



OCTOBER 22, 2008

ASSOCIATION OF MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH PROGRAMS

member *Briefs*

LEGISLATIVE CORNER

Congress continues to focus on the economy while many members prepare to return home to focus on the upcoming elections. Congress still expects to revisit the FY 2009 appropriations in conjunction with a new administration and AMCHP will work with the new Congress and Administration to continue our push for full funding of the MCH Block Grant. You can learn more about AMCHP's recent efforts on behalf of state maternal and child health programs by contacting [Brent Ewig](#), Director of Policy and Government Affairs at (202) 266-3041.

GET INVOLVED



AMCHP to Host a Conference Call on Post-Election Analysis for State and Territorial MCH Programs — On Monday, November 10, 2008, from 2 to 3 p.m. (EST) AMCHP will discuss what the 2008 elections may mean for the future of MCH programs and AMCHP's plans for working with the new Administration and Congress during and after the presidential transition. AMCHP will share steps the new president and Congress can take in their first 100 days to improve the health of America's mothers, children and families. We will also discuss the latest on prospects for health reform and AMCHP's analysis of key MCH provisions for any reform package. Moderated by AMCHP President Nan Streeter and CEO Mike Fraser, the call will allow for member questions and the opportunity to gather suggestions and ideas as AMCHP moves forward on your behalf. AMCHP Conference Line to be provided via email. [Sign up](#) for the call. If you have questions, please contact [Helen Cedeno](#) or call 202-775-0436.

AMCHP DATA Mini-Grant Program for 2008-2009 — AMCHP is currently accepting applications for the State Data & Assessment Technical Assistance (DATA) Mini-Grant Program for 2008-2009. The purpose of the DATA Mini-Grant Program is to increase the ability of state MCH/CSHCN professionals to use epidemiology and surveillance data to support policies and programs that serve MCH populations. Additionally, AMCHP is specifically looking to fund one or two states interested in using the data mini-

grant money to examine adolescent reproductive health disparities data. We welcome states to submit applications for both topics: 1) regular data mini-grant application and 2) adolescent health issue on disparities. Selected MCH/CSHCN departments will be awarded funds up to \$5,000. For more information, please visit [here](#). All applications must be submitted to [Henry Maingi](#) by November 14.

AMCHP Women's Health Information Series Call — The next Women's Health Information Series call, "Women and IPV, Substance Abuse, and Mental Health: The Need for an Integrated Response," will be held on Thursday, November 20 from 3 to 4:30 p.m. (EST). Please register [here](#) to receive the call-in number and passcode. For additional information, please contact [Brynn Rubinstein](#) or call (202) 775-0436.

Submit Your Best Practice Today! — AMCHP is seeking submissions of best practices in maternal and child health from around the country. Whether it's an effective campaign to promote breastfeeding, an outstanding nurse-family partnership, or a proven early intervention program for young children, get the word out about your best practice. AMCHP defines "best practices" as a continuum of practices, programs and policies ranging from promising to evidence-based to science-based. A best practice could focus on the health of women, adolescents, young children, families, or children with special health care needs. Best practice focus areas include preconception care, mental health, data and assessment, financing, program and system integration, workforce development, injury prevention, emergency preparedness, family involvement, or other public health issues. Contribute to AMCHP's Innovation Station – a growing database of what is working in MCH.

- 1) Click [here](#) to download a PDF of the submission form.
- 2) When you are ready to submit, click [here](#) to start the survey.

For more information on submitting best practices, please contact [Darlisha Williams](#) or call (202) 775-0436.



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GET INVOLVED CONT.

March of Dimes 2008 Petition for Preemies

— Beginning this October, more than 30 of the March of Dimes national Prematurity Campaign sponsors, partners and alliance organizations, including AMCHP will join moms across America and the March of Dimes to sign onto the [2008 Petition for Preemies](#). As an alliance partner we're helping to create awareness of Prematurity Awareness Month this November and the growing problem of preterm birth. In the United States today, one in eight babies is born prematurely. More newborns die from premature birth than any other cause. Together, we can find the causes of premature birth. It's time for our country to do more to help moms have healthy, full-term babies. Please join us and direct your colleagues and constituents to [e-sign the Petition for Preemies](#) to urge federal and state policy makers to move our nation forward to do more to help moms have healthy, full-term babies.

Call for Presentations — The National Initiative for Children's Healthcare Quality (NICHQ) is accepting submissions for [presentations](#) for its "Eighth Annual Forum for Improving Children's Healthcare: Thrive Together," to be held March 9-12, 2009, in Grapevine, TX, near Dallas/Fort Worth. This interactive forum will bring nearly 1,000 healthcare professionals of all disciplines together to highlight the most promising work being done in support of NICHQ's bold agenda to improve children's healthcare quality.

