



MANAGEMENT MINUTE

Now is the Time

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

As AMCHP has been reporting for the last few weeks we are expecting proposed cuts to the Title V MCH Block Grant in the FY 2011 and FY 2012 budgets, along with many other federal programs, to be announced

soon. The president's State of the Union address signals that even in the best case scenario we can anticipate level funding in the Administration's budget for FY 2012. Hints from the Hill suggest that we will be looking at cuts to many health programs, ranging from 5 to 25 percent. While we don't have specifics on the cuts, we are taking the potential threats to Title V MCH Block Grant funding seriously and working hard to share information with Congressional members and staff about the need for sustained support for state MCH programs.

There is a lot that AMCHP staff can do to advocate for state MCH and Title V funding. Indeed, we have been working tirelessly to address the potential cuts and strategize on how to respond when we know what the actual cuts look like. We are documenting potential impact of cuts, drafting Op-Ed pieces to share about the need for sustained support for maternal and child health programs, and redoubling our efforts to visit and meet with key people in Congress.

But we need you. Now is the time for you to help us help you. If you are coming to Washington for the AMCHP Conference and are able to visit with your Congressional delegation, please do so. Representatives and their staff need to be educated on the impact of potential cuts in your state and what reductions will mean for your state's women, children and families. If you are not able to visit members in Washington, schedule a time to visit at a district office. And if you are prohibited from visiting with policymakers, share the impact of potential cuts with

the folks that can and inform them about the need for a concerted effort to educate and inform Congress on what potential cuts may mean to the people in your state.

Now is the time. As AMCHP staff, we can only do so much. Without your voices and your visits we face a tremendous challenge in educating and connecting with the people who are making decisions about your programs. AMCHP staff is available to help prepare you, provide you with materials and talking points, and even go on the visits with you. For assistance, please contact AMCHP Senior Manager for Government Affairs [Joshua Brown](#) or call (202) 266-3042. We look forward to working with you over these crucial next few weeks to sustain support for Title V.

Working Together to Improve Maternal and Child Health

The 2011 AMCHP and Family Voices National Conferences



February 12-15, 2011
Omni Shoreham Hotel
Washington, DC

amchp.org/conference

LEGISLATIVE CORNER

Title V Budget Update

The outlook for Title V Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant funding continues to be murky. On January 25, the U.S. House of Representatives passed a resolution that sets in motion a process to cut overall FY 2011 discretionary spending levels to FY 2008 levels or less. Analysts predict this would translate in reductions to many programs in the range of 20 to 30 percent.

The House now plans to vote on a new Continuing Resolution the week of February 14 that will set reduced FY 2011 funding levels for the remainder of the year by including "prescriptions on how we cut spending and reduce the size of government." This vote will occur during the week of the AMCHP Annual Conference which provides a timely opportunity for those attending to educate your elected officials on the impact of potential reductions to the Title V MCH Block Grant on women, children and families in your state.

A reminder to all state Title V MCH and CYSHCN

leaders: AMCHP launched an effort last week to collect specific information from each state Title V program on the estimated impact of proposed cuts that we will share with policymakers. We are asking for preliminary information by this Friday, February 4.

Combined with the president's State of the Union proposal to freeze spending for five years, it is absolutely imperative that officials hear from state and local stakeholders now about the critical importance of sustained funding for the Title V MCH Block Grant. Our key message is that deep cuts to health programs like Title V are counter-productive because they decimate efforts to prevent disease, disability and injury and address other conditions early before they become more costly.

If you are able to make Hill visits during the AMCHP Annual Conference, please register with [Joshua Brown](#) so we can make sure you receive current versions of AMCHP's Title V advocacy materials.

A final reminder that AMCHP will conduct two advocacy training teleconferences this Tuesday and Wednesday at 3 p.m. EST. Please register with [Joshua Brown](#) to receive the call in information. If you are not attending the AMCHP Annual Conference please be aware that members of Congress will be in their home districts

the week of February 21-25 which offers another opportunity to educate them on the critical importance of Title V funding and the potential impact of deep cuts.



GET INVOLVED



Register Today for the 2011 AMCHP & Family Voices National Conferences

To get the discounted member rate, members should use the code AMCHPMBR11 when you register. Also, click [here](#) to download the program and check out our line-up of speakers, workshops, skills-buildings and other great events! If you have any questions, please contact the Registration Department at (703) 964-1240, ext. 18 or e-mail amchpreg@conferencemanagers.com.

