SC so we do not have state data. Flu cases are up 33x the same period last year and hospitalizations are up 40x. Only 15% of patients 0-18yo are vaccinated against influenza.

Dana Smith also provided an update on NBS program. We are about to be screening for 60 disorders, including SMA which was recently added. They are preparing to add 3 new disorders: infantile Krabbe, arginase deficiency, and X-lined adrenal leukodystrophy. In 2021, DHEC ran tests on 59,518 babies, confirmed diseases via NBS in 160 infants, and identified >2500 carriers. In 2021 DHEC provided metabolic formula free of charge to 102 SC residents with inborn errors of metabolism. Of note, SCAAP is working on legislation to allow DHEC to contact a metabolic specialist.

Dr. Mubarak provided the DHHS update, including the fact that there will be an increase in dental rates.

Kimberly Seals, director of maternal and child health, reported on DHEC’s work on gun safety including provision of gun locks for practitioners to provide to families.
The AAP is recruiting for a AAP Anxiety and Depression ECHO: Cohort 3

In partnership with the National Training and Technical Assistance Center for Child, Youth and Family Mental Health (NTTAC), the American Academy of Pediatrics is recruiting primary care providers to join a 10-month learning collaborative. The goal of this ECHO is to build the capacity of primary care providers to provide quality behavioral and mental health care within the medical home setting, with a focus on anxiety and depression. Practices will engage in the ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes) model™, a telementoring platform that leverages video conference technology to connect experts with primary care teams in local communities, fostering an “all teach, all learn” approach.

This ECHO will offer two tracks.

**Track 1:** 10 ECHO sessions held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 11am CT, 12pm ET and 9am PT and will launch on January 18, 2023.

**Track 2:** 10 monthly educational ECHO sessions plus 8 Quality Improvement ECHO sessions, applying QI methodology through monthly chart review, PDSA cycles and QI coaching. The ECHO QI Kick off call will be held on February 1, 2023. The ECHO QI sessions will be held on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 11am CT, 12pm ET, and 9am PT starting March 1, 2023.

To learn more, view the [flyer here.](#)

**Register Online Here!** Questions? Contact Lisa Brock, Program Manager, ECHO Initiatives at lbrock@aap.org

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**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 1/6/2023: National Drowning Prevention Quality Improvement Project Applications
- Due 1/6/2023: AAP Anxiety and Depression ECHO: Cohort 3 Registration
- Due 1/9/2023: Nutrition Educational Grants Applications
- Due 1/9/2023: Healthy People 2030 Proposal IdeasReviewed by DVC
- Due 1/11/2023: Obesity Assessment & Evaluation QI Project Applications
- Due 1/13/2023: Advocacy Training Grant Applications for Pediatric Faculty-Resident Pairs
- Due 1/18/2023: Scholarship Applications for 2023 AAP Advocacy Conference (pediatricians, pediatric subspecialists, and pediatric trainees)
- Due 1/20/2023: Executive Director Registration Scholarship Applications for 2023 AAP Advocacy Conference
- Due 1/23/2023: CATCH 2023 Proposals
- Due 1/23/2023: AAP Section on Gastroenterology, Hepatology, and Nutrition Educational Grants Applications
- Due 1/27/2023: 2023 Best of Practical Pediatrics CME Virtual Course Early Bird Deadline
- Due 1/31/2023: 2023 Media Visiting Professorship Applications
- On 2/2023: AAP Infection Prevention and Control Quality Improvement ECHO Begins
- Due 2/1/2023: Neonatal Resuscitation Program (NRP) Associate Textbook Editor Applications
- Due 2/10/2023: Healthy People 2030: Next Generation Medical Home Applications
- On 2/11/2023: Virtual Pediatric Dermatology Course
- Due 2/15/2023: AAP Advocacy Conference Early Bird Deadline
- Due 2/17/2023: AAP National Committees Nominations
- On 2/24-26/2023: 2023 Best of Practical Pediatrics CME Virtual Course
- Due 2/28/2023: 2022 Chapter Year-End Summary
- Due 2/28/2023: International Meeting on Indigenous Child Health Early Bird Deadline
- On 3/24-26/2023: 10th International Meeting on Indigenous Child Health (IMICH)
• On 3/26-28/2023: AAP Advocacy Conference
• Future NCE dates

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/

If you would like to contact SCAAP, please email Ray Saputelli.