



NOVEMBER 17, 2008

ASSOCIATION OF MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH PROGRAMS

member *Briefs*

LEGISLATIVE CORNER

AMCHP Conducts Post-Election Analysis Conference Call and Releases Materials on Health Reform

On Monday, November 10, 2008, AMCHP held the first in a series of national calls to discuss what the changes to the Administration and Congress mean for maternal and child health services. AMCHP also laid out our plans for working with the new Administration and Congress in the months ahead. Click [here](#) to listen to a recording of the call.

AMCHP member committees have developed two key documents outlining a call for public policies that strengthen our public health system, expand health insurance coverage to mothers and children, and provide resources for states to better serve MCH populations, including children with special health care needs. AMCHP's [100-Day Policy Agenda for the new Administration and Congress](#) proposes several immediate steps that the new president and Congressional members can take to improve the health of women and children. AMCHP's [Principles of Health Care Reform](#) outlines key principles, specifically the importance of strengthening public health, in health reform legislation.

Your Voice Will Make a Difference

We need your help – family leaders, MCH professionals, and partners – to educate members of Congress on the vital role that MCH programs play in improving the health of women and children, including children with special health care needs. There is time on the AMCHP conference schedule this year - Tuesday, February 24, 2009, to make visits to your representatives in Washington. It is not too early to plan in advance, particularly for state employees that will need approval. Please contact Brent Ewig, Director of Policy and Government Affairs at (202) 266-3041 if you'd like assistance in planning your visits. Thank you for your help – your voice makes a difference!

Senate Leaders Already Working on Health Reform

It has been widely reported that Senator Ted Kennedy, Chairman of the Health, Education, Labor & Pensions Committee, has already begun drafting health reform

legislation. The Senate Finance Committee, chaired by Senator Max Baucus from Montana, will also be influential on health reform legislation. This Thursday, Senator Baucus released his blueprint for health care reform which includes an “individual responsibility” to hold coverage, along with a proposed a new federal “exchange” to help individuals acquire coverage. The Baucus plan also emphasizes extra prevention efforts and a new focus on quality of care. To read the entire blueprint, visit [here](#). As the health reform debate proceeds, AMCHP will continue to be a voice on the Hill for the special needs of women and children.

GET INVOLVED



Online Registration Now Available! —

Register today [online](#) to attend AMCHP's Annual Conference to convene on February 21-25, 2009, in Washington, DC.



AMCHP February

Board Meeting — The next AMCHP Board Meeting will be held during our Annual Conference on Saturday, February 21 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Additional information will be provided in the coming weeks. Board Members who will be attending should RSVP to [Nora Lam](#) or call (202) 775-0436.

AMCHP Business Meeting — All members, partners and staff are invited to attend a business meeting on Tuesday, February 24, 2009, from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. during our Annual Conference in Washington, DC.

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



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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.

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.

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 [Henry Maingi](#) or [Brynn Rubinstein](#).

Webinar on Reducing the Maltreatment of Young Children

— "Promotion, Prevention and Treatment: Reducing the Risk and Impact of Maltreatment on Very Young Children," will occur on Wednesday, November 19 at 3 p.m. (EST). This webinar will provide an overview of ZERO TO THREE's child welfare work and will invite participants to share information and raise questions, dilemmas, and controversies that arise in addressing maltreatment of infants and toddlers. Space is limited. Visit [here](#) to reserve your space. If you have any questions, please contact [Jean Nussbaum](#).

Pediatric Mental Health Care Webinar

— The National Institute for Health Care Management (NIHCM) will host a "[Pediatric Mental Health Care: Strategies to Integrate Early Identification and Treatment into Primary Care](#)" webinar on December 4, 2008 from 1 to 2:30 p.m. (EST). This webinar will explore the current state of health care given to today's children. This will also include a discussion of how mental health parity legislation will affect the future delivery of primary care services to children with a mental or emotional disorder. Participants will also discuss training opportunities for primary care providers, including the recently updated Bright Futures guidelines.