AMCHP February Board Meeting

All members are invited to attend AMCHP's Board meeting which will be held during our Annual Conference on Saturday, February 12 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. EST. The meeting will be held at the Omni Shoreham Hotel. Board members who will be attending should RSVP to [Nora Lam](#) or call (202) 775-0436.

Act Early Networking Session at Annual Conference

The meeting convening on Sunday, February 13 from 7 to 8 p.m. EST. and open to all members of Act Early state teams, will provide a forum to discuss Act Early team activities and share strategies and lessons learned with other states. Staff from CDC's Act Early Team will lead the meeting. For more information, contact [Melody Gilbert](#).

AMCHP Business Meeting and Leadership Celebration

Join in to celebrate the contributions of AMCHP's volunteer leaders who are rotating off of the board of directors and to welcome new board members, including our newly elected president on Tuesday, February 15 from 7:45 to 9:15 a.m. EST. Breakfast will be served. All are welcome and encouraged to participate!

GET INVOLVED CONT.

New This Year at the Annual Conference: Knowledge Café

AMCHP is exploring a new session design - replacing the Roundtable sessions with a Knowledge Cafe! What is a knowledge cafe? Quite simply, it's a method of bringing a group of people together to have an open, creative conversation on a topic of mutual interest to share their collective knowledge, ideas and insights and to gain a deeper understanding of the subject and the issues involved. This year's AMCHP conference will host 10 hot MCH topics! So, make sure to rise and shine early on Monday morning - the first round of dialogue starts bright and early at 7:30 a.m. - and be ready to share your knowledge and insights with your peers. For your convenience, breakfast will be available starting at 7 a.m. Look for a list of topics coming your way soon.

Share the Learning – Selected Sessions Available Online After the Annual Conference

AMCHP's Annual Conference general sessions will be webcast live! Additionally, selected skills-building sessions and workshops are being recorded and archived with the support of the Maternal and Child Health Bureau. The conference webcasting, recording and internet development provided by the Center for the Advancement of Distance Education (CADE) of the University of Illinois School of Public Health. Archived sessions will be available within three weeks of the close of the conference at mchcom.com.

Register Today for the National Summit on Quality in Home Visiting Programs

Co-sponsored by Every Child Succeeds®, the Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, and the Pew Center on the States, the "National Summit on Quality in Home Visiting Programs: Connecting Research to Policy and Practice," will convene on February 16-17, 2011, at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, DC. The Summit will focus on evidence-based, practical solutions to improving the quality of home visiting policies, programs and outcomes for families. To register online, visit [here](#).

Call for Healthy Living Innovation Awards

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is accepting nominations for the 2011 Healthy Living Innovation Awards. These awards will identify and acknowledge innovative health promotion projects that have demonstrated a significant impact on the health status

of a community. The nominations are due by March 1. To learn more, visit [here](#).

MCH PHLI Call for Applications

This year-long leadership development program offered by the Maternal & Child Health-Public Health Leadership Institute (MCH PHLI) 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. This unique program improves leadership capacity, teaching the tools for creating the kind of culture that engages and motivates others. The deadline for applications is February 1. To learn more, visit [here](#).

NASHP Call for Applications

The National Academy for State Health Policy (NASHP) is continuing to seek applications for the Medical Home Consortium membership from states with emerging Medical Home Initiatives. This year-long program will offer assistance to states seeking to strengthen, expand and sustain their Medicaid and CHIP-focused medical home initiatives. The deadline to apply is February 2. To learn more, visit [here](#).

RWJF Call for Applications for its Clinical Scholars Program

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs collaborate to foster the development of physicians who will lead the transformation of Americans' health and health care through the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholars program. These future leaders will conduct innovative research and work with communities, organizations, practitioners and policy-makers to address issues essential to the health and well-being of all Americans. The deadline for applications is February 28. To learn more, visit [here](#).

Call for Abstracts for the Western MCH EPI Conference

The 2011 Western Regional Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology (MCH EPI) Conference organizers invite local, state and federal public health professionals working to improve the health of women, children and families to submit abstracts for the June 19-20 Conference. The abstract submission deadline is March 31. To submit an abstract, visit [here](#).



