

Member Briefs



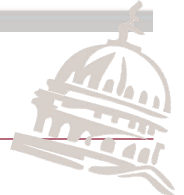
Sept. 30, 2013



THE ASSOCIATION OF MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH PROGRAMS



LEGISLATIVE & POLICY CORNER



Budget Update

As of press time, it is unclear if Congress will approve legislation to keep the federal government open. AMCHP will keep you updated on the developments as this process unfolds and will issue a legislative alert as soon as Congress approves or fails to approve a continuing resolution. For questions, please contact [Brent Ewig](#) or [Carolyn Mullen](#).

Preterm Birth Legislation

On Sept. 25, the Senate approved the PREEMIE Act (S. 252), which authorizes funding to expand research, education and intervention activities related to preterm birth and infant mortality. Importantly, this legislation also codifies the existing Secretary's Advisory Committee on Infant Mortality. The duties of the advisory committee include the following:

(2) DUTIES- The Advisory Committee shall provide advice and recommendations to the Secretary concerning the following activities:

- A. *Programs of the Department of Health and Human Services that are directed at reducing infant mortality and improving the health status of pregnant women and infants.*
- B. *Strategies to coordinate the various Federal programs and activities with State, local, and private programs and efforts that address factors that affect infant mortality.*
- C. *Implementation of the Healthy Start program under section 330H of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254c-8) and Healthy People 2020 infant mortality objectives.*
- D. *Strategies to reduce preterm birth rates through research, programs, and education.*

The legislation requires that within one year of enactment

of the law the committee produce a plan that does the following:

(3) PLAN FOR HHS PRETERM BIRTH ACTIVITIES - Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this section, the Advisory Committee (or an advisory committee in existence as of the date of enactment of this Act and designated by the Secretary) shall develop a plan for conducting and supporting research, education, and programs on preterm birth through the Department of Health and Human Services and shall periodically review and revise the plan, as appropriate. The plan shall-

- A. *examine research and educational activities that receive Federal funding in order to enable the plan to provide informed recommendations to reduce preterm birth and address racial and ethnic disparities in preterm birth rates;*
- B. *identify research gaps and opportunities to implement evidence-based strategies to reduce preterm birth rates among the programs and activities of the Department of Health and Human Services regarding preterm birth, including opportunities to minimize duplication; and*
- C. *reflect input from a broad range of scientists, patients, and advocacy groups, as appropriate.*

The March of Dimes is leading the advocacy effort on this legislation and AMCHP is on record in support of the bill. Before the legislation is signed into law, the House of Representatives must approve the bill before the end of 2014.

Newborn Screening Saves Lives Act

On Sept. 26 the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) committee held a hearing entitled, "Newborn Screening Saves Lives—The Past, Present

and Future of the Newborn Screening.” This hearing was chaired by Sen. Hagan (D-NC) and Sen. Enzi (R-WY). Sen. Casey (D-PA) also attended. The witnesses included Dr. Jennifer Howse, March of Dimes; Dr. Rodney Howell former chair of the Secretary’s Advisory Committee on Heritable Disorders in Newborns and Children; Natasha Bonhomme, Genetic Alliance and a family from North Carolina. During the course of the hearing, the panelist testified about the value and importance of newborn screening and strongly urged Congress to approve the *Newborn Screening Saves Lives Act* (S. 1417). To view the hearing, [click here](#).

Health Reform Implementation

In Case You Missed It, AMCHP Releases Two MCH ACA Resources

Tomorrow, the health insurance exchanges created by the Affordable Care Act (ACA) will begin open enrollment of eligible Americans for coverage beginning as early as Jan. 1, 2014. AMCHP released this [fact sheet](#) to provide state maternal and child health (MCH) leaders with informational resources and suggested steps to support outreach and enrollment and help ensure improved access to care for MCH populations.

AMCHP also published a new fact sheet entitled “[Who Will be Covered for What in 2014?](#)” This tool is designed to support your role in educating women, children, including those with special health care needs, and families about projected eligibility levels for various health insurance coverage options as well as minimum eligibility levels for health insurance coverage. State MCH programs also can use this to anticipate where there may be potential continued gaps in health insurance coverage and benefits for MCH populations.



AMCHP Best Practices Technical Assistance Project: Request for Applications

As part of an overall strategic goal to improve MCH outcomes by sharing effective and promising practices with state and territorial MCH programs, AMCHP is pleased to provide a second round of replication stipends to foster connections between states interested in replication or adaptation of a current emerging, promising or best practice in Innovation Station. Through this project, applicants can request technical assistance support (i.e., travel funds or other seed resources) in order to learn how to adapt a specific Innovation Station practice (or elements of a practice) to their state or community. Applicants will need to demonstrate readiness to adapt the practice in order to maximize technical assistance resources. **Applications will be accepted through Oct. 9.** [Click here](#) to access the RFA.

