



LEGISLATIVE CORNER

In Case You Missed It – AMCHP Call on Debt Limit Impact and August Action Alert

On August 8, AMCHP convened a national teleconference for all members to discuss the potential impact of the recent agreement on deficit reduction on future Title V MCH Block Grant and public health funding. A recording of the call will be posted to the AMCHP website soon.

Congress is currently on recess until September 5, which offers a prime opportunity for MCH advocates to reach elected officials at home with the message of why sustained funding for Title V and other MCH programs is critical. See our Action Alert for August Advocacy [here](#) for more details on steps you can take now.

Developing Voluntary Quality Measures for Medicaid Eligible Adults

On August 9-10, the Subcommittee of National Advisory Council for Healthcare Research and Quality met to develop a consensus on a core set of health quality measures for Medicaid-eligible adults. The Affordable Care Act calls for creation of a set of voluntary quality measures for adults enrolled in Medicaid similar to the process set up for voluntary pediatric quality measures created under CHIPRA.

The subcommittee voted and recommended a core set of 24 quality measures to the full Advisory Committee. One quality measure on HIV/AIDs received a split vote. This core set includes the following perinatal measures: antenatal steroids among patients at risk of preterm delivery and postpartum care rate. Unfortunately, the other perinatal measure on elective delivery between 37 and 39 weeks gestation did not receive enough votes to move forward. The subcommittee will be issuing a report in the upcoming months detailing the proceedings from this meeting, which AMCHP will share when available.

Guidance Issued to Implement ACA Medicaid Tobacco Cessation Provision

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) recently released a State Medicaid Director's [letter](#) providing information to assist states as they work to reduce tobacco utilization. The letter includes guidance on implementation of a provision included in the Affordable Care Act which provides for Medicaid coverage of comprehensive tobacco cessation services for pregnant women, including both counseling and pharmacotherapy, without cost sharing. This letter also provides guidance on "tobacco telephone quitline" activities, which may be provided to Medicaid beneficiaries as an allowable Medicaid administrative cost expenditure.

The specific recommendations for pregnant women include person to person psychosocial interventions that exceed minimal advice to quit; and tobacco-dependence interventions to pregnant smokers at the first prenatal visit as well as throughout the course of pregnancy.

Funding for New Community Health Centers

On August 9, HHS announced awards of \$28.8 million to 67 community health center programs. HRSA received 810 applications for this funding. These funds, made available by the Affordable Care Act, will help to establish new health service delivery sites to care for an additional 286,000 patients. These grants will support new access points which are new full-time service delivery sites that provide comprehensive primary and preventive health care services. Eligible applicants included public or nonprofit private entities, including tribal, faith-based and community-based organizations who meet health center funding requirements. Current HRSA grantees could apply as well as organizations applying for the first time. To view the list of new access point grantees, visit [here](#).





AMCHP Call for Volunteer Leaders!

Long Term Volunteer Leadership Opportunities

- **Board Nominations:** AMCHP's Governance Committee is currently accepting nominations for 2012 AMCHP Board positions. These leadership positions guide, direct, inform and contribute to moving AMCHP's strategic directions and goals forward. The following are the open Board of Directors positions:

1. Secretary
2. Treasurer
3. Director at Large (3-year term)
4. Family Representative
5. Region IV
6. Region VIII

Volunteer leadership is critical to AMCHP's success. We hope that you will consider participating in the nominations process. More information about these positions, necessary qualifications and the nominations process may be found on the AMCHP website or by clicking [here](#). We ask that all nominations be forwarded to the Governance Committee by **August 31** to ensure ample time for the Committee to review all candidates' materials. Please note: Only named AMCHP delegates may be nominated to the Board. To verify your membership status, contact [Julio Arguello](#), Publications & Member Services Manager.

- **Committee Appointments:** One of the benefits of being an active AMCHP member is the opportunity to participate as a volunteer leader on AMCHP's Organizational and Board Committees. AMCHP committees assist the organization in carrying out its mission, goals and strategic plan. They serve to engage members in activities, provide advice and guidance to the Board and staff, and make recommendations for policy analysis and development. They are comprised of AMCHP members and staff liaisons, and may also include representatives from federal agencies and involve partner organizations when appropriate. AMCHP is currently seeking members who are interested

in volunteering to serve by being committee members.

