



## MANAGEMENT MINUTE

### *Advocacy = Educate + Urge Action*

By Michael R. Fraser, PhD, Chief Executive Officer, AMCHP

Last week I traveled to Chicago to speak to a group of MCH leaders attending the University of Chicago-Illinois' Maternal and Child Health Leadership Retreat. The topic of my presentation, "Advocating for MCH in Challenging Times," was a chance to share some thinking about the larger forces and issues impacting AMCHP's advocacy for state maternal and child health programs. In my talk I used a pretty standard definition of advocacy: advocacy involves education (sharing the facts) with urging action (doing something about them). I thought sharing some of the major themes from the presentation might be good for us all to consider as we forward our MCH advocacy agenda. While the final outcome of federal deficit reduction and budget cut negotiations remains cloudy, it is very clear that the coming year's appropriations season will require the tremendous need for all of us to redouble our efforts in support of the Title V MCH Services Block Grant and other critical MCH programs.

#### **The State and Federal Roles in Promoting Health**

The debate over the constitutionality of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) has kept many states from fully implementing new opportunities to support maternal and child health programs. For example, an AMCHP member recently shared with me that her state has been prohibited from implementing the new home visitation program and left millions of new dollars for moms and kids on the table in the process. The debate over ACA is a classic debate about the rights of states and the role of the federal government. Ironically, this debate is not new for MCH. The early days of the Children's Bureau and MCH legislation in the 1920's were filled with controversy about the federal government's role in protecting and promoting the health of women and children versus states' rights to determine what and how MCH services will be provided. How will

this play out? We are all waiting with bated breath for state lawsuits to make their way through the judicial process and pretty much everyone agrees that the Supreme Court will need to decide on the crucial question as to whether or not the federal government can require all Americans to have health insurance. What does this mean for state MCH leaders? There will continue to be varied approaches to ACA implementation for the foreseeable future – Plan A is full ACA implementation, Plan B is what we'll do without it. One of the main sources of new resource for MCH programs is ACA funding. This makes ACA implementation critical.

#### **Deficit Reduction and Budget Constrictions**

As if ACA implementation was not enough of a challenge, the continued negative economic environment has led to a shrinking of state resources, including resources to support maternal and child health programs. We all have friends who have been furloughed, downsized, laid off, or re-organized within their agencies. In a time of shrinking budgets MCH programs are being asked to do more with less: more program administration, support more partnership, and provide more leadership on MCH issues with less people and less resources. Indeed, the challenges of leading in tough economic times are overwhelming. What does this mean? In an environment of scarce resources, MCH advocacy is all the more important especially considering the competition for funding within a state. It also calls on our ability to prioritize: what is most important or core to our programs and how can we continue to provide these services in light of cuts to state MCH programs?

#### **The Impact of Cuts**

AMCHP has collected a variety of data on the impact of budget cuts to state MCH programs. Quantitatively we can estimate how reductions in MCH funding will result in an increased number of bad outcomes for our nation's women,

children and families. What we also need now are stories of how critical the Title V MCH Services Block Grant program is in the lives of individual families. These qualitative data make the data “real” to policy makers. AMCHP needs your help in showing how your state’s residents will be impacted by the decisions your representatives are making here in Washington.

### **Anti-Government Sentiment**

I think it is fair to say that now is not a great time to work in government: anti-government sentiment is at an all-time high. A recent Washington Post-ABC News poll found that 80 percent of people surveyed are “angry” or “dissatisfied” with the way Washington works, the highest in 20 years, and that anger is directed at all levels of government. Voter anger is squarely on the minds of all members of Congress and the president. State government employees are often demonized in anti-government rhetoric, and act as pawns in larger political battles. Morale is comprised by this anti-government sentiment, as is your ability to recruit and retain effective staff.

Despite the anti-government sentiment there is an urgent need for the services that government provides. If not Title V, who else will assure that the health needs of women and children are taken into account in these trying fiscal times? Who else has the responsibility for assuring that policies and programs are in place to address the most critical state MCH needs? What does this mean for advocacy? We need to continue to make the case that Title V is essential to protecting and promoting the health of women, children and families. And we have to be resilient MCH leaders in the face of tough times. If not us, who else will carry the water for state maternal and child health?

All of these themes resonated with the group I spoke to in Chicago. I hope they resonate with you as you consider your role in advocacy during challenging times. I look forward to hearing from you about this and other ways that AMCHP can help you in the states.