General Maternal & Child Health

ASTHO Releases New Toolkit for Health Officials

The toolkit, “Communicating Effectively about Vaccines: New Resources for Health Officials,” developed by the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) in partnership with Porter Novelli, develops and tests new, innovative messages based on data from a study of over 1,200 U.S. parents to better understand effective messaging to parents about the importance and safety of vaccines. This resource is designed to assist state and territorial health officials in their multifaceted roles of communicating effectively with parents, policy makers, media and the public, as a means of supporting informed decision-making. To download the toolkit, visit [here](#). For more information, please contact [Kathy Talkington](#) or call (571) 522-2313.

CDC Releases 2011 Health Disparities and Inequalities Report

The report, “CDC Health Disparities and Inequalities Report 2011,” published in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, provides an analysis of recent trends of selected social and health indicators, such as infant deaths and preterm births. To download the report, visit [here](#).

Adolescent Health

NGA Issues Report on Youth Transitioning to Adulthood

The report, “The Transition to Adulthood: How States Can Support Older Youth in Foster Care,” published by the National Governor’s Association (NGA) Center for Best Practices, touches briefly on comparative outcomes for foster youth and youth in the general population, possible reasons for the differing outcomes, and state strategies to improve prospects for youth in the transition to adulthood. To download the report, visit [here](#).

Children’s Health

New NASHP Report on SCHIP Prior to Policy Changes in 2009-10

The report, “Charting CHIP IV: A Report on State Children’s Health Insurance Programs Prior to Major Federal Policy Changes in 2009 and 2010,” published by the National Academy for State Health Policy (NASHP), paints a portrait of state Children’s Health Insurance Programs (CHIP) as they stood in mid 2008, roughly a decade after the federal CHIP program was enacted, a half year before CHIP was reauthorized, and just short of two years before national health reform legislation was enacted. This report examines state program characteristics and policies for both Medicaid expansion (M-CHIP) and separate (S-CHIP) programs. To download the report, visit [here](#).

Archived AAP Birth Webinar Series Now Available for Viewing

In recognition of January as Birth Defects Prevention Month, the American Academy of Pediatric’s (AAP) Program to Enhance the Health and Development of Infants and Children (PEHDIC) has made the following three webinars available for viewing:

- [Medication Use During Pregnancy: What the Pediatrician Needs to Know](#)
- [Sound Beginnings: Changing the World for Children with Hearing Loss](#)
- [Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders and Children in the Foster Care System](#)

Kaiser Releases New Report on Medicaid and CHIP

The report, “Annual Findings of a 50-State Survey of Eligibility Rules, Enrollment and Renewal Procedures, and Cost Sharing Practices in Medicaid and CHIP, 2010-2011,” published by the Kaiser Family Foundation, found that nearly all states maintained or achieved targeted expansions or improvements in their Medicaid and Children’s Health Insurance Programs (CHIP) eligibility and enrollment requirements in 2010, preserving the programs’ critical role of providing coverage to millions of low-income Americans who otherwise lack affordable options. To download the report, visit [here](#).

PUBLICATIONS CONT.

New Report on Preventive Care Model for Children

The report, "Past and Future of an Innovative Preventive Care Model for Children," published by the Commonwealth Fund, addresses issues and new possibilities with [Healthy Steps for Young Children](#), a model of preventive pediatric care for children from birth to age 3 that emphasizes child behavior and development. To download the report, visit [here](#).

GIH Brief on Achieving Family-Centered Care for Children

The brief, "Promoting Family-Centered Care for Children with Special Health Care Needs," published by the Grantmakers In Health (GIH) as part of the Views from the Field series, addresses the goals and activities of Family Voices and Family-to-Family Health Information Centers (F2F HICs). Topics include the challenges families face in navigating the health care system, financing F2F HICs, select state activities, and what philanthropy can offer. To download the brief, visit [here](#).

NCCP Releases Brief on the States' Role in Advancing Environmental Health Prevention

The brief, "Environmental Health in Early Childhood Systems Building: Opportunities for States," published by the National Center for Children in Poverty (NCCP), identifies some of the substances that threaten young children inside and near the home or early care and learning setting. The authors describe the importance of early intervention for disease prevention and provide examples of strategic approaches to regional policy and program reform. They also explore specific actions states can take to successfully address environmental health issues affecting children. To download the brief, visit [here](#).

Women's Health

Women's Health Report Card

The latest report card issued by the National Women's Law Center (NWLC) grades and ranks all 50 states, and the District of Columbia, on how well they met the NWLC's 26 health-status indicators, which were derived from the Healthy People 2010 initiative and various other policy resources. To view the report card, visit [here](#).

