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South Carolina Chapter

American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®



SCAAP Newsletter

January 2025

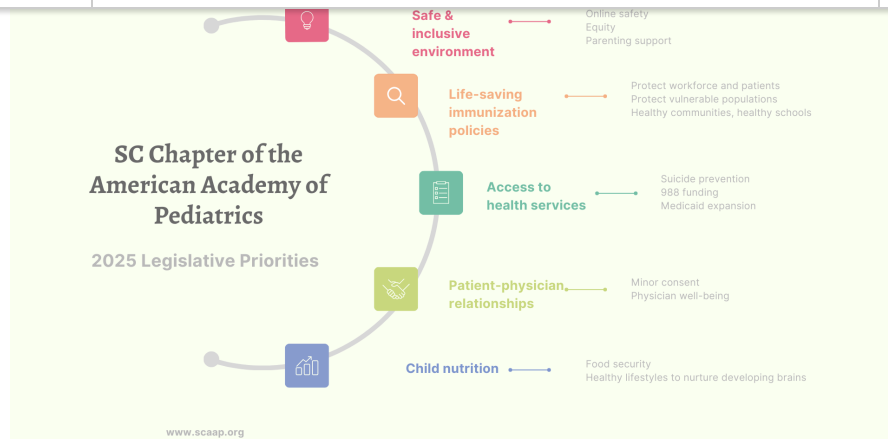
Friends,

As the new year begins, we are looking forward to seeing many of you at the CATCH conference and QTIP Learning Collaborative in Charleston January 24-26!



What's New

- SCAAP is partnering with a lobbyist for the first time ever; **LaJoia Broughton** of [Alpha Strategies](#) will help us navigate the upcoming legislative agenda, which, as one seasoned advocate observed, “looks to be a challenging year ahead at both state and federal levels.” [See this list](#) of select 2025 pre-filed bills by SC legislators for details. Here is a graphic of our legislative priorities for 2025 after our executive committee and legislative advocacy committee met for a retreat with LaJoia recently.



- Alpha Strategies summary of 2024 legislative highlights and what to look for from our state legislature in 2025 can be found [here](#).
- We are partnering with Angie Neal, SLP consultant for the SC Department of Education, and concerned special education preschool teachers to discuss how to amplify the message about the **dangers of screen time** for children. If you are interested in serving as SCAAP liaison for this coalition, please email me at President@scaap.org.
- **AAP Newborn Screening Recommendations for Critical Congenital Heart Disease:** The AAP has updated its newborn screening recommendations for critical congenital heart disease (CCHD), a birth defect that causes the highest number of deaths in infants younger than 1 year due to congenital malformations. The Academy endorses a simplified screening algorithm, more uniform reporting of data nationally, and other updates for health care providers.
 - **Clinical Report:** [Newborn Screening for Critical Congenital Heart Disease: A New Algorithm and Other Updated Recommendations](#)
 - **AAP News:** [AAP Updates Recommendations on Use of Pulse Oximetry to Screen Newborns for Critical Congenital Heart Disease](#)
 - **Video on AAP.org Patient Care Page:** [Newborn Screening for Critical Congenital Heart Defect \(CCHD\)](#)
 - **HealthyChildren.org:** [Newborn Pulse Oximetry Screening to Detect Critical Congenital Heart Disease](#)
 - **News Release:** [American Academy of Pediatrics Updates Screening Recommendations for Critical Congenital Heart Disease](#)
- **Now Recruiting: Obesity ECHO: Practical Considerations:** The AAP is recruiting primary care clinicians and other health professionals to join a 6-month learning collaborative. This ECHO serves as a forum to increase the knowledge, skills, and self-efficacy of pediatric providers to effectively identify and provide best-practice care around obesity for pediatric patients within their communities. The ECHO will launch with a kickoff session on Tuesday, January 28, 2025, from 12:00–1:00 pm CT. [Register here](#) for the kickoff. The program will meet bi-monthly on the second and fourth Tuesday each month from February–July 2025, 12:00–1:00 pm CT. [View the flyer](#) to learn more. [Register here](#) for the ECHO.