All committee appointments are for one year. If you are currently serving on a committee and would like to be re-appointed or remain on your current committee please let us know. If you are interested in volunteering for a committee or switching your current committee assignment, please indicate below which committees you are interested in joining. All committee appointments will be reviewed by AMCHP staff and committee assignments will be made by the AMCHP President in September. The following are the open Board and Organizational Committee positions:

1. Adolescent Health Advisory Committee
2. Annual Conference Planning Committee
3. Best Practices Review Panel
4. Emerging Issues Committee
5. Family & Youth Leadership Committee
6. Finance Committee (Board position)
7. Governance Committee (Board position)
8. Legislative & Health Care Finance Committee
9. Workforce Development Committee

Please visit <http://www.amchp.org/committees> to review descriptions of the committees. If you have any questions about volunteering for AMCHP, would like clarification, or would like a staff person to contact you please let us know. In order to be appointed or re-appointed to a committee, please let us know you are interested by taking our survey [here](#) by **August 31**.

Short Term Volunteer Leadership Opportunities

- **Social Media Task Force:** The Task Force will advise AMCHP on its implementation of social media strategies in coordination with current plans, including the AMCHP Strategic Plan, AMCHP Operational Plan, and AMCHP Communications Plan. The group will provide input to staff and the Board on how AMCHP can support state health agencies using social media in their work, and ways that AMCHP can leverage the use of social

media including YouTube, Facebook and Twitter, and connect to other social media initiatives such as text4baby. Volunteers should have an interest in thinking about how to accomplish AMCHP's strategic goals using social media, and have experience using social media for professional purposes in their own agencies or with other organizations. The Task Force will prepare a report to the Board on its activities and recommendations for future AMCHP work in this area in time for the February 2012 AMCHP Board Meeting. To learn more, please complete this brief [survey](#).

- **Annual Conference Session Proposal**

Reviewers Wanted: AMCHP is seeking interested members to review the 2012 Annual Conference session proposals. Reviews will be conducted online and are tentatively scheduled to be done between September 6-20 (just following the Labor Day holiday). Reviewers will be assigned no more than 10 proposals to review, which should altogether take approximately two hours to complete. If you have routinely been contacted to review session proposals in the past and would like to continue, it is important that you indicate your interest on the [survey](#). We will create a new list of reviewers based on the response to this query. If you have any questions, please contact [Colleen Campbell](#).

AMCHP 2012 Conference Session Proposal Deadline: August 22!

There is just one week left to submit a session proposal for the 2012 AMCHP Annual Conference. Don't miss out! Click [here](#) for complete information about submitting your proposal and for the online submission system. The 2012 AMCHP Annual Conference will take place February 11-14, 2012, at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, DC. The conference theme is "Improving Maternal and Child Health Across the Life Span: Acting Today for Healthy Tomorrows." The AMCHP conference is the ideal venue to present your ideas, research, innovative programming, best practices and effective outreach strategies to MCH and other public health practitioners, directors of state programs, family leaders, researchers, federal officials, advocates and healthcare providers. You will be notified about the outcome of your submission by Friday, October 21. If you

have questions about the session proposal submission process, please contact [Colleen Campbell](#) or (703) 964-1240, ext. 16.

MCHB Call for Comments to Proposed Changes to the MCH Block Grant Application Annual Report

Please note that MCHB has published a notice in the Federal Register summarizing revisions and requesting comments on proposed changes to the Title V MCH Services Block Grant Application Annual Report guidance. AMCHP encourages Title V programs to review the Federal Register notice and provide feedback as appropriate. To learn more, visit [here](#).

RFA for Act Early State Systems Grants

Through funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)'s National Center for Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities (NCBDDD), AMCHP will provide grants to state teams, led by either the Title V program or a member of the Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) network, to support the collaboration of Act Early Regional Summit Project teams and to further activities initiated by state teams during the Summits. These funds are designed to be a catalyst for collaboration with stakeholders, as well as for implementing specific activities outlined in Act Early State Plans. AMCHP will provide ongoing technical assistance, disseminate resource materials, and link grantees to other states and experts in autism spectrum disorders (ASD). Requirements: Approximately 10-15 state grants will be awarded in the amount of up to \$15,000 each. All states and territories who have participated in an Act Early Regional Summit except for those who currently have received a State Implementation Grant for Improving Services for Child and Youth with Autism Spectrum Disorder and other Developmental Disabilities are eligible to apply. The funding announcement will be released in mid-September 2011 and applications will be due in November 2011.