AMCHP Pre-Conference Data Training Workshops — AMCHP, in partnership with the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC), Division of Reproductive Health (DRH), and Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB), will conduct four data training workshops on December 8-9, 2008, in Atlanta, GA. The trainings serve as pre-cursors to the 14th Annual CDC MCH EPI Conference scheduled for December 10-12, 2008, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel Atlanta-Ravinia. All four of the following courses will be two-day comprehensive and hands-on data trainings:

1. State Title V Program MCH Needs Assessment Practice
2. Scientific Writing: Communicating Research Investigation Effectively to Expedite Publication,

Programmatic and Policy in Public Health

3. Time Trend Analysis for MCH Outcomes in Large and Small Populations
4. Using the Population Attributable Fraction (PAF) to Assess MCH Population Outcomes

Registration and course descriptions are available [online](#). Space is limited. For more information, please contact ASK AN EXPERT

How does your state fund neonatal follow up programs for premature infants? Do you use Title V funds? Private Funds? Please e-mail your response to [Jessica Hawkins](#). contact [Henry Maingi](#) or [Brynn Rubinstein](#).

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ON YOUR BEHALF

AMCHP Participates in Newborn Screening Contingency Planning Stakeholders Group

— On September 24-26, 2008, AMCHP member Danny Bender (MS) and follow up coordinator Mitzi Lambert (TN), represented AMCHP at the National Contingency Planning for Newborn Screening Stakeholders Work Group Meeting at CDC. The goal of the meeting was to develop a national continuity plan for newborn screening as required by Congress in the recently passed Newborn Screening Saves Lives Act of 2007. This meeting also featured representatives from the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials, the Association of Public Health Laboratories, and the National Association of County and City Health Officials. AMCHP will continue to work with the CDC's National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities and the Maternal and Child Health Bureau, as well as with these partners, to finalize the plan and disseminate recommended guidance to states in the coming months. For additional information, please contact [Lauren Raskin Ramos](#).



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PUBLICATIONS & RESOURCES

General Maternal & Child Health

Preliminary Findings from the AMCHP Workforce Development Survey

— Seeking to better understand and address state Title V Maternal and Child Health (MCH) and Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN) workforce and leadership needs, AMCHP and the Association of Teachers of Maternal and Child Health (ATMCH), with support from the Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB) surveyed these programs between May and August 2008. These three documents present preliminary descriptive data from selected portions of the survey, including: Program Profiles, Professional Development and Graduate Education. To download the documents, visit [here](#).

Report Addresses the Scientific Basis for Maternity Practice

— The report, Evidence-Based Maternity Care: What It Is and What It Can Achieve, developed by Childbirth Connection in collaboration with the Reforming States Group and the Milbank Memorial Fund, presents a discussion of maternity care in the U.S. health care system and identifies key indicators that show the need for improvement. The report summarizes the results of systematic reviews that could be used to improve maternity care quality, identifies barriers to the use of evidence-based maternity care, and offers policy recommendations and other strategies that could lead to wider implementation of evidence-based maternity care in the United States. To download the report, visit [here](#).

CDC's New Online Training Course Available

— The Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity at CDC now offers a free new online training course "[Social Marketing for Nutrition and Physical Activity](#)." Continuing education credits (CHES and CEU's) are available for those who register, complete the course and fill out an evaluation through the CDC/ATSDR Training and [Continuing Education Online System](#).

New and Updated Resources on Health Coverage Trends

— The Kaiser Family Foundation's Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured has issued four new and updated resources on the trends affecting the nation's 45 million people without health insurance:

1. [The Decline in the Uninsured in 2007: Why Did It Happen and Can It Last?](#), examines the underlying shifts in health insurance coverage in 2007, which resulted in a 1.5 million decrease in the number of uninsured people under age 65, due to increased public coverage. The brief projects that the current economic downturn and rising unemployment rate likely will cause the number of uninsured to grow by at least 2 million in 2008.
2. [Trends in Access to Care Among Working-Age Adults, 1997-2006](#), this policy brief finds about 39 million working-age adults nationally reported cost as a barrier to receiving needed health care in 2006, a number that grew by an average of 1 million people annually over the decade studied. Uninsured working-aged adults experienced the most consistent erosion over the 10 years.
3. [The Uninsured: A Primer](#), provides key facts about the nation's uninsured population, including who the uninsured are, why they do not have health insurance, how coverage has changed over time, and the difference health insurance makes in people's lives.
4. [Health Insurance Coverage in America, 2007](#), offers easy-to-use web-based charts and tables reflecting the latest available data on the uninsured.

CDC Offers New Feature for People Living With a Disability

— The feature, "[People with Disabilities Can Lead Long, Healthy Lives](#)," offers tips and resources a person living with a disability can use to stay healthy.



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PUBLICATIONS & RESOURCES CONT.

