

Member Briefs



December 5, 2011



THE ASSOCIATION OF MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH PROGRAMS



Cutting through the Crazy

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

The holiday season is upon us! It seems like it came quickly this year – and I'm caught in the dizzying array of errands, travel planning, parties and all that makes the holidays feel like a holiday. With all that is going on, it would be easy to be distracted, overwhelmed

and unproductive. Instead, I promised myself I would try to focus now more than ever on what is essential about the AMCHP mission – our shared work of supporting state maternal and child health programs and providing national leadership on issues affecting women and children. Here are three strategies I find helpful in focusing on our core, maybe they will be helpful to you as well:

Get Back to Your Center: I find that many of the things that overtake my attention this time of year are more distractions than mission-critical items. When those feelings of distraction and stress start to emerge, I step back and “get to my center.” I ask myself: Why am I in this work? What is my passion for this work? What is really important about the work we are doing? What do I have to do to move our work forward? These centering questions help me focus and cut through a lot of the clutter. If it is not essential to meeting our mission, it can wait.

Prioritize What You Need to Do: After some time thinking through what's critical, what's important and why I am doing this work to begin with, I find it fairly easy to prioritize among the many things I could do. I create a list of must-do items – things that have to happen for us to truly move forward. That conference call on a topic that interests me, not a priority right now; finalizing the annual conference general sessions before the holiday: a must. With this list of priorities it is easier to manage the constant deluge of new items that everyone else is e-mailing me (they must be prioritizing too!) to do before the holiday break.

Who Are Your Partners: Once my priorities are in order, I look for help. What do I have to do and what can I work with others to accomplish, both internally and externally? So much of my stress and overwhelmed feeling comes from thinking I have to do it all myself! Once I realize I can share, delegate or assign work to team members and partners, the burden is eased. And by engaging others in the work the end product is usually much better than something I would concoct on my own.

So, as you embark on another season of celebration, think about these three strategies to manage what often times feels unmanageable! Let me know how you do. And as always, all of us at AMCHP wish you a great holiday season and a very, very happy new year!



Improving Maternal and
Child Health
Across the Life Span:

**ACTING
TODAY** for healthy
TOMORROWS

2012 AMCHP ANNUAL CONFERENCE

February 11-14

Washington, DC





Super Committee Failure - What We Know and What Happens Next

As widely reported, the congressional Special Committee on Deficit Reduction (i.e. Super Committee) failed to develop an acceptable deficit reduction plan by its Nov. 23 deadline. Therefore, the next step in the process is known as “sequestration” where budgets will be cut evenly between the Department of Defense and non-defense spending. Specifically, defense programs would be cut by a total of \$54.7 billion each year from fiscal year 2013 through 2021, with non-defense programs cut by the same amount. The \$54.7 billion in annual non-defense cuts would come from both mandatory (entitlement) and discretionary programs.

Certain mandatory programs important to women and children are, however, exempt from sequestration. These programs include Medicaid, CHIP, SNAP (formerly known as the Food Stamp Program), child nutrition and Supplemental Security Income (SSI).

According to an [analysis](#) by the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, the cuts to non-defense domestic discretionary programs for fiscal year 2013 would be applied by an across the board cut of approximately 9.3 percent. For fiscal years 2014 through 2021, the cuts would occur through reductions in the statutory cap on total funding for non-defense discretionary programs for each of those years. The Appropriations Committees would then decide how to allocate resources within those newly reduced caps – meaning they could potentially greatly reduce or zero out some programs while sustaining others.

It is important to note that while many of the public health programs authorized by the Affordable Care Act (ACA) are funded via mandatory appropriations, this does not necessarily protect them from sequestration after the first year sequester. This means that Home Visiting, the Prevention and Public Health Fund and others are also potentially in line for some cuts through the sequestration process.

According to many media reports, Congress may try to approve legislation that would reduce the budgetary impact on the Defense Department. President Obama stated that he would not approve any bill that circumvents the triggers to cut spending. While the immediate impact of the failure to produce a plan is still very unclear, we know this for

certain: defending funding for Title V and minimizing almost certain cuts is more important than ever and we will continue to need your help to make our case.