To access your Act Early State Plan or find information about the Act Early Regional Summit Project, visit the AUCD [website](#) and click on the Learn the Signs. Act Early. icon. The funding announcement will be posted on the AMCHP and AUCD websites and will be distributed through relevant listservs, or you can contact AMCHP directly for a

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copy. For more information, please contact [Treeby Brown](#) or [Melody Cherny](#).

RWJF Call for Applications

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) Scholars in Health Policy Research program develops and supports a new generation of creative health policy thinkers and researchers within the disciplines of economics, political science and sociology. Each year the program selects up to nine highly qualified individuals for two-year fellowships at one of three nationally prominent universities with the expectation that they will make important research contributions to future U.S. health policy. Application deadline is October 12. To learn more, visit [here](#).

New Webinar Series on Epi Info 7

The CDC's Epidemiology and Analysis Program Office (EAPO), Office of Surveillance, Epidemiology, and Laboratory Services (OSELS) will sponsor a series of Epi Info™ 7 webinar demonstrations through September 27. Epi Info 7, scheduled for release in fall 2011, represents a complete technology overhaul of the Epi Info platform. The Epi Info development team invites interested public health professionals who work with epidemiological data to attend one of these upcoming LiveMeeting webinars. The next webinar will occur on August 9 from 1 to 2 p.m. EST. For more information, contact: [Sara Bedrosian](#).

PUBLICATIONS & RESOURCES



General Maternal & Child Health

OSTLTS Launches Gateway and Facebook for State, Tribal, Local and Territorial (STLT) Public Health Employees

The Office for State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Support (OSTLTS) launched two new products: the STLT Public Health Gateway [website](#) and the CDC STLT Connection Facebook [page](#) designed to enhance communication with state, tribal, local and territorial health agencies. The STLT Gateway offers a one-stop shop for the STLT public health community and will continue to grow to ensure it is

PUBLICATIONS CONT.

inclusive of information that matters to health departments on all levels. The Facebook page will allow the STLT audience to engage with CDC and each other in open, real-time conversations.

Women's Health

New Report on Hospital Practices to Support Breastfeeding

The report, "Vital Signs: Hospital Practices to Support Breastfeeding -- United States, 2007 and 2009," published in the August 2, 2011, issue of *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, examines practices in 2,690 hospitals and free-standing birth centers in all states, the District of Columbia, and four U.S. territories. Contents include data and analysis for 10 indicators consistent with the World Health Organization-United Nation's Children's Fund's Ten Steps to Successful Breastfeeding: existence of a model breastfeeding policy, staff competency assessment, prenatal breastfeeding education, early initiation of breastfeeding, teaching breastfeeding techniques, limited supplementation of breastfeeding infants, rooming-in, teaching feeding cues, limited use of pacifiers, and post-discharge support. To download the report, visit [here](#). [Excerpt is from the August 5 issue of the *MCH Alert*, published by the Maternal and Child Health Library at the National Center for Education in Maternal and Child Health.]

ON YOUR BEHALF

AMCHP Working On Your Behalf

- On August 7-9, AMCHP staff members Mike Fraser, Nora Lam and Julio Arguello Jr. attended the annual meeting of the American Society of Association Executives in St. Louis, MO. The event offered many educational, learning and networking opportunities for association professionals.
- On August 11, AMCHP staff members Mike Fraser, Kate Howe and Melody Cherny exhibited at the National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities (NCBDDD) Partner Open House in Atlanta, GA. Coleen Boyle, Director

ON YOUR BEHALF CONT.

of the NCBDDD presented, as well as other public health leaders. Time was allotted for networking with NCBDDD program leadership and staff, which allowed an opportunity to share information and materials, provide feedback, and ask questions of those working directly on projects of interest.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

AMCHP Member Services Intern

As a member of AMCHP's Organizational Performance and Member Services team, the intern will support our member services activities. The intern will assume responsibility for a wide range of projects and functions, requiring professionalism and task orientation. Responsibilities include working with the Member Services Manager on membership campaigns, including dues renewals and member retention programs; analyzing member assessment data and using those data to inform AMCHP's membership services; assisting in managing the AMCHP member database, including updating AMCHP member information; providing reports to AMCHP staff, including the CEO and Executive Committee, on membership statistics; supporting member services; tracking new and retiring members; coordinating the production of member welcome packets, including membership cards. And perform related work as assigned. This is a paid internship. For more information, contact [Adriana Houk](#) or visit [AMCHP's Career Center](#).