### **Federal Budget Update**

As of press time (August 1, 2011), Congress appears to have come to an agreement on the debt ceiling, agreeing in principal to legislation that would raise the debt ceiling, while making significant cuts to the federal budget. The bill would immediately enact 10-year discretionary spending caps generating nearly \$1 trillion in deficit reduction; authorize the president to increase the debt limit by at least \$2.1 trillion, eliminating the need for further increases until 2013 and establish a bipartisan committee to identifying an additional \$1.5 trillion in deficit reduction, including from entitlement and tax reform. Congress would be required to vote on Committee recommendations by December 23, 2011. If the Committee is unable to come up with the necessary cuts, an enforcement mechanism will trigger spending reductions beginning in 2013 – split 50/50 between domestic and defense spending.

Congress is expected to vote today on the legislation and while it needs to be on the president’s desk by Tuesday evening for his signature, it remain unclear if Congressional leaders have the votes to pass it for sure.

Meanwhile, the ongoing saga of the budget debate has affected the timing of the regular appropriations cycle, pushing action FY 2012 spending bills back later than anticipated. The House of Representative’s Labor, Health, Human Services and Education Subcommittee had been prepared to mark up its FY 2012 Appropriations bill in July; however, action is now postponed until after the August congressional recess. No details on proposed funding levels in that bill are yet known, and advocates will now have to wait until September to see the proposal. The House has currently passed six of the 13 regular appropriations bills for the year, while the Senate has so far tackled one with many members waiting to see the outcome of the debt limit debate.

AMCHP continues to advocate for adequate funding for the Title V Maternal & Child Health Block Grant both with Congress and the Administration. The August recess presents a unique opportunity for AMCHP members to connect with their representatives in Congress and stress the importance of funding for maternal and child health programs. AMCHP has developed resources for educating congressional leaders on Title V and will be asking

members who are able to consider submitting letters or articles to their local newspapers on the issue. Stay tuned for additional important information from AMCHP about how to reach out to your member of congress.

### **HHS Issues Guidelines for Preventive Health Services for Women**

Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) released guidelines to ensure that women have access to eight preventive health services at no cost sharing. Developed by the Institute of Medicine, the new guidelines require new health insurance plans beginning on or after August 1, 2012, to cover the below services without charging a co-payment, co-insurance or a deductible. These guidelines will contribute significantly to state efforts to improve women's health overall, and support efforts to promote preconception and inter-conception care for women of child bearing age.

#### **Women's Preventive Services**

- Well-woman visits
- Screening for gestational diabetes
- Human papillomavirus (HPV) DNA testing for women 30 years and older
- Sexually-transmitted infection counseling
- Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) screening and counseling
- FDA-approved contraception methods and contraceptive counseling
- Breastfeeding support, supplies, and counseling
- Domestic violence screening and counseling

To view the guidelines and for additional information, visit [here](#).

### **Health Insurance Exchange Regulation**

AMCHP is continuing to sift through the "Establishment of Exchanges and Qualified Health Plans" regulation released on July 11, 2011. This regulation provides a framework from which states will build their health insurance exchanges. AMCHP staff is meeting with children's health groups this week to explore the impact this regulation will have on maternal and child health populations. We will provide a more detailed analysis of the regulation during the next couple of weeks. In the meantime, we wanted to make you aware of a resource provided by Kaiser Family Foundation which monitors states' progress toward creating

health insurance exchanges and what that exchange may look like. To view the resource, visit [here](#).

## GET INVOLVED

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### **AMCHP National Policy Teleconference to Focus on Debt Deal Implications**

Please join us on Monday, August 8 at 3 p.m. EST., for a national policy teleconference. We'll discuss the expected impact of the emerging deficit reduction framework on the Title V MCH Block Grant and other vital public health funding. We'll also outline AMCHP's August and September advocacy plans and what you can do to help shape critical future funding decisions. Click [here](#) to register.

### **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](#).

### 2012 AMCHP Annual Conference Call for Session Proposals

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. Click [here](#) for complete information about submitting your proposal and for the online submission system. The deadline for session proposal submissions is August 22. 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](#).

### 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](#).

### The National Health Care Transition Center to Host a Webinar on Transitions from Pediatric to Adult Health Care

The webinar, "Paving the Way to Adult Health Care - The New Clinical Report on Health Care Transition," will convene on August 10 from 2 to 3 p.m. EST. The webinar will be based on a new clinical report published in the July 2011 issue of *Pediatrics*, describing what is needed for smooth transitions from pediatric to adult health care. To register for the webinar, visit [here](#).