National Infant Mortality Awareness Month

Each year roughly 4,000 infants die unexpectedly during sleep time, from sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), accidental suffocation, or unknown causes. Fortunately, much has been learned about how to reduce the chances that these sleep-related infant deaths will occur. The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) [policy statement](#) provides recommendations on safe sleep for infants up to age one. Communicating these proven ways to create a safe infant sleep environment to parents, caregivers, families, and health care providers is critical for reducing the toll of these sleep-related infant deaths on our society. In recognition of National Infant Mortality Awareness Month, the federal agencies focused on infant health and safety ask all organizations who reach families and health care providers through media, print, and education to show infants sleeping alone, on their backs and in a clutter-free crib, bassinet or play yard. To see the full statement from the federal SUID/SIDS workgroup, [click here](#).

HRSA Presents the Impact of Interprofessional Education on Improving Hispanic Health Webinar

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) invites all staff and stakeholders to join this session to discuss the interprofessional efforts in the Bureau of Health Professions, featuring presentations from the divisions of Nursing, Public Health & Interdisciplinary Education, and Medicine & Dentistry.

GET INVOLVED CONT.

The webinar will take place **Oct. 3 from 1-2 p.m. EST**. To access this session, [click here](#). Please use conference number 888-603-9219 and participant code 8654112.

Overview of Genetic Testing and Screening Webinar

Join the Genetics in Primary Care Institute **Oct. 8 at 12 p.m. EST** for the second webinar in their series *Integrating Genetics in Primary Care*. This edition will present an innovative view on how to differentiate between diagnostic and screening tests, discuss the limitations and applications for several types of diagnostic tests and include a demonstration of current genetic testing informational resources available. For more information and to register, [click here](#).

Transforming Care through Disruptive Design

The [Centering® Healthcare Institute](#) will host its [4th National Conference: Transforming Care Through Disruptive Design](#), Oct. 26-29 in Washington, DC. The conference offers a great learning opportunity to hear visionary keynotes, action-provoking panel discussions and a wide variety of breakout sessions that will offer interactive exploration of ideas. Join clinicians, researchers, policymakers, administrators and students who come together to discuss ideas for transforming health care delivery. The mission of the Centering Healthcare Institute is to improve maternal and child

health by transforming care through Centering® groups. Centering is a model of group health care, which incorporates assessment, education and support. For more information about the Conference, [click here](#) or go to the Centering Healthcare Institute [website](#) to learn more about this health care model.

Learn more about Scientific Writing at the 141st American Public Health Association Annual Meeting

On Nov. 2 from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. EST, the *Scientific Writing for Peer-Reviewed Publications for Public Health Professionals* session will describe why publication of state and local level program results are important, list the key points of each section of a scientific paper, discuss how to choose the best journal for submission and offer writing style tips for improvement. Participants will work with instructors and assistants to move partially completed papers closer to completion. For more information and to register for this session, [click here](#).



Do you have a program that addresses infant mortality and prematurity prevention?

Consider sharing your program in [Innovation Station](#), the AMCHP 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 Taft](#) 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!



GET INVOLVED CONT.

Toll-Free Hotline Survey for State Title V Program Staff

Federal Title V legislation requires that state maternal and child health agencies establish and maintain a toll-free hotline for families with information about programs and providers. Because of declining call volumes to the existing line and because of multiple other existing lines with similar purpose/function, Tennessee is in the process of evaluating its toll-free Title V line and asked AMCHP to facilitate a process to gather feedback from other states about their lines. This very brief survey asks about the services offered through the line, who staffs the line, whether call volume is changing, and what alternatives, if any, are states using to meet this requirement. If you have any questions, please contact AMCHP staff [Caroline Stampfel](#). To connect to the survey, [click here](#).

PUBLICATIONS & RESOURCES



General Maternal & Child Health

An Editor's Perspective on Preparing, Reviewing and Selecting Manuscripts for Publication now in Archives

A recording of the webinar and slides are now available on the [Webinar Library](#) for the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE). Hosted by CSTE along with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the webinar featured Samuel F. Posner, PhD, who presented helpful hints and common problems in manuscript preparation, submission, review and publication processes. [Click here](#) for a direct link to the recording. For presentation slides, [click here](#).

Child & Adolescent Health

Positive Relationship Factors May Help Break Cycle of Child Maltreatment

The *Journal of Adolescent Health* has released a special supplement investigating the role of safe, stable, nurturing relationships (SSNRs) and social contexts in the cycle of child maltreatment across generations.

PUBLICATIONS CONT.

Efforts focused on enhancing SSNRs between parents and children, as well as between parents and other adults, may be a helpful prevention strategy for breaking the cycle of child maltreatment and promoting life-long health. For more information and to access findings, [click here](#).