FY 2012 Title V Appropriations Update

Most federal programs – including the Title V MCH Block Grant – are operating under a Continuing Resolution (CR) funding operations through Dec. 16. As this CR approaches expiration, it is uncertain how Congress will move forward with the Labor, Health and Human Services and Education Appropriations bill. This remains one of the most controversial appropriations bills and the House proposal contains many policy riders to which the Senate objects.

Potential scenarios moving forward, include passage of an omnibus bill that finalizes spending levels for several federal agencies; an omnibus bill that funds all agencies except Labor, HHS and Education; a yearlong Continuing Resolution that holds funding at current levels; or possibly another short-term CR to provide more time to negotiate differences. In other words, the uncertainty about the FY 2012 appropriations end game continues, which we all recognize creates continued confusion and ambiguity. As soon as new details emerge, we will share them and we will continue to advocate for Title V and other critical MCH programs.

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Shop for holiday gifts on Amazon and support AMCHP!

By [clicking here](#) and shopping, Amazon will contribute to AMCHP!



AMCHP February Board Meeting

All members are invited to attend the AMCHP Board meeting, which will be held during our Annual Conference, on Saturday, Feb. 11, beginning at 8 a.m. EST. The meeting will be held at the Omni Shoreham Hotel. Members who will be attending should RSVP to [Nora Lam](#) or call (202) 775-0436.

Register Today for the AMCHP and March of Dimes Third Annual Mini-March for Babies

Lace up your sneakers to join AMCHP and the March of Dimes for the third annual mini-March for Babies at the 2012 AMCHP Annual Conference. The mini-march will kick off on Tuesday, Feb. 14, at 10 a.m. We're counting on you to support the AMCHP Steps for Babies team. Each walker that pre-registers for the event and donates a minimum of \$25 will receive a Healthy Babies are Worth the Wait purple t-shirt. Get some exercise while you help raise money to keep babies healthy!

The 2012 AMCHP Annual Conference will be held Feb. 11-14, 2012, at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, D.C. To register, click [here](#). Don't miss our early-bird registration rates – register now!

Register Today – National Webinar: Children and the Medicaid Health Home State Plan Option (Section 2703) of the ACA

When: Wednesday, Dec. 7 from noon-1:30 p.m. EST
 The Medicaid Health Home State Plan Option (Section 2703) of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) gives states the option to allow Medicaid beneficiaries with “at least two chronic conditions, one chronic condition and the risk of developing a second, or one serious and persistent mental health condition” to select a specific provider as a “health home” to help coordinate their treatments. To date, several states have indicated that they are exploring or developing State Plan Amendments (SPAs) to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. Section 2703 of ACA provides states with an important opportunity to develop and enhance

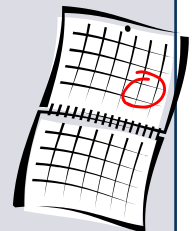
efforts to provide medical homes to Medicaid eligible children, including children with special health care needs (CSHCN). This national webinar, sponsored by AMCHP and The Catalyst Center, will address how state Title V maternal and child (MCH) programs, state Medicaid agencies and other key partners (e.g., provider groups, families) are approaching inclusion of pediatric populations in their SPAs for Section 2703 of the ACA. Click [here](#) to register for the webinar.

Webcast to Explore New CMS Estimates of State-by-State Health Expenditures

At noon EST on Dec. 7, the Kaiser Family Foundation will hold a live interactive webcast to discuss trends in state health care expenditures and the implications for national and state efforts to constrain health care costs. The webcast will examine new state-by-state estimates of public and private health spending from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), which will be published that morning in the online journal, Medicare and Medicaid Research Review. An expert panel will offer perspectives on the trends within and across states, as well as the outlook for policy efforts to control costs, including provisions of the Affordable Care Act and various state initiatives. Viewers can e-mail questions to ask@kff.org before or during the live webcast. For more information or to join the webcast, click [here](#).