Do you have a successful program that has improved Women's Health outcomes in areas such as preventive care, maternal mortality, preconception health 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](#).



## General Maternal & Child Health

### New Report on Tobacco Use and Mental Illness

The report, “A Hidden Epidemic: Tobacco Use and Mental Illness,” published by Legacy, puts a spotlight on the issue of the high prevalence of tobacco use and nicotine dependence among people with mental illnesses and highlights barriers to effective tobacco cessation efforts to help people with mental illnesses quit. It also features examples of five projects that demonstrate how organizations across America are addressing tobacco-related disparities faced by people with mental illnesses. These examples represent a broad range of tobacco prevention and cessation projects implemented by past Legacy grantees to deal with the issue of the high prevalence of tobacco use in this population. To download the report, visit [here](#).

### ASTPHND Releases New Brief on the Nutrition of Women, Children and Families

The brief, “Improving the Nutritional Well-being of Women, Children and Families,” published by the Association of State and Territorial Public Health Nutrition Directors’ (ASTPHND) Maternal and Child Health Nutrition Council, provides state and national leadership on food and nutrition policy, programs and services. It includes a call to action and specific recommendations for state and territorial health agencies to strengthen their public health nutrition services. For more information, please contact [Helene Kent](#). To download the brief, visit [here](#).

## Children’s Health

### CDC Launches Fragile X Syndrome Website

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has launched a new Fragile X Syndrome website that features information on Fragile X facts, inheritance, associated conditions, and related concerns; a compilation of important data and scientific publications; an overview of the work CDC and its partners are doing in the area of Fragile X. To learn more, visit [here](#).

### CCF Releases Brief on CYSHCN and Medicaid

The brief, “Medicaid and its Role for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN): A Family Perspective,” published by the Georgetown University Center for Children and Families (CCF), researchers review the current data on CYSHCN and Medicaid, summarize the routes to Medicaid coverage for CYSHCN, and outline state-level policy options that would increase CYSHCN accessibility to Medicaid. Throughout the paper, family stories convey the reality of what CYSHCN and their families experience and how vital Medicaid is to their survival. To download the brief, visit [here](#).

## ON YOUR BEHALF

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### AMCHP Staff Working On Your Behalf

- On July 15, AMCHP staff members Mike Fraser, Lauren Raskin Ramos, Jessica Hawkins, Caroline Stampfel and Kate Howe; with Dr. Ursula Bauer, Director, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, visited with senior staff at the CDC’s Division of Reproductive Health and the National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities to discuss shared priorities for AMCHP and CDC and ways to continue to partner.
- On July 17-18, AMCHP staff members Mike Fraser, Treeby Brown, Melody Cherny and Michelle Jarvis convened a Summer Grantee Meeting in Baltimore, MD for the State Implementation Grants for Improving Services for Children and Youth with Autism Spectrum Disorder and Other Developmental Disabilities grantees. Twelve state teams participated in the meeting, and representatives from the Maternal and Child Health Bureau, Association of University Centers on Disabilities, Autism Society and Catalyst Center presented on various issues regarding autism spectrum disorders. Key topics of the meeting were sustainability, opportunities for collaboration and the six core MCHB outcomes for CYSHCN: medical home, insurance coverage, screening, organization of services, families’ roles and transition to adulthood.

## ON YOUR BEHALF CONT.

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- On July 20, AMCHP staff member Brent Ewig presented on health reform and the Affordable Care Act to the Improving the System of Services for CYSHCN State Implementation Grantee Meeting. Brent also presented on July 20 on “The Impact of State Budget Deficits and Health Care Reform on Access to Substance Abuse, Chronic Disease and Mental Health Services” to the UNC School of Public Health’s Women’s Integrated Systems for Health Webinar Series (available by archive [here](#)).
- On July 21, AMCHP staff members Mike Fraser and Joshua Brown represented AMCHP at the First Focus Children’s Budget Summit. Director of the White House Domestic Policy Council, Melody Barnes, Senator Robert Menendez, Senator Patty Murray, and Representative Danny Davis, and other notable child health experts, were on hand to provide remarks. The meeting was organized to galvanize children’s advocates, the media, Members of Congress, and the public to protect the best interests of children as Congress seeks solutions to the nation’s budget challenges. First Focus also released the latest edition of the Children’s Budget series, a book providing an analysis of the over 180 federally funded programs that are aimed at enhancing the well-being of our nation’s children, and how their appropriations levels have changed over the past five years.
- On July 22, AMCHP staff Lauren Raskin Ramos and AMCHP members Suzanna Dooley (OK) and Valerie Ricker (ME) participated in an ASTHO meeting to explore quality initiatives in MCH. AMCHP will continue to partner with ASTHO on quality and accreditation work going forward.