Women's & Infant Health

New CCHD Screening Resource for Primary Care Pediatricians on AAP Website

Screening for Critical Congenital Heart Defect (CCHD) is being added to the newborn screening panel in hospitals around the United States. To help primary care pediatricians navigate the implementation process and provide effective, long-term medical homes for babies with CCHD, AAP, in a cooperative agreement with CDC, has developed an online resource addressing many possible areas of concern. The site's content, written by a panel of six pediatricians with specialties in cardiology, public health, CCHD screening implantation and more, is presented in a frequently asked question format. Topics include the rationale for screening, implementation, data collection and management, and screening in special settings such as at home or high altitudes. The site, also offers links to additional CCHD resources and an opportunity to submit additional questions not already addressed on the site. To access this resource, [click here](#).

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

AMCHP Launches CEO Search

AMCHP is seeking a dynamic chief executive officer (CEO) to build on and preserve our mission of being a national resource, partner, and advocate for state public health leaders and others working to improve the health of women, children, youth, and families, including those with special health care needs. Reporting to the board of directors, the CEO provides direction and leadership for organization mission and vision, represents and speaks for the organization and its work, and manages the day to day operations. Specific responsibilities of the CEO include effectively representing and promoting the organization as the national voice for state and territorial maternal and child health programs; successfully

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

managing day-to-day operations, including staff, programs, procedures, and technological resources; overseeing the organization's fiscal operations and fund raising strategies and plans; supporting the board in its governance role; and developing and maintaining relationships and partnerships with stakeholders, policymakers, organizations, and the public, among others. To learn more about the position and how to apply, [click here](#).

Delaware Seeks Public Administrator I

The Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Public Health, has an opening in Kent County for a Public Health Administrator I. This position provides programmatic and fiscal oversight of: the Title V Maternal and Child Health Block Grant Program, the Affordable Care Act Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program grant, the State Systems Development Initiative, the Children with Special Health Care Needs Program, projects funded in the Race to the Top Early Learning Challenge grant, State Developmental Screening funds, Early Childhood and Comprehensive Systems, Help Me Grow, the Autism and Birth Defects Registries and the Newborn Screening Programs (Metabolic and Hearing). For more information and to apply, [click here](#).

Utah Department of Health Seeks Applications for Bureau Director, CSHCN

This position is responsible for administration of the Utah Department of Health, Bureau of Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN) public health programs and clinical services. This position determines health needs for CSHCN, including clinical services, bureau needs and objectives and determines goals and priorities of the

bureau. Responsibility includes establishing and implementing policies and procedures pertinent to clinical practice and operational issues, and analyzes clinical and operational procedures for cost effectiveness. The position also is responsible for oversight and management of multiple programs including the supervision, hiring, training, monitoring and evaluation of multiple staff, as well as the monitoring of all program budgets. For more information and to apply, [click here](#). For questions, please contact [Nan Streeter](#).

ON YOUR BEHALF

AMCHP Staff Working on Your Behalf

- On Sept. 11, HRSA presented a webcast on "Implementing the Affordable Care Act for Adolescents and Young Adults: Practical Considerations." The webcast included presentations by Dr. Claire Brindis of the University of California, San Francisco on the issue of confidentiality in health care services for adolescents and young adults, and Amy Lin of Young Invincibles on national efforts to empower youth to take charge of their health care. The webcast was organized by MCHB staff and the National Initiative to Improve Adolescent Health Volunteer Leadership Team (of which AMCHP staff member Maritza Valenzuela is a member). The webcast was extremely successful and well-received, with more than 700 individuals participating. The webcast is archived and available for viewing [here](#).
- From Sept. 22-25, AMCHP staff participated in the CityMatCH Annual Conference in Savannah, Georgia. Tegan Callahan and Andria Cornell delivered oral presentations on *From Theory to Measurement: MCH Life Course Measures* and *Measuring MCH Data Capacity for the Life Course Approach*, respectively during a session entitled *Measuring Life Course: Can we do it?* moderated by Brent Ewig. Jessica Teel presented a poster on Developing MCH Leaders to Face Tomorrow's Challenges.
- On Sept. 26, AMCHP staff Carolyn McCoy attended a Capitol Hill briefing entitled "Ensuring Quality in Medicaid and CHIP." This briefing provided an update and background on recent activities to improve quality of care for children and current policy

AMCHP 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 CONT.

issues, specifically, Title IV of the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act (CHIPRA). Title IV of CHIPRA created important initiatives to advance the quality of care for children and pregnant women. The briefing also provided information to advocates and Hill staffers in attendance on why continued funding for Title IV is important as the funds were due to sunset on Sept. 30, 2013.