Children's Health

New Report Presents State-by-State Analysis of the Impact of Education and Income on Child Health

— The report, *America's Health Starts With Healthy Children: How Do States Compare?*, published by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's "Commission to Build a Healthier America," examines the health of children from different socioeconomic backgrounds in every state to document how healthy the nation's children are now and how healthy they could be if we as a nation were realizing our full health potential. To download the report, visit [here](#).

Fact Sheets Present Data and Trends on Economic Disadvantage Among Children and Their Families

— The National Center for Children in Poverty has released several new resources on children who are considered poor and those who are growing up in families with low incomes. The resources include the following:

- **Basic Facts About Low-Income Children**, a series of fact sheets that provide data and trends on U.S. children who live in families with low incomes. Facts and figures are provided for three ages groups: birth to age 3, birth to age 6, and birth to age 18. Data are presented on the number and percentage of children from families with low incomes by parents' employment and education, family structure, age, race and ethnicity, parents' country of birth, and where the children live. To download the fact sheets, visit [here](#).
- **Who are America's Poor Children? The Official Story**, this fact sheet provides information on the way poverty is measured in the United States and presents child poverty rates across the states. Additional topics include economic hardships faced by U.S. children such as food insecurity, lack of affordable housing, and lack of health insurance, and recommended policy strategies to improve the well-being of children and families living in poverty. To download the fact sheet, visit [here](#).

Adolescent's Health

Sexual and Reproductive Health Behavior Among Teen and Young Adult Men: A Descriptive Portrait

— This brief draws on the male data file from the 2002 National Survey of Family Growth to present a descriptive portrait of reproductive health behaviors among U.S. adolescent and young adult males (ages 15-24). The research brief, published by Child Trends, examines survey results on several dimensions of reproductive health by age and by race and ethnicity. Topics include sexual experience and activity, use of reproductive health services, condom use and contraceptive use, and fertility. The brief is intended to help health professionals, policymakers, and parents learn more about the circumstances of males in the adolescent and young adult years. To download the brief, visit [here](#).

FUNDING



HRSA Announces Funding to Reduce Loss to Follow Up for Newborn Hearing Screening

Deadline: **November 20**

HRSA announced the availability of funding to reduce the loss to follow-up of infants who have not passed a physiologic newborn hearing screening examination prior to discharge from the newborn nursery. Approximately \$875,000 is expected to be available annually to fund up to seven applicants. Eligible applicants for this initiative are those state agencies or entities working in partnership with state agencies to fully implement the newborn hearing screening and intervention program with a focus on reducing loss to follow-up. States that are receiving newborn hearing screening funds through the MCHB program with project periods ending March 31, 2009 and states that are currently not receiving newborn hearing screening funds through the MCHB are eligible to apply for this opportunity. To learn more, visit [here](#).



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FUNDING CONT.

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Foundation: Campus Suicide Prevention Grants

Deadline: **November 25**

The purpose of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Foundation's Campus Suicide Prevention Grants is to facilitate a comprehensive approach to preventing suicide in institutions of higher education. For more information about this funding opportunity, visit [here](#).

Call for Proposals: CATCH Residency Training Grants

Deadline: **December 3**

The Community Pediatrics Training Initiative (CPTI) is partnering with the Community Access to Child Health (CATCH) to offer grants to pediatric residency training programs. The mission of this program is to provide support to pediatric residency programs to build sustainable opportunities for residents to gain experience working on community-based child health initiatives that increase access to medical homes or specific health services not otherwise available. Grants up to \$12,000 will be awarded for innovative planning and implementation activities to be completed over the course of 16 months. Application and guidelines are available [online](#). Applications must be submitted by [e-mail](#) as a Word or PDF file by 4 p.m. (CST). For more information, please call (800) 433-9016, ext. 4080 or ext. 7397.

Healthy Communities Demonstration Sites

Deadline: **December 5**

NACCHO, with support from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, plans to award up to \$30,000 each to 10 local health departments to:

1. build or strengthen a coalition of community partners; and
2. develop a community action plan to address chronic disease risk factors such as physical inactivity, poor nutrition, and tobacco use at the policy, systems and environmental change levels.

Applicants will be asked to submit an application, a proposal addressing the criteria for selection, a proposed budget request, and three letters of support from community partners. If you have question, please contact [Emma Green](#) or call (202) 507-4220.

CDC Public Health Grant Opportunity

Deadline: **December 8**

The purpose of the program is to provide partial support for specific non-Federal conferences in the areas of health promotion and disease prevention, educational programs, and applied research. This program addresses the "Healthy People 2010" focus area(s) of Access to Quality Health Services; Arthritis, Osteoporosis and Chronic Back Conditions; Cancer; Diabetes; Disability and Secondary Conditions; Educational and Community-Based Programs; Environmental Health; Food Safety; Health Communication; Heart Disease and Stroke; Injury and Violence Prevention; Maternal, Infant and Child Health; Mental Health and Mental Disorders; Nutrition and Overweight; Physical Activity and Fitness; Public Health Infrastructure; Respiratory Diseases; Tobacco Use (among youth); and Vision and Hearing. To learn more, visit [here](#).