ON YOUR BEHALF

AMCHP Staff Attend the Launch of the Surgeon General's Call to Action to Support Breastfeeding

On Thursday, January 20, AMCHP staff member Cristina Sciuto represented the organization at the Surgeon General's release of her "Call-to-Action to Support Breastfeeding." At the release, Surgeon General Dr. Regina Benjamin, alongside three local breastfeeding champions, shared words of encouragement and success stories to help mothers overcome the many obstacles associated with breastfeeding. The Call to Action outlines evidence-based steps that our entire society can take to help make breastfeeding easier. Actions are outlined for mothers and their families, communities, the health care sector, employers, research and surveillance, and public health infrastructure. Click [here](#) for the report, the webcast and additional resources. Related to this event, Lauren Raskin Ramos also represented AMCHP at the United States Breastfeeding Committee meeting.

AMCHP Participates in Workgroup on Intimate Partner Violence and Post Partum Depression

AMCHP member Millie Jones (WI) and AMCHP staff Lauren Raskin Ramos participated in the MCHB Expert Workgroup on Intimate Partner Violence and Post Partum Depression. This group will be working with the Division of Perinatal Systems and Healthy Start to guide the development of resources for State Title V and Healthy Start programs on Intimate Partner Violence and Post Partum depression. We will keep you informed of the workgroup's progress.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

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

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES CONT.

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. For more information about this open position, visit AMCHP's [Career Center](#).

AMCHP Associate Director, Organizational Performance, Member Services and Talent Development

This key AMCHP leadership position is accountable for developing and managing AMCHP's most vital internal asset: its staff. Working with the Chief Executive Officer, Leadership Team, Board of Directors, and external partners, this position will oversee AMCHP's organizational performance and member services, publications management including staff development, performance planning and review, personnel benefits administration, compensation review and administration, recruitment and separation administration, policy and procedures development, and general oversight and management of AMCHP's headquarters office. NOTE: This is a part-time 80 percent position. For more information about this open position, visit AMCHP's [Career Center](#).

AMCHP Associate Director for Women's and Infant Health and Senior Epidemiologist

The Associate Director for Women's and Infant Health and Senior Epidemiologist is accountable for the development, implementation and evaluation of program activities related to women's and infant health and maternal and child health data and assessment through cooperative agreements and other funding sources. The Associate Director and Senior Epidemiologist leads the Women's and Infant Health Team and contributes to the advancement of maternal and child health (MCH) programs, in particular to strengthening the capacity of MCH epidemiology at the state and national levels. This position leads the tracking, analysis, and reporting on federal and state programs impacting women's and perinatal health and plays a critical role in fund development for women's and infant programmatic efforts. The Associate Director and Senior Epidemiologist develops and maintains partnerships with relevant federal agencies, funders, and other national organizations, coalitions and groups concerned with women's and infant

health and MCH epidemiology. The Associate Director and Senior Epidemiologist leads capacity building and technical assistance efforts for the organization related to women's and infant health. For more information about this open position, visit AMCHP's [Career Center](#).

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!



Are you curious about how states are addressing the needs of Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs? Do you want to know more about programs that tackle preconception health or infant mortality? Then visit the [Innovation Station](#), AMCHP's new searchable database for finding emerging, promising and best practices across the United States. You'll also find useful links to other best practice databases and resources to help you evaluate your public health programs. Check out Innovation Station to learn more about what's being done to improve the health of women, children and families!

If you are interested in contributing to this growing database, please [submit](#) your work to AMCHP's best practices program. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. If you have questions about the process, contact [Darlisha Williams](#) at (202) 266-3057.



NIH Funding for Reducing Risk Behaviors by Promoting Positive Youth Development (R01)

Deadline: **February 5**

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) is offering grants to effective, evidence-based, gender-inclusive programs that are adapted, translated, or disseminated for new populations of youth and adolescents for the purpose of reduction of youth risk behaviors. Award amounts vary. Eligible applicants are public/state controlled or private institutions of higher education, state and local governments, nonprofits with or without 501(c)(3) IRS Status, for-profit organizations, and various other organizations, including non-U.S. entities. Deadline: February 5, 2011 To learn more, visit [here](#).

CDC Funding for Core Violence and Injury Prevention Program (Core VIPP)

Deadline: **February 8**

The overall purpose of this program is to assist State Health Departments (SHDs) to build and/or maintain effective delivery systems for dissemination, implementation and evaluation of best practice programs and policies. This includes support for general capacity building of SHDs and their local partners, as well as strategy specific capacity building for the implementation of direct best practice interventions (older adult falls and child injury). In addition, this program supports SHDs in their efforts towards integration or the strategic alignment of resources for meaningful change. To learn more, visit [here](#).