Family Voices' Gala

— The Family Voices Gala will be held on Monday, February 23, 2009, in conjunction with AMCHP's Annual Conference at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel in Washington, DC. AMCHP members get a discounted price! \$175 for AMCHP members. For more information, visit [Family Voices 2009 Gala](#).

Office of Minority Health Call for Abstracts

— The Office of Minority Health, Department of Health and Human Services, is issuing a call for abstracts as well as for oral and poster presentations as part of its third "National



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Leadership Summit on Eliminating Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities.” The Summit will include sessions which highlight progress, challenges and opportunities for improving the health of minority populations. The deadline is November 18. To submit an abstract, visit [here](#).

March of Dimes 2008 Petition for Preemies

— 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.

ON YOUR BEHALF

On November 6-8, the AMCHP Board of Directors met in Washington, DC. Included on the agenda were meetings with senior staff from MCHB to address transition issues and shared priorities; SAMHSA to discuss opportunities around Project LAUNCH; and partner organization, the National Family Planning and Reproductive Health Association around areas of collaboration. Major discussion items included AMCHP’s role in health care reform; finalizing the slate of nominations for AMCHP’s Executive Committee and Board of Directors; voting on the AMCHP awards given at the Annual Conference; and strengthening regional communications. On Thursday, AMCHP sponsored a well-attended open house for key partners to visit with the Board and staff and view the new AMCHP office. A list of current Board members is available [here](#).

ASK AN EXPERT

What do you think about the concept of expanding the work of the Early Childhood Comprehensive System (ECCS) to develop a comprehensive systems approach for addressing adolescent (ages 10-24) development and well-being?

(Please note: The intent is not to replace current systems of service but to facilitate the formation of effective working partnerships to meet all the needs of all adolescents.)

Please e-mail your response to [Lissa Pressfield](#) by December 1, 2008.



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PUBLICATIONS & RESOURCES



General Maternal & Child Health

Resources Available from CityMatCH — The two resources include CityMatCH's 2008 Annual Report and the Promising Practice Abstracts. The materials are from CityMatCH's 2008 "A Life-Course Perspective: Pathways for Improving Practice in Urban MCH" conference held in Albuquerque, New Mexico. To download the publications, visit [here](#).

Blueprint for Reform Released by the Center for American Progress

Discussing ways in which delivery system reform is central to any health reform plan, the Center for American Progress and the Institute on Medicine as a Profession partnered to develop the book, *The Health Care Delivery System: A Blueprint for Reform*. To read the blueprint, visit [here](#). One chapter in particular, "An Agenda to Improve the Health of the Public," stresses that "even if the access, quality and cost problems in the medical system are resolved, a traditional view of the delivery system must expand to include population-wide programs in order for the system to reach its full potential." The statement on the value of public health in health reform is particularly encouraging because it was co-authored by a key health advisor to President-Elect Obama – Dora Hughes. Read this chapter [here](#).

State Resources

New Media Kit on Sickle Cell Disease — The Connecticut Department of Public Health created a media kit, *Face Sickle Cell* to build awareness of key facts about sickle cell disease and trait among all races. The campaign includes three television and three radio public service announcements that feature people living with sickle cell disease, as well as posters and brochures. The Connecticut Department of Health also developed a state plan to address sickle cell disease and trait. For additional information, contact [Lisa Davis](#), Title V Director or call (860) 509-8074.

Women's Health

Podcast for Women's Health — The HRSA Office of Women's Health is offering a series of three audio podcasts on topics that are relevant to women, their families, and communities. The first podcast focuses on adolescent health and features the Center for Young Women's Health, Boston, MA. To listen to the podcast, visit [here](#). For more information, contact [Morrisa B. Rice](#) or call (301) 443-6838.

Women Who Gain Excess Weight During Pregnancy Are More Likely to Have a Heavy Baby

— A new study by the Kaiser Permanente Center for Health Research of more than 40,000 women and their babies found that women who gained more than 40 pounds during their pregnancies were nearly twice as likely to have a heavy baby. Published in the November issue of *Obstetrics & Gynecology*, the study found that more than one in five women gains excessive weight during pregnancy, doubling her chances of having a baby that weighs nine pounds or more. To learn more, visit [here](#).