List Your Event on the AMCHP MCH Events Calendar

Do you want to include your listing on the AMCHP MCH Events Calendar? It's easy! Just complete our easy [online submission form](#). You are welcome to submit MCH conferences, webinars, trainings, webcasts and meetings. Thanks for helping us to build our MCH Events Calendar! If you have any questions, please contact [Julio Arguello Jr.](#), Online Media & Information Technology Manager. *Please note: All event listings are subject to AMCHP approval.*



AMCHP Surveys		
Assessment Name	Target Audience	Launch Date
Preconception Health Indicators – Current Capacity and Priorities	Title V Directors and MCH Epidemiologists	Nov. 28 (Responses due by Dec. 16)

MCH PHLI Cohort III Application Process Open

The Maternal and Child Health-Public Health Leadership Institute (MCH PHLI) is accepting applications for its year-long leadership development program that is designed to significantly expand self-awareness and quickly build practical skills for effectively leading, managing people, and building partnerships, to advocate for and create the MCH systems of tomorrow. The program consists of three residential executive-style retreats (10 days of experiential-based training) coupled with a robust and customizable distance-based program. Each Fellow completes an MCH-related personal leadership project targeted at a critical local or national need while receiving ongoing individual executive coaching. Applications will be accepted through Feb. 1, 2012. To submit your application or for more information, visit the [MCH PHLI website](#).

PUBLICATIONS & RESOURCES



General Maternal & Child Health

Preparing a Successful Research Grant Application Webinar Archive Available

An archived video file of the MCHB EnRICH webinar, *Preparing a Successful Research Grant Application*, from June 6 is now available online. Two leading researchers in the MCH field presented on the critical elements for preparing a successful research grant application. To view the webinar, click [here](#).

MCHB Archive Webinar – Latent Variable Analysis in MCH Research: A Practical Application of Structural Equation Modeling and Latent Growth Models

The webinar, from Sept. 13, described practical application of structural equation modeling and latent growth models in maternal and child health research. The presenter for this webinar was Dr. Beth McManus, Assistant Professor, University of Colorado, 2009 Robert Wood Johnson Health & Society Scholar, University of Wisconsin – Madison. To watch the webinar, click [here](#).

Women's Health

National Folic Acid Awareness Week 2012 Resources Available

National Folic Acid Awareness Week is Jan. 8-14. Order your FREE CDC folic acid educational materials today to avoid the last-minute rush and to make sure you receive your materials on time. CDC publications include: Folic Acid for Healthy Babies – A Primer, Folic Acid – Questions and Answers, Folic Acid, All Women, Every Day and many more. To order materials, click [here](#).

Children's Health

HPV Vaccine Fact Sheet Discusses New Recommendation for Vaccinating Boys

The Kaiser Family Foundation has updated its fact sheet on human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine coverage and financing, which includes the new recommendation from the federal Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) that boys and young men be vaccinated against the virus. The Food and Drug Administration has approved two vaccines against infection by certain strains of HPV, the most common sexually transmitted infection in the United States. Initially, the vaccines were recommended only for girls and young women, but new recommendations from the CDC have been broadened to include boys and young men. The fact sheet also discusses HPV and cancers related to the virus, use of the HPV vaccines for both females and males, and insurance coverage and access to the vaccines. To access the fact sheet, click [here](#).

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!

ON YOUR BEHALF

AMCHP Staff Working On Your Behalf

- On Nov. 18, AMCHP staff Carolyn Mullen presented at the American College of Medical Genetics (ACMG) Annual Project Director and Project Manager meeting of the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Genetics Collaboratives about implementation of the Affordable Care Act. The HRSA Genetics Collaboratives and their National Coordinating Center work to improve access to local genetic and newborn screening services, information, and resources for individuals and families with heritable disorders.
- On Nov. 18, AMCHP staff Tegan Callahan and Caroline Stampfel conducted a site visit with members and staff at the Florida Department of Health. They spoke with Title V staff in the Department of Health, as well as key partners,

including Medicaid and community partners, in order to capture lessons learned and opportunities around preconception health measurement and translating assessment data into programmatic and policy action. This site visit informs a larger initiative AMCHP is launching to provide states more support around preconception health measurement.