FUNDING



Twinning Program Cooperative Agreement Grant

Deadline: Oct. 15

This grant supports partnerships between U.S.-based organizations and host-country organizations (north-south partnerships) and between in-country and regional organizations (south-south partnerships and south-south-north partnerships) to strengthen human and organizational capacity. For more information, [click here](#).

Fahs-Beck Fund for Research and Experimentation Seeks Applications for Mental Health Research

Deadline: Nov. 1

Grants of up to \$20,000 will be awarded to support research of interventions designed to prevent or improve major social, psychological, behavioral, or public health problems affecting children, adults, couples, families or communities. For more information, [click here](#).

R40 Maternal and Child Health Research Program (MCHR) Grant

Deadline: Nov. 8

This grant supports innovative applied and translational research that have the potential to improve health care services and delivery and to promote health and wellbeing among maternal and child health (MCH) populations. 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, which also support the goals of the Health Resources and Services Administration. For more information, [click here](#).

FUNDING CONT.

Social and Behavioral Interventions to Increase Solid Organ Donation Grant

Deadline: Nov. 20

The purpose of this grant is to reduce the gap between the demand for organ transplants and the supply of organs from deceased donors by identifying successful strategies that can serve as model interventions to increase deceased organ donation registration or family consent. For more information on grant HRSA-14-014 and more, [click here](#).

Ryan White Part B HIV Care Grant Program

Deadline: Nov. 21

The purpose of this grant is to assist states and territories in developing and/or enhancing access to a comprehensive continuum of high quality HIV care and treatment for low-income people living with HIV. For more information, [click here](#).

Rural Health Network Development (RHND) Program Grant

Deadline: Nov. 22

The RHND Program supports established health oriented networks with a history of collaboration to develop and maintain collaborative relationships to integrate systems of care administratively, clinically and financially. This grant supports rural integrated health care networks that have combined the functions of the entities participating in the network. For more information, [click here](#).

WT Grant Foundation

Deadline: *Letters of Inquiry due Jan. 8, 2014*

The foundation is now accepting letters of inquiry from research projects on youth settings, youth development, youth policy and practices and evidence-based improvements. Investigator initiated grants usually range from \$100,000 to \$600,000 for two- to three-year projects. For more information, [click here](#).

Knight News Challenge

Deadline: Jan. 15, 2014

This \$100,000 prize is part of the Knight Foundation's latest *News Challenge*, which seeks innovative ideas to harness information and data for the health of communities. The RWJF award is for those entrants who

FUNDING CONT.

combine public health data with data from health care to improve the health of communities. For more information, [click here](#).

RWJF Executive Nurses Fellows

Deadline: *Jan. 15, 2014 at 3 p.m. EST*

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) Executive Nurse Fellows program is a three-year advanced leadership program for nurses who aspire to lead and shape health care locally and nationally. Fellows strengthen and improve their leadership abilities related to improving health and health care. Awards are open to registered nurses who hold senior leadership positions in health services, scientific and academic organizations, public health and community-based organizations or systems, or national professional, governmental and policy organizations. For more information, [click here](#).

CMS Cooperative Agreement to Support Establishment of Health Insurance Exchanges

Deadline: *Oct. 15, 2014*

Through this cooperative agreement, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will provide states, the District of Columbia, and consortia of states, with financial assistance for the establishment of exchanges. These awards will provide funds for the state to complete activities for achieving approval in accordance with Section 1321 of the Affordable Care Act and the requirements as established through the rulemaking process. For more information on grant IE-HBE-12-001 and more, [click here](#).

NIH Initiative to Maximize Research Education in Genomics Diversity Action Plan

Deadline: *Sept. 6, 2016*

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) presents this funding opportunity to facilitate the training of individuals at all career levels (the undergraduate, graduate, post baccalaureate, postdoctoral and faculty levels) from diverse backgrounds underrepresented in scientific disciplines relevant to genomics to enable them to pursue genomics research that spans all areas of interest to National Human Genome Research Institute later in their careers. For more information, [click here](#).

CALENDAR



AMCHP Events

[AMCHP 2014 – Register today!](#)

Jan. 25-28, 2014
Washington, DC

MCH Events

[9th Annual Directors of Public Health Preparedness Meeting](#)

Oct. 8-10
San Antonio, TX

[87th Annual American School Health Association Conference](#)

Oct. 9-12
Myrtle Beach, SC

[Centering Healthcare Institute 4th National Conference: Transforming Care through Disruptive Design](#)

Oct. 26-29
Washington, DC

[APHA Scientific Writing for Peer Reviewed Publications for Public Health Professionals Course](#)

Nov. 2
Boston, MA

[2013 American Public Health Association Annual Meeting](#)

Nov. 2-6
Boston, MA

[National Summit on Quality Home Visiting](#)

Jan. 29-30, 2014
Washington, DC

Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs
2030 M Street, NW, Suite 350
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 775-0436
www.amchp.org