March of Dimes Report Card on Prematurity

— The March of Dimes released its first state-by-state "Premature Birth Report Card," on Prematurity Awareness Day, urging greater attention to the factors that contribute to the country's high premature birth rate. The report examines data on the percentage of 2005 live preterm births, the percent of women who smoke, and the number of uninsured women in each state. To learn more, visit [here](#).

Children's Health

New Issue Brief on Children's Health Care

— The Commonwealth Fund has released a new issue brief called "[Improving Child Health Care Through Federal Policy: An Emerging Opportunity](#)" that reviews three recent legislative proposals on child health care coverage and quality. The brief also proposes a set of provisions that would strengthen primary, preventative and developmental health care services.



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PUBLICATIONS & RESOURCES

Report on Child and Adolescent Weight Management Program Effectiveness —

The report, “Effectiveness of Weight Management Programs in Children and Adolescents,” conducted by the Oregon Evidence-Based Practice Center under contract to the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), examines the effectiveness and safety of behavioral, pharmacological, and surgical treatments for children and adolescents who are overweight or obese. The report builds on a previous review conducted by the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force in 2005. The content focuses on five questions that address various measures of the health impact of treatments to reduce or stabilize weight. To see the abstract or download the report, visit [here](#).

Two New Spanish Publications on Reducing SIDS —

The National Sudden and Unexpected Infant/Child Death and Pregnancy Loss Resource Center has two publications promoting the reduction of SIDS by encouraging safe sleep for infants in Spanish: “A Child Care Provider’s Guide to Safe Sleep: Helping You to Reduce the Risk of SIDS (Guía de Sueño Seguro para el Proveedor de Cuidado Infantil)” and “A Parents’ Guide to Safe Sleep: Helping You to Reduce the Risk of SIDS” (Guía de Sueño Seguro para Padres). To download the guides, visit [here](#).

Adolescent Health

Physical Activity and Healthy Eating for Rural Young and Adult Women —

The MCH Library offers two guides and 10 tip sheets to help rural women adopt healthy lifestyle behaviors. To learn more, visit [here](#).

New National Campaign Report on Teen Birth Rate Increases —

A new National Campaign report, “Teen Births: Examining the Recent Increase,” shows the birth rate for teens 15 to 19 rose by three percent in 2006, marking the first increase in 14 years. The 435,427 births to teens also marks a five percent increase in the total number of births to teens over 2005. To view the report, visit [here](#).

New Children’s Safety Network Manual on Teen Driving Safety —

A new Children’s Safety Network manual, “Promoting Teen Driving Safety: Strategies and Tools for Community Programs,” includes information about the scope of teen driving injuries and fatalities, evidence-based strategies to reduce injuries and fatalities, program planning guides for teen driving safety, basics for developing and evaluating a successful teen driving safety program and contacts for partnerships and funding. To view this resource, 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](#).

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](#).



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FUNDING CONT.

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](#).

Public Health Practice: Evaluating the Impact of Quality Improvement

Deadline: **December 16**

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation is committed to increasing the successful application of quality improvement (QI) methods in health departments. The University of Minnesota School of Public Health is managing this solicitation and seeks proposals from local, state, tribal and territorial health departments to evaluate and document the effects of QI efforts conducted by health departments. 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](#).

Research Grants for Preventing Violence and Violence-Related Injury

Deadline: **December 22**

The National Center for Injury Prevention and Control



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FUNDING CONT.

(NCIPC) has announced a funding opportunity, “Research Grants for Preventing Violence and Violence-Related Injury.” This RFA addresses “Healthy People 2010” priority area(s) of injury and violence prevention and is in alignment with NCIPC performance goal(s) to conduct a targeted program of research to reduce injury-related disability. The purpose of this announcement is to expand and advance the understanding of violence, its causes and prevention strategies. To learn more, visit [here](#).

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

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES CONT.

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](#).

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](#).



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CALENDAR



[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

2030 M Street, NW, Suite 350

Washington DC 20036

(202) 775-0436

www.amchp.org