- On Nov. 22, AMCHP staff Lauren Raskin Ramos and Kate Howe presented during an Action Call webinar for the National Initiative for Children's Healthcare Quality (NICHQ) Collaborate for Healthy Weight project. They presented on AMCHP and its efforts to help states improve their capacity to address healthy weight. The presentation focused on the AMCHP Best Practices program and included an overview of two Innovation Station programs related to healthy weight and how quality improvement and evidence-based practices were used to address obesity in Latino populations. The presentation is available [here](#).
- On Nov. 29, AMCHP staff Brent Ewig and Carolyn Mullen provided an update on implementation of the Affordable Care Act to the Health Resources and Services Administration Maternal and Child Health Bureau as part of their "popcorn forum" learning series.
- On Nov. 30, AMCHP staff Tegan Callahan, Alma Gomez and Piia Hanson attended a briefing on the dissemination of the Smoking Cessation and Reduction in Pregnancy Treatment (SCRIPT) program at the offices of the Society for Public Health Education (SOPHE). SCRIPT is an evidence-based program to reduce smoking among pregnant women. This meeting served as the launch for the SOPHE SCRIPT initiative, which provides training on the SCRIPT intervention. AMCHP staff had the unique opportunity to give feedback in developing a strategy to ensure more communities have access to SCRIPT.



Do you have a program that addresses best practices in data and assessment, including epidemiology capacity building, evaluation and quality improvement?

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.

You can also click [here](#) to refer an innovative MCH program that we should know about!



Office on Women’s Health Funding for Prevention of Violence and Trauma of Women and Girls

Deadline: *Dec. 7*

Funding is available for activities and events in support of Prevention of Violence and Trauma of Women and Girls (VAW) in the United States and its affiliated territories and tribal nations. The purpose of this funding announcement is to seek projects which increase awareness of violence and trauma affecting women and girls, offer prevention strategies and messages, and promote trauma-informed care to decrease violence against women and girls and promote recovery and resiliency. To learn more, click [here](#).

Office of Consumer Information & Insurance Oversight Funding to Support Establishment of State Operated Health Insurance Exchanges

Deadline: *Dec. 30, Mar. 30 and June 29*

This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) provides States, the District of Columbia, and consortia of States with financial assistance for the establishment of State-operated health insurance Exchanges (Exchanges). States may choose whether to apply for Level One Establishment or Level Two Establishment based on their progress. States can also choose at what point to apply for grant funding based on their own needs and planned expenditures. Throughout this announcement, States, the District of Columbia, and consortia of States will all be referred to as “State(s).” If there are any activities that are distinct for the District of Columbia or consortia, these will be identified separately. This cooperative agreement funding opportunity is designed to give States multiple opportunities to apply for funding as they progress through Exchange establishment, which helps support their progress toward the establishment of an Exchange. States may initially apply in this announcement for either Level One or Level Two Establishment grants. Level One Establishment grantees may reapply for another year of funding in the Level One Establishment category. For more information, click [here](#).

HRSA Funding for National Hemophilia Program Coordinating Center

Deadline: *Dec. 30*

This announcement solicits applications for the National Hemophilia Program Coordinating Center (NHPCC). This project is funded under Section 501 of the Social Security

Act which provides funding for comprehensive hemophilia diagnostic treatment centers. The purpose of the program is to establish a coordinating center to facilitate an integrated and collaborative regional network to promote comprehensive, quality care of individuals with hemophilia and related bleeding disorders or clotting disorders such as thrombophilia. The purpose of this center is to facilitate, coordinate, and evaluate the implementation of activities carried out by the Regional Hemophilia Networks. The NHPCC will play a key role in identifying, prioritizing, and addressing issues of importance regarding access to and utilization of hemophilia and related bleeding and clotting disorder services at the national, State, and community levels. For more information, click [here](#).

HRSA Funding for a Regional Hemophilia Network

Deadline: *Jan. 10*

This announcement solicits applications for the Regional Hemophilia Network (RHN). The purpose of this funding opportunity is to establish integrated and collaborative regional networks to promote the comprehensive care of individuals with hemophilia and related bleeding disorders or clotting disorders such as thrombophilia. For more information, click [here](#).