CDC Funding for Maternal Vitamin D Status and Preterm Birth

Deadline: **February 14**

The purpose of this announcement is to improve scientific understanding of the relationship between maternal vitamin D status and preterm birth among racially and ethnically diverse women. Approximately \$450,000 will be available in fiscal year 2011 to fund one to three awards. To learn more, visit [here](#).

HRSA Funding for Long Term MCH Training: LEND

Deadline: **February 14**

The purpose of the Maternal and Child Health Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Other Related Disabilities (LEND) program is to improve the health of infants, children and adolescents who have, or are at risk for developing, neurodevelopmental and other related

disabilities by preparing trainees from a wide variety of professional disciplines to assume leadership roles and to ensure high levels of interdisciplinary clinical competence. To learn more, visit [here](#).

ACF Funding for University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research and Service

Deadline: **February 15**

The Administration on Developmental Disabilities (ADD) within the Administration for Children and Families (ACF), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) plans to use Fiscal Year (FY) 2011 funds to make five-year grants to up to two entities designated as University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research, and Service (UCEDD) to carry out four core functions: (1) interdisciplinary pre-service preparation and continuing education of students and fellows; (2) community services, including training, technical assistance, and/or demonstration and model activities; (3) research; and (4) dissemination of information. UCEDDs are interdisciplinary education, research and public service units of universities, or public or not-for-profit entities associated with universities that implement the four core functions addressing, directly or indirectly, one or more of the areas of emphasis (e.g., quality assurance, education and early intervention, child care, health, employment, housing, transportation, recreation and other services available or offered to individuals in a community, including formal and informal community supports, that affect their quality of life). To learn more, visit [here](#).

HRSA Funding for Affordable Care Act - Health Center Planning Grants

Deadline: **March 18**

The purpose of planning grants is to demonstrate the need for health services in the community from public or nonprofit organizations seeking a grant to plan for the development of a comprehensive primary care health center under the Health Center Program authorized under Section 330 of the Public Health Service Act. The purpose of the Health Center Program is to extend comprehensive primary and preventive health services (including mental health, substance abuse and oral health services) and supplemental services to populations currently without access to such services, and to improve their health status. To learn more, visit [here](#).

FUNDING CONT.

RWJF Grant for Childhood Obesity Prevention

Deadline: **July 1**

The purpose of this funding opportunity, provided by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF), is to support research to analyze and improve policy and environmental strategies to increase physical activity among children and adolescents. Proposals will support opportunistic, time-sensitive studies on emerging or anticipated changes in physical activity-related policies or environments. Grants will be awarded on a rolling basis until the deadline. To learn more, visit [here](#).

NIH Funding for Alcohol Marketing and Youth Drinking

Deadline: **May 7, 2014**

This funding opportunity issued by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA), National Institutes of Health (NIH), encourages grant applications from institutions and organizations that propose to investigate the factors that mediate and moderate the impact of alcohol advertising and other alcohol promotions on youth drinking. To learn more, visit [here](#).

CALENDAR



MCH Events

[National Birth Defects Prevention Month](#)

January 2011

[Working Together to Improve Maternal and Child Health: The 2011 AMCHP and Family Voices National Conferences](#)

February 12-15
Washington, DC

[National Summit on Quality in Home Visiting Programs: Connecting Research to Policy and Practice](#)

February 16-17
Washington, DC

[The National Healthy Start Association's \(NHSA\) 12th Annual Spring Conference](#)

March 6-9
Washington, DC

CALENDAR CONT.

[HealthConnect One's Birth, Breastfeeding and Beyond 2011 Conference](#)

March 21-23
Washington, DC

[2011 National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners \(NAPNAP\) Conference](#)

March 23-26
Baltimore, MD

[4th Annual Conference on New Media, Youth, & Sexual Health](#)

April 1-2
San Francisco, CA

[National Oral Health Conference](#)

April 11-13
Pittsburgh, PA

[3rd National Summit on Preconception Health & Healthcare](#)

June 12-14
Tampa/St. Petersburg, FL

[2011 Regional Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology \(MCH EPI\) Conference](#)

June 19-20
San Francisco, CA

[2011 National School-Based Health Care Convention](#)

June 26-29
Chicago, Illinois

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