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South Carolina Chapter

American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®



SCAAP Newsletter

February 2024

Friends,

Happy February!

- What an incredible **CATCH** meeting- holy moly! Thank you to Dr. Martha Edwards and the Lutine team for all their incredible planning. Those speakers...wow!
Speaking of, check out the CATCH 30th anniversary [video](#). Did you see we're highlighted on the [Positive Exposure](#) site? FYI speaker slides are linked [here](#).
- **Board member nominations are due 2/15/24** for secretary/treasurer, member-at-large (Midlands), member-at-large (Lowcountry), trainee co-chair membership, & trainee co-chair DEI. Self-nominations are welcome and all terms are 2 years (summer 2024 to summer 2026). Click [here](#) to nominate or be nominated.
- Join us for **SCAAP State House day** on 3/26/24...register [here](#)!
- **Healthy lifestyles** team would love your input...take the survey [here](#)!
- We hear you about the impact of the **Prisma/United** issue and are working with our Pediatric Council and others to share the impact on children.
- DYK: 60% of children in the state are on Medicaid 739,000 children enrolled in Medicaid, which is 60% of the total enrollment of 1.3 million, but **children account for <33% of Medicaid expenditures!** Check out [DHHS' budget appropriations request](#) presented to leg last week.
- **New AAP email policy:** "The AAP is implementing a new Document Retention Policy, and an important part of that effort is for member leaders to begin using a *personal email address beginning 1/1/2024*. This new policy does not impact all AAP members, only those members who are active and serve on the AAP Board of Directors as well as AAP committees, councils, sections, task forces, editorial boards, educational planning committees, authors of publications and policy, and

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- Check out Dr. Key's upcoming behavioral health ECHO webinars (free CME!) [2/7/24](#) and [2/21/24](#)!
- Check out the spring ICS conference [Nurturing Developing Minds!](#)
- AAP has hosted several recent webinars on **AI in pediatric health** care...see [here](#).
- All: We are **recruiting for committee/subcommittee members!** Please check out the [committee list](#) and reach out to join. Each committee meets quarterly and is looking for your input (trainees included)! Groups recruiting members include membership, asthma, oral health, foster care, immunizations, healthy lifestyles, school health, telemedicine, climate, tobacco prevention, pediatric council, legislative advocacy, early hearing detection/intervention, PROS (pediatric research in office setting), early physicians, senior physicians, and mental health working group.
- Please contact president@scaap.org if you want to include kudos or announcements in the newsletter!

In the news:

- **Dr. Bob Saul**, immediate past president, crafted another articulate [blog post!](#) If you'd like to receive his weekly blog post via email, contact him at robertsaul@me.com

Grants:

- We have been awarded a **\$10,000 grant from AHIP** to support communication efforts around Medicaid Unwinding and we are working with Palmetto Project on this grant!
- We were one of 3 chapters awarded a **21k AAP Adolescent Vaccinations and Wellness Grant Program** supported by Merck! Dr. Eliza Varadi is our chapter immunization rep and will be helping to lead the charge to improve vaccine rates throughout the state.
- **Suicide prevention ambassador grant:** we received IRB exemption and have developed school survey
- **Abbott GI & Abbott nutrition grants:** this will help fund dynamic CME focused on GI/nutrition
- Other active grants: Project Firstline, trainee engagement grant

Vaccine info:

- Updated CDC guidance on [nirsevimab](#) 1/5/24

Upcoming dates:

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- CATCH meeting January 2025: TBD!
- Annual summer meeting 2025: August 7-10, 2025, Grove Park

State advocacy updates: check out www.scaap.org/advocacy for action on current bills