Public Health Corner:

- The SC Department of Public Health will be speaking about everything **VFC**-related at the CATCH conference in January. They want to hear your questions and

- **Webinar Recording: Reclaiming the Vaccination Conversation in Rural America**
- [Webinar recording](#) from FrameWorks Institute, in partnership with the AAP, provides an overview on framing insights from new research. Visit the [AAP Communicating About Vaccinations: Evidence-Based Recommendations to Shift the Narrative](#) page for more information and resources.

QTIP Updates:

- QTIP practices will participate in the **January Learning Collaborative January 24-26 at the Francis Marion Hotel in Charleston**. The focus will be on relational health in the early years and asthma.

CATCH Corner:

- There's still time to register for the [CATCH conference](#), which will be held January 24 and 25 at the Francis Marion Hotel in Charleston. The room block is full, so no further reservations can be made, but we'd still love to see you there!
- **Community Access to Child Health (CATCH) Program – Due January 21, 2025**
The CATCH [call for proposals](#) is now open to pediatricians in training and in practice from AAP chapters in the US, its territories, and Canada. The [resident call for proposals](#) (grants up to \$2,000) includes special funding from 13 AAP Sections and Councils for targeted child health issues. Pediatric residents should first review the [trainee eligibility criteria](#). General pediatricians, pediatric medical subspecialists, pediatric surgical subspecialists, fellowship trainees, and pediatric advance practice providers (with a pediatrician as co-applicant) can apply for either a [CATCH Planning](#) or [CATCH Implementation](#) grant (up to \$10,000), which also includes a designated support opportunity for projects addressing environmental justice. View the [CATCH video](#) for inspiration. All applicants are strongly encouraged to seek feedback and support from their [chapter CATCH Facilitator](#), [District Resident Liaison](#), or [CATCH staff](#).

Behavioral Health Corner:

- In one year, from 2021-2022 school year to 2022-2023 school year, there has been an increase in the following categories of disability under IDEA as follows for preschool-aged children in South Carolina:
 - Autism Spectrum – 25.11%
 - Developmental Delay – 12.47%
 - Speech-Language Impairment - 13.09%
- We all know that correlation does not equal causation, but it does appear that exposure to screen time in the early years has at least contributed to a **significant rise in speech and language and behavioral health challenges**. As mentioned above, we are collaborating with Angie Neal, SLP consultant for the SC Department of Education, and concerned special education preschool teacher Kimberly Long to discuss how to amplify the message about the dangers of screen time for children. If you are interested in serving as SCAAP liaison for this coalition, please email me at President@scaap.org. Meanwhile, please begin talking

- **Webinar: Supporting Primary Care Autism Diagnosis and Care in Your States, AAP Chapter Convening from the Council on Children with Disabilities – January 16, 2025:** Join leaders from the AAP Council on Children with Disabilities (COCWD) autism subcommittee and AAP state advocacy staff on Thursday, January 16, 2025, from 1:00–2:00 pm CT to learn more about how to support autism diagnosis and care through AAP chapter advocacy. This convening will provide policy context around autism diagnosis in primary care, showcase relevant resources to support AAP chapters in this work and highlight examples of relevant autism initiatives. Attendees will also have the opportunity to ask questions. Expert faculty from the COCWD include autism subcommittee chairperson Kristin Sohl, MD, FAAP, and **SC's own Shawna McCafferty, MD, FAAP.** [Register here.](#)

DEI Corner:

- **SC AAP DEI rep Silvia Pereira-Smith, MD,** met with SC's BabyNet director to advocate for the automatic inclusion of Sickle Cell Disease for early intervention eligibility for children in our state.
- We recognize that DEI work in SC can be daunting and isolating, and we want to uplift our members who are engaging in this important work throughout the state. We welcome members sharing their work or that of colleagues, which highlights efforts related to healthy equity, inclusivity, diversity, and justice in SC. Please email SC AAP DEI rep Silvia Pereira-Smith, MD, at silpereira84@gmail.com.