CDC Grant Funding for Coordinating Center for Autism and Other Developmental Disabilities Data and Epidemiologic Studies

Deadline: *Jan. 13*

The purpose of the program is to coordinate and manage the data from the Centers for Autism and Developmental Disabilities Research and Epidemiology (CADDRE), and specifically the CADDRE multi-site study, Study to Explore Early Development (SEED) (phase I and II) funded under FOA DD11-002. The data collected from CADDRE will be used to support the ability of CADDRE SEED investigators to perform analyses which benefit scientific knowledge and guides public health actions related to Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) and related developmental disabilities. For more information, click [here](#).

HRSA Grant Funding for Critical Congenital Heart Disease Newborn Screening Demonstration Program

Deadline: *Jan. 17*

The purpose of the Critical Congenital Heart Disease (CCHD) Newborn Screening Demonstration Program is to

support the development, dissemination and validation of screening protocols and newborn screening infrastructure for point of care screening specific to CCHD (i.e., the measurement of blood oxygen saturation as a detection method). The demonstration program must focus on enhancing state screening infrastructure, including the implementation of an electronic health information exchange for reporting and collecting pertinent information from hospitals, as well as the education and training of various stakeholders on testing methodology and follow-up protocols. This announcement solicits applications for activities to: 1) Enhance, improve or expand the capacity of state, local public health agencies and hospitals to: provide screening; counseling; link the results of CCHD screening to needed follow-up health care services; and/or perform the necessary quality assurance, outcomes analysis and other public health surveillance functions; 2) Assist in providing health care professionals and newborn screening program personnel with education in newborn screening and training in relevant new technologies for critical congenital heart disease (such as the use of pulse oximetry); 3) Develop and deliver educational programs (at appropriate literacy levels) about critical congenital heart disease newborn screening, counseling, testing, follow-up, treatment, and specialty services to parents, families, and patient advocacy and support groups; and 4) Establish, maintain, and operate a system to coordinate and assess screening programs and follow-up relating to critical congenital heart disease. For more information, click [here](#).

HRSA Funding for the Rural Policy Analysis Program

Deadline: *Jan. 17*

This funding opportunity announcement solicits applications for the Rural Policy Analysis Program. The purpose of this program is to support research and analysis of key policy issues affecting rural communities to inform policy makers. The program is national in scope and looks at cross-cutting rural health and human services issues in order to identify trends and challenges. Funded projects should focus on the changing rural environment and outline how they would achieve the following: 1) facilitate public dialogue on key rural policy issues by tracking emerging rural health and human services policy issues and synthesize them in a manner that provides for easy

consumption by rural community leaders, with particular emphasis on rural health care providers and systems; 2) identify opportunities for integrating health and human services in rural policy, program, and evaluation in a local community context; 3) identify opportunities to demonstrate broad community impact of policies and programs in rural health and human services, consistent with policy goals related to rural revitalization and sustainability of rural regions; and 4) provide analysis of policies and regulations that helps optimize positive impacts on rural health systems and communities in the form of policy briefs, reports, and oral presentations. For more information, click [here](#).

NIH Funding for Longitudinal Studies on the Impact of Adolescent Drinking on the Adolescent Brain (Phase II)

Deadline: *Jan. 18*

The purpose of this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is to conduct a multisite longitudinal study using a cooperative agreement (U01) mechanism to address the following questions: 1) what are the effects of both long and shorter-term child and adolescent alcohol exposure on the developing human brain; 2) what is the effect of timing, dose, and duration of alcohol exposure on brain development; 3) to what extent do these effects resolve or persist; 4) understand how key covariates factor into alcohol's effects on the brain; and 5) potentially identify early neural, cognitive, and affective markers that may predict alcohol abuse and dependence and onset or worsening of mental illness during adolescence and/or adulthood. For more information, click [here](#).

HUD Grant Funding for Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration

Deadline: *Jan. 18*

The overarching purpose of the Lead Based Paint Hazard Control Program and the Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration Grant Program is to assist states, Native American Tribes, cities, counties/parishes, or other units of local government in undertaking comprehensive programs to identify and control lead-based paint hazards in eligible privately owned rental or owner-occupied housing, with the exception that the Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration Grant Program is targeted for urban jurisdictions with the greatest lead-based paint hazard control needs. For more information, click [here](#).