- **Call or email your legislators here!** www.scaap.org/advocacy
- There will be numerous opportunities for various types of legislative advocacy this session. We'd love to put together a **Slack or What's App thread for advocates** who are interested in being activated for action! Email president@scaap.org if you're interested with your cell!
- Here is a list of [relevant legislation](#) as of 1/31/24 from Maggie Cash worth reviewing.
- [S.882](#) **"Prescriptions for minors"** is of significant concern and testified against this bill in subcommittee on 1/3/24 and offered input on amendments. This bill passed senate as amended.
- **Seizure Safe Schools Act** ([H.3309](#)): We have been working with SCASA and SC Advocates for Epilepsy again on this bill, and it passed house.
- **Gender affirming care** ban: Multiple chapter members testified against [H.4624](#) 1/9/24 and despite 47/48 speaking in opposition at the hearing (the 1 person in support was an attorney in Alabama), the bill passed through the house. We are prepared to oppose in the senate.
- [H.3988](#) **PREP act:** We have been in communication with other stakeholders on this issue and are prepared to testify regarding significant concerns if this comes to subcommittee the week of 2/5. [S.505](#) is the companion bill.
- [S.21](#) **Children's Firearm Accident Prevention Act:** this bill would provide consequences for adults who do not store firearms safely, creating accountability if a child is injured. We are in support.
- [S.109](#) **Permitless Carry of Firearms:** this bill would allow firearm owners to carry handguns openly or concealed in public without a state permit. Law enforcement and medical professionals have uniformly testified in opposition. This is being debated in the senate.
- **Hate crime** penalty enhancement bill [H.3014](#): we continue to support this bill and urge leg to be taken up in the senate this session.

National advocacy updates

- Registration for the **2024 AAP Advocacy Conference** [is open!](#) The conference will take place in Washington, DC, April 14 – 16, 2024. The early bird deadline for registration is 3/4/24. [Here is the application](#) to apply for a scholarship to attend the advocacy conference. Scholarships will completely cover the early bird registration

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- We signed onto a letter opposing “Ensuring Medicaid Continuity for Children in Foster Care Act of 2023 (**S. 3196**)” as this bill would undermine the *Family First Prevention Services Act* (Family First) by incentivizing institutionalization of children and youth in congregate care settings.
- **OnCall4Kids** is hosting their next in-person lobbying day on the hill 5/21/24 focused on gun violence prevention. [More info here](#)
- AAP joined the AMA, ACP, ACS in filing an amicus brief in the U.S. Supreme Court case of [Garland v. Cargill](#). The amicus brief supports the Department of Justice’s authority to prohibit **bump stock devices**. The amicus brief explains why semi-automatic weapons with bump stocks are a critical public health hazard, and how prohibiting bump stocks saves lives. Read the amicus brief [here](#).
- AAP is actively advocating for [continued federal investment](#) in research on firearm violence prevention as Congress debates the upcoming federal budget. AAP has released new **videos of pediatricians discussing their experiences around firearm violence** - both personal and professional - to push lawmakers to action. The videos can be found [here](#), and we invite you to share them on social media and with your networks, along with your own messages highlighting the urgency of research into firearm violence prevention.
- **How to Sign Up for AAP Advocacy Emails:** If you do not already receive advocacy emails from the AAP, please consider signing up! The Academy sends regular advocacy updates and advocacy action alerts to AAP members, along with a weekly Capital Check-Up email, recapping the child health policy news from Washington when Congress is in session. To request to sign-up, email kids1st@aap.org along with your name, email address and AAP ID if known.

Elizabeth Mack, MD, MS, FAAP

SCAAP president

Section on Early Career Physicians (SOECP) Corner

Your SOECP District IV Reps

DR: Laura Workman, MD— laura.workman@louisville.edu

ADR: Erika Cravanas, MD— erika.cravanas@gmail.com

1. Join the SOECP What’s App Group!

Stay connected with other ECPs by joining our SOECP WhatsApp group. The group was started during NCE to help us communicate during the conference, but we decided to keep

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2. SOECP Workgroups - **Applications due 2/4/24**

The SOECP is currently seeking member leaders to serve on several workgroups this year. These workgroups focus on aspects of the SOECP strategic plan and moving key items forward to support and serve our members. The SOECP is especially interested in members who can contribute to the workgroup's diversity and foster an environment of mutual respect and acceptance. The Section's 5 active workgroups include: Advocacy, Communications & Member Value, Education, EDI (equity, diversity, and inclusion), and Membership & Networking. [Learn More & Apply](#)

3. SOECP SOAP Notes Blog

Make sure to check out the articles written by your SOECP peers [HERE](#).

Are you interested in submitting an article, but unsure what you want to write? Well look no further...feel free to refer to the National Health Observance [calendar](#) for monthly topics. Your original piece can be the next featured article! [Submissions](#) are due by the 15th of each month.

4. SOECP Health Equity Grant—**Applications due 3/3/24**

The goal of the SOECP Health Equity Grant Program is to support early career physicians, especially those who are underrepresented in medicine, as they conduct research, interventions, and education that address antiracism and health equity in communities and institutions. **Funding:** Individual projects can receive up to \$3,450 in funding, and budgets may include a **maximum of \$3,000 in programmatic costs**. [Learn more & apply](#)

Check Out These Resources and Opportunities

This site [Tobacco Cessation | AAP](#) gives specific recommendations on when nicotine replacement is needed and how much to give...helpful tool!