Grants:

- The SCAAP is collaborating with SCDMH and multiple other partners to help increase screening for depression and knowledge surrounding interventions to prevent suicide. **Drs. Key and Edwards** continue to serve as AAP ambassadors for **suicide prevention.**
- **Dr. Hannah McDonald** will serve as state lead for the **Safe Sleep Champion Network!** Thanks to Dr. McDonald for being willing to serve the chapter in this role!
- **Dr. Shawna McCafferty** is the SC Ambassador for the AAP **FASD grant.** (\$4500). We hope that her role will help us learn how we can better serve children and their families who are struggling with the challenges of prenatal fetal alcohol exposure
- **Healthy People 2030: Growing and Sustaining a Healthy Pediatric Workforce** - Proposal Ideas Reviewed by December 20, Applications Due January 31, 2025: The Healthy People 2030 grant program provides 4 chapters with grants of \$25,000 each to develop innovative programs to accomplish pediatric objectives as defined by the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The 2025 topic is Growing and Sustaining a Healthy Pediatric Workforce. The chapter's district vice chairperson must review proposal ideas by December 20, 2024. Applications are due January 31, 2025. Chapters that were funded the previous year cannot apply (Arkansas, California 2, New York 1, and Washington). Visit the [Healthy People 2030](#) page for more information, including the RFP and application. SCAAP will be applying for this grant with the goal of expanding mentorship for underrepresented minorities in medicine.

support early career physicians, including those who are underrepresented in medicine, as they conduct research, interventions, and education that address anti-racism and health equity in communities and institutions. Individual projects can receive up to \$3,450 in funding, and budgets may include a maximum of \$3,000 in programmatic costs. Payments will be made in alignment with the grant's [payment procedures](#). [Learn more and apply here](#) by Friday, January 31, 2025. Please contact [Tori Davis](#), Manager, Senior Member Engagement, with any questions or if needing assistance completing the application due to a disability.

State Advocacy Updates

- We are excited about our partnership with **LaJoia Broughton of Alpha Strategies** to help us navigate the SC Legislative landscape this year. We continue to be grateful to **Maggie Cash, executive director of the SC Children's Hospital Collaborative**, for her help in identifying effective ways to advocate for SC's children.
- Our **SCAAP State Legislative Day will be April 1, 2025** (no foolin'!). Please hold time in your schedule to join us that day to connect with our state legislators on issues that are important to the children we serve. Many thanks to our partners at the Institute for Child Success for their help in planning this event.
- Please let me know if you are interested in being added to our **What's App Advocacy group message**. During the upcoming legislative season, we will need SCAAP members to testify on important issues such as maintaining strong vaccine requirements, childhood nutrition, or safe storage of firearms, and we welcome all who are interested in helping us advocate. The stories you share with legislators can be critical in helping to create a policy that strengthens children's health in our state.
- Reason for optimism as we approach these coming months: we have a great relationship with our **SC DHHS and DPH** peers, as well as many other nonprofits such as **Children's Trust, SCIMHA, Reach out and Read, First5SC, Family Connection, WREN, AFFA, SC United for Justice**—the list goes on and on! SCAAP values these partnerships in helping us to do what's best for children in SC.

National Advocacy Updates

- The **Kids Online Safety Bill and the Teens Online Privacy Protection Act failed to pass Congress this year**. AAP advocacy staff says "While this means that these key bills will not become law this Congress, there remains broad bipartisan support for children's online safety." Two pediatricians penned this [excellent op-ed](#), summarizing the issues we see in our offices and encouraging action on this issue which touches all of the families we see daily. Please continue to speak with children of all ages about how screen time can affect behavioral, mental, and physical health and how to use technology as responsibly as possible.
- **AAP x StoryCorps Collaboration: Impacts of Firearm Violence**: At the 2024 AAP Advocacy Conference, pediatricians told stories about the impacts of firearm violence on their patients and themselves. Audio was produced by [StoryCorps Studios](#) in partnership with the AAP. Interviews were recorded by StoryCorps, a national nonprofit whose mission is to illuminate the humanity and possibility in us all — one story at a time. [View the AAP stories](#). Visit the

Mark Your Calendars!