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

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### **AMCHP Program Manager, Adolescent Health**

This position serves as key support in developing, implementing and evaluating program activities related to adolescent health; assumes the lead for specific projects within AMCHP’s adolescent health portfolio; and, partners with relevant agencies and other national organizations,

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES CONT.

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coalitions and groups concerned with adolescent health to support AMCHP’s efforts to build capacity and provide resources for state Maternal and Child Health programs. For more information, contact [Adriana Houk](#) or visit [AMCHP’s Career Center](#).

### **Organizational Performance & 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 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, 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.

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES CONT.

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](#).

### **AHRQ Announces Three New Job Openings**

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) has announced three new positions that will help to build the science of public reporting. The positions include the following:

- [Program Lead](#) to design evidence-based strategies in public reporting.
- [Program Analyst](#) to assist the Program Lead to improve the availability and quality of data used for public reporting.
- [Senior Program Analyst](#) to work with MONAHRQ, a new software tool that helps generate a health care reporting website.

AHRQ is particularly interested in candidates from diverse racial and ethnic minority groups. The application deadline is August 12. For more information, please contact [Ms. Geri Goins](#) or call (301) 427-1419.

## **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!

## FUNDING



### **ACF Funding for Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Training and Technical Assistance (T/TA) Program**

Deadline: **August 8**

The Office of Community Services (OCS) within the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) announces that competing applications will be accepted for a new grant to establish Regional Performance and Innovation Consortia (RPIs). This cooperative agreement will fund 10 RPIs to serve as regional focal points to lead T/TA capacity-building activities. RPIs will coordinate activities designed to strengthen the ability of State Associations to leverage resources; promote and sustain relationships between State Associations and the corresponding State CSBG Lead Agencies; and increase the capacity of State Associations to address the broad T/TA needs of CSBG-eligible entities. The core functions of the RPIs are T/TA coordination and information dissemination. For purposes of this funding opportunity, the well-defined geographic areas will align with established ACF Regions. Regional coordinators will be physically located in the geographic area they propose to serve. Funding will be limited to one award per region. To learn more, visit [here](#).

### **Funding for Prevention of HIV Transmission/ Acquisition through a better understanding of Reproductive Health (R01)**

Deadline: **August 11**

This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) issued by the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD), National Institutes of Health (NIH), invites Research Project Grant



(R01) applications to further the understanding of HIV acquisition/transmission by increasing the knowledge regarding the intersection between reproductive health and HIV prevention. The emphasis of the FOA is to encourage comprehensive behavioral-biomedical approaches that can lead to new insights in HIV prevention research. This FOA is not intended to fund drug discovery or large scale clinical trials. To learn more, visit [here](#).

### **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](#).

### **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](#).

### **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

## FUNDING CONT.

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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](#).

## CALENDAR

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### MCH Events

#### [World Breastfeeding Week 2011](#)

August 1-7

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

September 14-17  
Seattle, WA

#### [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](#)

November 10-11  
Arlington, VA

## CALENDAR CONT.

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#### [17th Annual MCH Epidemiology Conference](#)

December 14-16  
New Orleans, LA

### Special Announcement

#### **AMCHP Joins National Movement for America's Children**

AMCHP recently signed on as a partner in a new National Movement for America's children. The effort "is a fast-growing grassroots initiative of organizations and people from coast to coast, who are collaborating to develop a comprehensive national strategy to ensure that all of our children are given an opportunity to develop - socially, emotionally and cognitively - in healthy, nurturing homes, schools, neighborhoods and communities." For more information, visit [here](#).

## Save the Date!

February 11-14  
Washington, DC

### 2012 AMCHP ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Improving Maternal  
and Child  
Health Across  
the Life Span:

**ACTING  
TODAY**  
for **healthy  
TOMORROWS**

VISIT

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