CDC's MCHEP Seeks Senior MCH Epidemiologists to Assign to State Public Health Agencies

The Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology Program (MCHEP) is a collaborative effort between the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). The program's mission is to promote effective public health action for improving the health and well-being of women, children and families by building MCH epidemiology and data capacity at the state, local and tribal levels. The mission is accomplished by developing MCH epidemiology leaders, promoting peer exchange among professionals in the field, and providing training and education. The MCHEP has had a significant impact on building state,

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES CONT.

local, and tribal MCH capacity through the placement of MCH epidemiology leaders. The program provides direct assistance to public health agencies, to develop and promote the analytic capability of public health agencies and the MCH field. CDC's MCHEP is recruiting doctoral level, senior MCH Epidemiologists/Health Scientists to assign to state public health agencies. Assignments are prioritized for states with limited MCH epidemiology capabilities. CDC epidemiologists are currently assigned to New Mexico (American Indian/Alaskan Native populations), CityMatCH, Florida, Hawaii, Iowa, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Ohio, the U.S.-Mexico Border, Wisconsin, and Wyoming. Several federal mechanisms exist for hiring/transferring a potential CDC employee assigned to a state public health agency. Salary is based on training and experience. This opportunity closes August 15. To learn more, please visit the CDC [website](#) or contact [Charlan Kroelinger, PhD](#).

CDC Director for the Division of Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities (DBDDD)

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities is seeking to fill the position of Director for the Division of Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities (DBDDD). With an annual budget of approximately \$63 million in appropriated funds, and more than 200 staff members, the Director of DBDDD has a critical leadership role in setting vision and leading the efforts in identifying causes and prevention strategies for birth defects and developmental disabilities. To see the full job description, visit [here](#). For more information, contact [Tom Horne](#), MPA.

AMCHP's CAREER CENTER

The Career Center is the premiere online job board for individuals seeking employment in Maternal and Child Health programs. Whether you are looking for an entry-level position or are a more seasoned professional looking for new opportunities, AMCHP's Career Center has great openings for great people! Searching our database is free and open to all job-seekers. AMCHP members receive a discount on job-postings - so [sign up](#) today!



CDC Funding for Sexual Violence Prevention and Education

Deadline: **August 30**

The purpose of this program announcement is to announce the availability of fiscal year (FY) 2012 funds to award formula-based cooperative agreements to states, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Pacific Island Territories and Jurisdictions (Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands). Funds are to be used for strategies that prevent first-time perpetration and first-time victimization. This program addresses the Healthy People 2020 focus area(s) of Injury and Violence Prevention. To learn more, visit [here](#).

R40 Maternal and Child Health Research Program (MCHR)

Deadline: **September 7**

R40 MCHR and R40 SDAS: The Maternal and Child Health Research Program will award grants to support applied research relating to maternal and child health services, which show promise of substantial contribution to the advancement of the current knowledge pool. Findings of this research should result in health and health services improvements in states and communities. Research proposals should address critical MCH questions such as public health systems and infrastructure, health disparities, quality of care, and promoting the health of MCH populations. To learn more, visit [here](#).

U.S. Department of Education Funding for Technical Assistance and Dissemination to Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities' Transition to College and Careers

Deadline: **September 8**

The purpose of the Technical Assistance and Dissemination to Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities program is to promote academic achievement and to improve results for children with disabilities by providing technical assistance (TA), supporting model demonstration projects, disseminating useful information, and implementing activities that are supported by scientifically based research. To learn more, visit [here](#).

USDA Funding for 2012 SEBTC SNAP Model Demonstration Grant

Deadline: **September 9**

The 2010 Agriculture Appropriations Act (P.L. 111-80) provided authority and funding for the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to demonstrate and rigorously evaluate methods of reducing or preventing food insecurity and hunger among children in the summer months. In response, the Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer for Children (SEBTC) demonstrations are testing a household-based method of delivering nutrition assistance to low-income children during the summer. There is no specific dollar ceiling set for start-up or operational costs for the demonstration projects. The costs set forth in state agency budgets for the project should be necessary and reasonable for operation of the demonstration project, and cover all participating entities. To learn more, visit [here](#).

Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women's Health (K12)

Deadline: **September 20**

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) Office of Research on Women's Health (ORWH) and its cosponsors invite institutional career development award applications for Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women's Health (BIRCWH) Career Development Programs, hereafter termed "Programs." Programs will support mentored research career development of junior faculty members, known as BIRCWH Scholars, who have recently completed clinical training or postdoctoral fellowships, and who will be engaged in interdisciplinary basic, translational, behavioral, clinical, and/or health services research relevant to women's health or sex differences research. To learn more, visit [here](#).

Strategies for the Protection of Pregnant Women and Infants Against Infectious Diseases (R01)

Deadline: **October 13**

The purpose of this funding opportunity is to encourage new and innovative mechanistic studies of pathogens that impact placental function and fetal well- the long-term goal of informing the development of interventions against these pathogens and reducing the burden of infection-related pregnancy loss and infant morbidity and mortality. To learn more, visit [here](#).

FUNDING CONT.

NIH Funding for Pediatric Centers of Excellence in Nephrology (P50)

Deadline: **November 3**

This funding opportunity invites new and renewal applications for the Pediatric Centers of Excellence in Nephrology to support both basic and clinical research on pediatric kidney disease. The emphases for this program are several-fold: (1) to continue to attract new scientific expertise into the study of the basic mechanisms of kidney diseases and disorders among infants, children, and adolescents; (2) to encourage multidisciplinary research focused on the causes of these diseases; 3) to explore new basic areas that may have clinical research application and 4) to design Developmental Research (DR)/Pilot and Feasibility (P&F) studies which should lead to new and innovative approaches to study kidney disease in the pediatric population, and the eventual submission of competitive investigator-initiated R01 research grant applications. To learn more, visit [here](#).

Funding for Advancing HIV Prevention through Transformative Behavioral and Social Science Research (R01)

Deadline: **January 6, 2012**

This funding opportunity announcement (FOA) encourages applications that will advance generalize knowledge about HIV prevention through transformative behavioral and social science research. An underlying assumption for this funding opportunity is that methods of and findings from social and behavioral studies can make essential contributions to research that utilizes biomedical modalities. In addition, biomedical perspectives are essential for the advancement of social and behavioral HIV research on HIV prevention. Therefore, this FOA invites studies that are comprehensive in the sense that the reciprocal influences of relevant variables, whether social, behavioral, or biomedical are included in study design and interpretation. This FOA is intended to address the goals of the National HIV AIDS Strategy, and therefore studies should address issues that are highly relevant to the domestic (i.e., United States) HIV problem. To learn more, visit [here](#).



Do you have a successful program that has improved health outcomes for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs in areas such as addressing systems of care, home visiting and more? Then consider sharing your program in [Innovation Station](#), AMCHP's searchable database of emerging, promising and best practices in maternal and child health. You'll have a chance to:

- Share successes with your peers
- Enhance the MCH field
- Contribute to program replication
- Get expert feedback from the Review Panel
- Receive national recognition

The online submission process is simple, and applications are accepted on a rolling basis. For more information, contact [Kate Howe](#) at (202) 266-3056 or visit amchp.org/bestpractices.

CALENDAR



MCH Events

[CMS National Medicaid/CHIP Quality Conference](#)

August 23-24, 2011
Baltimore, MD

[Public Health Accreditation Board National Public Health Department Accreditation Launch Event](#)

September 14
Washington, DC

[25th Anniversary Postpartum Support International Conference](#)

September 14-17
Seattle, WA

CALENDAR CONT.

[NASHP 24th Annual State Health Policy Conference](#)

October 3-5
Kansas City, MO

[American Public Health Association Annual Meeting](#)

October 29-November 2
Washington, DC

[Academy of Breastfeeding Medicine's 16th Annual International Meeting](#)

November 3-6
Miami, FL

[2011 AUCD Conference](#)

November 6-9
Crystal City, VA

[Joint Program in Survey Methodology Course: Designing Mixed-Mode Surveys](#)

November 10-11
Arlington, VA

[17th Annual MCH Epidemiology Conference](#)

December 14-16
New Orleans, LA

Save the Date!

February 11-14
Washington, DC

2012 AMCHP ANNUAL CONFERENCE

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ACTING TODAY
for **healthy TOMORROWS**

VISIT
www.amchp.org/conference
to learn more.



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