CMS Health Care Innovation Challenge Grant

Deadline: *Jan. 27*

This Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) initiative will fund applicants who propose compelling new models of service delivery/payment improvements that hold the promise of delivering the three-part aim of better health, better health care, and lower costs through improved quality for Medicare, Medicaid, and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) enrollees. Successful models will include plans to rapidly develop and/or deploy the requisite workforce to support the proposed model. Awards will recognize interventions that show capability to improve care within the first six months of the award, while creating a sustainable pathway to net Medicare/Medicaid/CHIP savings within two to three years. For more information, click [here](#).

HUD Grant Funding for Healthy Homes Technical Studies

Deadline: *Jan. 31*

The overall goal of the Healthy Homes Technical Studies program is to gain knowledge to improve the efficacy and cost-effectiveness of methods for the evaluation and control of housing related health and safety hazards. This also supports HUD's Strategic Goal to utilize housing as a platform for improving the quality of life and health outcomes for those living in HUD-assisted and HUD-regulated housing, and the associated policy priority to build inclusive and sustainable communities by improving the health of community residents while reducing the impact of communities on the environment. The overall goals and objectives of the Healthy Homes (HH) Program are to: (1) Mobilize public and private resources, involving cooperation among all levels of government, the private sector, grassroots community-based organizations, including faith-based organizations, and other non-profit organizations, to develop and implement the most promising, cost-effective methods for identifying and controlling housing-related hazards; and (2) Build local capacity to operate sustainable programs that will continue to prevent, minimize, and control housing-related hazards in low- and very low-income residences when HUD funding is exhausted. For more information, click [here](#).

USAID Grant for the All Children Reading Competition

Deadline: *Jan. 31*

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID), and World Vision (collectively referred to as the "Founding Partners") are seeking game-changing innovations with the potential to dramatically improve reading skills and low literacy rates among primary grade children. Through a multi-year initiative called All Children Reading: A Grand Challenge for Development (ACR), the Founding Partners will collaborate to achieve the goal of global action to improve child literacy. For more information, click [here](#).

GAPPS Grants Funding to Prevent Preterm Birth

Deadline: *Jan. 31 (Letters of Inquiry)*

Each year, more newborns die as a result of preterm birth than from any other cause. Preventing Preterm Birth, a new initiative within the Global Alliance to Prevent Prematurity and Stillbirth (GAPPS) Grand Challenges in Global Health, is providing grants to discover new solutions to ensure healthy births around the world. Grants will cover work to discover biological mechanisms that lead to preterm birth and develop novel interventions to prevent them. Studies should explore gestational origins, biological mechanisms and the immunological response to infection and nutritional deficiency which lead to preterm birth, especially in the developing world. For more information, click [here](#).

HRSA Grant Funding for Area Health Education Centers

Deadline: *Feb. 15*

The Area Health Education Center (AHEC) programs consist of interdisciplinary, community-based, primary care training programs wherein academic and community-based leaders work to improve the distribution, diversity, supply, and quality of health personnel, particularly primary care personnel in the health care services delivery system and more specifically in delivery sites in rural and other underserved areas. This funding opportunity announcement (FOA) solicits applications for a five-year

FUNDING CONT.

project period for AHEC Infrastructure Development awards and AHEC Point of Service Maintenance and Enhancement awards. Successful applicants will be awarded cooperative agreements to establish and advance statewide or multi-county AHEC programs. For more information, click [here](#).

NIH Grant for the Evaluation of NIAAAs Alcohol Screening Guide for Children and Adolescents (R01)

Deadline: *Feb. 15*

This announcement is to solicit applications to evaluate the new NIAAA alcohol screener for youth as described in "Alcohol Screening and Brief Intervention for Youth: A Practitioners Guide." Although the questions were empirically developed, are based on a vast amount of data from national surveys, as well as numerous prospective studies, and have high sensitivity and specificity in the sample studied, it is important that the precision of the screener be evaluated in practice. For more information, click [here](#).