- **CATCH Conference and QTIP Learning Collaborative** will be held at Francis Marion Hotel in Charleston **Jan 24-26**.
- [AAP advocacy conference](#) is March 2-4 in Arlington VA
- **SCAAP Legislative Day at the Statehouse** is on the calendar for Tuesday, April 1, 2025. Stay tuned for more details! All are welcome.
- SCAAP Annual Summer Meeting will be at Grove Park in Asheville **August 7-10, 2025. Registration is not yet open.**

Other News:

- **Dr. Bob Saul**, 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

Martha Edwards, MD FAAP

SCAAP President

President@scaap.org

National AAP Activities on the Calendar:

- 1/6/2025: [Applications Due: Family Liaison to the AAP Committee on Practice and Ambulatory Medicine](#)
- 1/8/2025: [Office Hours: Community Access to Child Health \(CATCH\) Grant Program](#)
- 1/10/2025: [Applications Due: Chapter Block Grants Nutrition Education Program](#)
- 1/10/2025: [Applications Due: Chapter Block Grants GI Education Program](#)
- 1/13/2025: [Applications Due: Perinatal Health and Substance Use QI Project](#)
- 1/14/2025: [Early Bird Deadline: In-person Media Training: Harnessing the Power of Media in Health Care](#)
- 1/14/2025: [Early Bird Deadline: 2025 Celebration of Pediatric Pulmonary & Sleep Medicine In-person Course](#)
- 1/16/2025: [Webinar: Becoming a Credible Messenger for Firearm Safety](#)
- 1/16/2025: [Webinar: Supporting Primary Care Autism Diagnosis and Care in Your States](#)
- 1/21/2025: [Proposals Due: Community Access to Child Health \(CATCH\) Grant Program](#)
- 1/23/2025: [Webinar: What's Menthol Got to Do With It? Exploring the Health, Equity, and Advocacy Impacts on Children, Youth, and Families](#)
- 1/27/2025: [First Session: Integrating Language Access into Practice for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs ECHO](#)
- 1/28/2025: [Kickoff Session: Obesity ECHO: Practical Considerations](#)

February 2025

- 2/8/2025: [Virtual Course: 2025 Pediatric Dermatology Pearls for the Pediatric Provider](#)

required)

- 2/14-16/2025: [In-person Media Training: Harnessing the Power of Media in Health Care](#)
- 2/14-16/2025: [In-person Course: 2025 Celebration of Pediatric Pulmonary & Sleep Medicine](#)
- 2/20/2025: [Webinar: Innovations in AI: Transforming Pediatric Surgical Care](#)
- 2/21/2025: [Early Bird Deadline for In-person Course: Practical Pediatrics in Orlando, FL](#)
- 2/28/2025: [Survey Due: 2024 Chapter Year-end Summary](#)

March 2025

- 3/2-4/2025: [AAP Advocacy Conference](#)
- 3/5/2025: [Nominations Due: AAP Council on Communications and Media Emerging Voices Award](#)
- 3/14/2025: [Applications Due: 2024 Chapter Awards](#)
- 3/21-23/2025: [In-person Course: Practical Pediatrics in Orlando, FL](#)
- 1/28/2025: [Nominations: PREP Subspecialty Pediatrics Self-Assessment Editorial Board](#)
- 1/31/2025: [Applications Due: 2025 Council on Communications and Media Visiting Professorship](#)
- 1/31/2025: [Applications Due: Healthy People 2030: Growing and Sustaining a Healthy Pediatric Workforce](#)
- 1/31/2025: [Applications Due: Section on Early Career Physicians \(SOECP\) Health Equity Grant](#)

SCAAP Information

SCAAP Officers:

- Martha Edwards, MD, FAAP - President
- Ramkumar Jayagopalan, MD, FAAP - Vice President
- Heather Staples, MD - Secretary/Treasurer
- Elizabeth Mack, MD, FAAP - Immediate 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](mailto:Ray.Saputelli).



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