See here for [DHEC PPE ordering form](#).

Encourage patients to download and use **CDC's milestone tracker app!**

Download this [quick reference guide](#) from the AAP for **age-appropriate dosing of the COVID-19 vaccine**. The chart includes information for immunocompromised children and has been updated to include the latest booster dosing information for children under 5.

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SOPT Corner

from Dr. Pooja Gajulapalli, SOPT District IV representative

Section on Pediatric Trainees Health Equity Grants

Due: February 1, 2024 | [Learn more & apply](#)

Eligibility: Medical student, resident, or fellowship trainee members of the AAP

Questions? Contact [Britt Nagy](#).

The SOPT Health Equity Grants are supported by ByHeart.

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 and go to membership to join.

Free antibiotic stewardship community of practice via AHRQ x18 mos!

From our telehealth guru Dr. McElligott: Program participation opportunity for practices interested in antibiotic stewardship in the context of telehealth visits. The program is seeking practices that are willing to join in peer learning and contribute learning and knowledge in an effort to enhance quality of care delivered via telehealth. Further details can be found at <https://safetyprogram4telemedicine.org/page/join-the-program>.

Mark Your Calendars!

SCAAP Activities:

- **State house day:** March 26, 2024, at Palmetto Club & SC State House
- **2024 Annual summer meeting:** August 8-11, 2024 @ Royal Sonesta in Hilton Head
- **2025 CATCH meeting:** TBD
- **2025 Annual summer meeting:** August 7-10, 2025 @ Grove Park Inn

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- [2/1/2024: Applications Due: AAP Spina Bifida Health Care Transition ECHO](#)
- [2/2/2024: EHDI Virtual Office Hours: Role of Pediatric Clinicians in Fostering Language](#)
- [2/5/2024: Applications Due: AAP Advocacy Conference General Scholarship](#)
- [2/6/2024: Applications Due: AAP Advocacy Conference Executive Director Scholarship](#)
- [2/8/2024: Webinar: Firearms and Traumatic Experiences Throughout Migration](#)
- [2/8/2024: EHDI Panel Discussion on Language Acquisition in Infants Identified as DHH](#)
- [2/10/2024: Virtual Course: Pediatric Dermatology Pearls for the Pediatric Provider](#)
- [2/11/2024: Applications Due: NCC Chairperson for the National Center for Adolescent and Young Adult Health & Well-being](#)
- [2/14/2024: Webinar: Reducing Consumption of Added Sugars](#)
- [2/14/2024: Applications Due: AAP Rural Pediatrics ECHO Learning Collaborative](#)
- [2/14-15/2024: Winter AAP Virtual Career Fair](#)
- [2/16/2024: Applications Due: AAP Section on Senior Members \(SOSM\) Workgroups](#)
- [2/22/2024: Webinar: Frequently Asked Questions About AI in Pediatrics](#)
- [2/26/2024: Nominations Due: AAP Senior Section Donald Schiff, MD, FAAP Child Advocacy Award](#)

National AAP Updates

Webinar: Firearms and traumatic experiences throughout migration: Latinx migrant families' health and opportunities for advocacy

Date and Time: February 8, 2024, 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM CST (2PM EST)

Registration link:

<https://aap.webex.com/weblink/register/r3027a1d618a66f39f7888e642928841d>

Hosted by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Council on Community Pediatrics (COCP) with support from the AAP Council Injury, Violence, and Poison Prevention (COIVPP) and the AAP Council on Immigrant Child and Family Health (COICFH), Drs. Bertha Bermúdez and Laura Vargas will present their research, respectively, about the experiences of migrants who are waiting on the Mexican side of the U.S./Mexico border

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the U.S. to Latin America and how those weapons shape the lives, migration decisions, and health of children and families; (2) shed light on immigration policies and how they pose challenges to immigrant families throughout the migration journey, as well as identify opportunities for AAP advocacy; and (3) illustrate the ways in which this vulnerable population faces systemic inequities and how they shape the future outlook of families in both, countries of origin and in the U.S. This [free webinar](#) is open to AAP members and non-members. Attendees will have the opportunity to participate in a Q & A discussion session. Please contact COCP@aap.org if you have questions. Thank you!

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](#).



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