NIH Grant for Behavioral Interventions to Address Multiple Chronic Health Conditions in Primary Care (R01)

Deadline: *Jan. 7, 2014*

This funding opportunity announcement (FOA) seeks Research Project Grant (R01) applications that propose to use a common conceptual model to develop behavioral interventions to modify health behaviors and improve health outcomes in patients with comorbid chronic diseases and health conditions. Specifically, this FOA will support research in primary care that uses a multi-disease care management approach to behavioral interventions with high potential impact to improve patient-level health outcomes for individuals with three or more chronic health conditions. The proposed approach must modify behaviors using a common approach rather than administering a distinct intervention for each targeted behavior and/or condition. Diseases and health conditions can include, but are not limited to: mental health disorders (e.g., depression), diabetes, smoking, obesity, chronic pain, alcohol and substance abuse and dependence, chronic obstructive pulmonary disorder, cancer and hypertension. For more information, click [here](#).

NIH Grant funding for Developmental Mechanisms of Human Structural Birth Defects (P01)

Deadline: *Jan. 7, 2015*

The Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) and Office of Dietary Supplements (ODS), National Institutes of Health (NIH) encourages innovative, multidisciplinary, interactive, and synergistic program project (P01) grant applications from institutes/organizations that propose to integrate basic, translational, and clinical approaches to understanding the developmental biology and genetic basis of congenital structural human malformations. To contain costs, each P01 will consist of only three component projects and associated cores. At least one project must propose basic research in an animal model system and at least one project must be clinical or translational in nature. The component projects must share a common central theme, focus, or objective on a specific developmental structural malformation or class of anomalies that is genotypically, mechanistically, biologically, or phenotypically analogous or homologous in both animal models and humans. For more information, click [here](#).

NIH Grant Funding for Effects of Adolescent Binge Drinking on Brain Development Studies

Deadline: *Jan. 7, 2015*

This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA), issued by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA), encourages Research Project Grant (R01) applications proposing to conduct mechanistic studies on the effects of adolescent binge alcohol consumption on synaptic maturation and myelin formation in the developing brain. For more information, click [here](#) or [here](#).

NIH Grant Funds for Screening and Brief Alcohol Interventions in Underage and Young Adult Populations

Deadline: *Jan. 7, 2015*

The objective of this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is to encourage research on screening and brief interventions to prevent and/or reduce alcohol use and alcohol-related harms. For more information, click [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#).

CALENDAR



AMCHP Conference and Special Events

[AMCHP 2012 Annual Conference](#)

Feb. 11-14
Washington, DC

[Adolescent and Young Adult Health Institute](#)

Feb. 11 (during the AMCHP Annual Conference Training Institute)
Washington, DC

[A Life Course Dialogue: Exploring State-Level Implementation](#)

Feb. 12 (during the AMCHP Annual Conference Training Institute)
Washington, DC

[AMCHP and March of Dimes Third Annual Mini-March for Babies](#)

Feb. 14 at 10 a.m.
Washington, DC

Partner Events

[Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities \(LEND\) Directors Meetings](#)

Feb. 12
Washington, DC

[Leadership Education in Adolescent Health \(LEAH\) Directors Meeting](#)

Feb. 12
Washington, DC

[National Summit on Quality In Home Visiting Programs](#)

Feb. 15-16
Washington, DC

MCH Events

[17th Annual MCH Epidemiology Conference](#)

Dec. 14-16
New Orleans, LA

[10th World Congress of Maternal and Neonatal Health](#)

December 18-20
Rome, Italy

[2nd Annual Making Lifelong Connections Meeting](#)

(for MCHB trainees and former trainees)
Jan. 18-19
Orlando, FL

[Prematurity Prevention Symposium](#)

Jan. 19-20
Washington, DC

[Health Action 2012](#)

Jan. 19-21
Washington, DC

[Health Connect One National Action Summit](#)

Feb. 28-29
Washington, DC

[NHSA 13th Annual Spring Conference](#)

March 11-14
Washington, DC

[2012 National Health Promotion Summit](#)

April 10-11
Washington, DC

[Safe States Alliance 2012 Joint Annual Meeting](#)

June 18-20
Atlanta, GA

[Head Start's 11th National Research Conference](#)

June 18-20
Washington, DC

Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs
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Want your event listed on the AMCHP MCH Events Calendar? It's easy! Just complete our [online submission form](#).