RFP for Strengthening the Engagement of Women and Girls with the Global Fund in Southern and East Africa

Deadline: **December 21**

The Open Society Initiative for Southern Africa (OSISA), the Open Society Initiative for East Africa (OSIEA), and the Open Society Institute's (OSI) Public Health Programme are requesting proposals from coalitions of women's rights and HIV/AIDS organizations in Southern Africa, Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda that wish to develop proposals for submission to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB, and Malaria addressing the specific vulnerabilities of women and girls. All proposals must be written in English. Proposals should be submitted via email with the subject heading "Women and Girls Global Fund Proposal" to [Lila Elman](#).



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FUNDING CONT.

Changes in Health Care Financing and Organization Funding Alert

Deadline: **Open**

HCFO supports policy analysis, research, evaluation and demonstration projects that provide policy leaders timely information on health care policy and financing issues. This call for proposals is intended to support projects that 1.) examine significant issues and interventions related to health care financing and organization and their effects on health care costs, quality and access; and 2.) explore or test major new ways to finance and organize health care that have the potential to improve access to more affordable and higher quality health services. To learn more, visit [here](#).

Health and Wellness

Deadline: **Ongoing**

PepsiCo Foundation's mission in Health and Wellness is to advance and encourage healthy lifestyles and positive behavior change. Initiatives of particular interest are those which address one or more of the following focus areas: community activation, minority communities, school drop-out prevention, and health professionals. For more information, visit [here](#).

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

AMCHP is recruiting for a Senior Manager for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs

— This position is accountable for development, implementation and evaluation of program activities related to children and youth with special health care needs (CSHCN), birth defects and developmental disabilities, early childhood development and family involvement. The Senior Program Manager will assist in the tracking, analyzing, and reporting on national and state programs impacting CSHCN, birth defects and disabilities and early childhood. The Senior Program Manager will partner with relevant federal agencies such as the Maternal and Child Health Bureau, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Department of Education, and other national organizations and groups concerned with CSHCN and early childhood. Additional information can be found on AMCHP's [website](#).

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES CONT.

The Commonwealth Fund/Harvard University Fellowship in Minority Health Policy (CFHUF)

— This fellowship is designed to prepare physicians, particularly minority physicians, for leadership roles in formulating and implementing public health policy and practice on a national, state or community level. Five one-year, degree-granting fellowships will be awarded per year. Fellows will complete academic work leading to a Master of Public Health (MPH) degree at the Harvard School of Public Health, and, through additional program activities, gain experience in and understanding of major health issues facing minority, disadvantaged, and underserved populations. CFHUF also offers a Master of Public Administration (MPA) degree at the Harvard Kennedy School to physicians possessing an MPH. For application materials and for additional information please contact the CFHUF Program Coordinator by telephone at (617) 432-2922; by fax at (617) 432-3834; or by [e-mail](#).

Policy Fellowships with the Society for Research in Child Development

— In both Congressional and Executive Branch placements, work as “resident scholars” at the interface of science and policy. Applicants must have a doctoral level degree in any discipline related to Child Development. Both early and mid-career doctoral level professionals of all scientific disciplines related to child development are encouraged to apply. The deadline for applications is December 15, 2008. For more information and application instructions, visit [here](#).

CALENDAR



[The 2008 Nemours Conference on Child Health Promotion Advocacy, Policy, and Progress in the Fight against Childhood Obesity](#)

October 23-24
Wilmington, DE



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CALENDAR CONT.

[Nutrition in the Womb](#)

October 29-31

Portland, OR

[International Conference on AD/HD](#)

November 12-15

[National Perinatal Association 2008 Annual Conference](#)

November 19-21

Loma Linda, CA

[Fourteenth Annual Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology Conference](#)

[Making Methods and Practice Matter for Women, Children and Families](#)

December 10-12

Atlanta, GA

[AMCHP's 2009 Annual Conference](#)

[Launching MCH: Opportunities for a New Era](#)

February 21-25

Washington, DC

[Family Voices' Gala – One Heart, Many Voices: The Time is Now!](#)

February 23

Washington, DC

[Eighth Annual Forum for Improving Children's Healthcare:](#)

[Thrive Together](#)

March 9-12

Grapevine, TX

[The Third International Conference on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder](#)

[Integrating Research, Policy, and Promising Practice Around the World: A Catalyst for Change](#)

March 11-14

Victoria, British Columbia, Canada

OUR MISSION

AMCHP supports state maternal and child health programs and provides national leadership on issues affecting women and children.

Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs

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