



MARCH 24, 2009

ASSOCIATION OF MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH PROGRAMS

member Briefs



LEGISLATIVE CORNER

FY 2009 Omnibus Completed — On March 10, the Senate passed a Federal Fiscal Year (FY) 2009 Omnibus Appropriations Bill that includes increases for MCH programs, including a provision to increase the allocation to state grants in the Title V Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant by \$2.6 million in FY 2009. While advocates were pleased to see a slight boost to state MCH programs, the modest \$2.6 million increase will barely begin to rebuild the erosion programs suffered in recent years. The House had passed its version in late February and programs, including Title V, had been operating under a Continuing Resolution (CR). Details of the bill can be found [here](#).

AMCHP President Testifies for FY 2010 — AMCHP President, Dr. Phyllis Sloyer, presented testimony before the U.S. House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services and Education on Wednesday March 18. The subcommittee has begun hearings on FY 2010 appropriations for programs



AMCHP President Dr. Phyllis Sloyer presenting testimony before the U.S. House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services and Education.

under its jurisdiction – including the Title V Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant. Dr. Sloyer spoke to the committee on the importance of increased funding for the Title V MCH Block Grant and how the funds are used to serve the nation’s women and children. A copy of Dr. Sloyer’s written statement has been officially posted on the House [website](#).

AMCHP is following up the hearing by making visits to each of the Labor HHS Subcommittee members to ask for their support for full funding of the Title V MCH Block Grant. The Senate is expected to begin their work on the FY 2010 appropriations soon.

AMCHP Presents MCH Champion Award to Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard

— As previously reported, AMCHP presented a Legislative Champion award to Senator Chris Dodd for his outstanding work on maternal and child health issues. In the House of Representatives, Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard was presented a similar award for her work on a variety of issues affecting women and children.

AMCHP President Phyllis Sloyer, AMCHP CEO Michael Fraser and AMCHP Director of Policy Brent Ewig presented the Californian Representative with the award in her office and also recognized Debbie Jessup on her staff.



AMCHP leaders and staff present Rep. Roybal-Allard with the inaugural Legislative Champions for MCH Award. From left – Michelle Alletto, AMCHP Manager; Librada Estrada, Representative AMCHP Associate Director; Brent Ewig, AMCHP Director of Policy; Rep. Roybal-Allard; Dr. Phyllis Sloyer, AMCHP President; Dr. Mike Fraser, AMCHP CEO; and Joshua Brown, AMCHP Senior Program Manager.

Subcommittee. To learn more, visit [here](#).

Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act Passes House Committees

— On March 18, the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee approved, by voice vote, the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act (H.R. 1256). The bill would authorize the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to regulate the manufacturing, marketing, and distribution of tobacco products, including requiring the disclosure of harmful ingredients and mandating larger health warnings. The House Energy and Commerce Committee approved the measure on March 4. Visit [here](#) for the full text of the bill.



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GET INVOLVED



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 home visiting program, 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.

CDC Webcast on Breastfeeding Rates in California — The CDC will host a webcast on “Closing the Gap: Using Public Data to Improve Breastfeeding Rates in California” on April 1, 2009, from 2 to 3 p.m. (EST). Please visit [here](#) to register and receive access information for this event.

Abstract Reviewers Wanted — The CDC is seeking abstract reviewers for this year's Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology (MCH EPI) conference. The commitment involved:

1. Availability to review abstracts from mid-May to mid-June and September; and
2. Review and scoring of approximately 15 to 20 abstracts using Precis (online abstract management service).

Please send the name, organization and email address of interested reviewers by COB, Friday, April 3 to [Zarinah 'Ali](#).

New MCH Epidemiology Training Course

—The MCHB and CDC are offering a Training Course in MCH Epidemiology as part of their ongoing effort to enhance the analytic capacity of state and local health agencies. This national program is aimed primarily at professionals in state and local health departments who have significant responsibility for collecting, processing, analyzing, and reporting maternal and child health data. Faculty working with state MCH departments also are eligible for the course. The deadline to complete the application is April 3. To download the application, visit [here](#). For more information contact [Dr. Julia Hidalgo](#) or call (443) 203-0305.

Webcast on Protecting Families at Home —

The Maternal and Child Health Bureau will host a webcast on “Protecting Families at Home: Best Practices, New Products and Resources” on April 8, 2009, from 3 to 4:30 p.m. (EST). Learn about best practices in home safety, new programs, partners and resources. In addition, you will learn about program development taking into account the very important aspect of literacy. To register for the webcast, visit [here](#).

Webinar on Youth in an Online World —

The Youth Intervention Programs Institute and the National Institute on Media and the Family will present a webinar on the opportunities, dangers and impacts for “Youth in an Online World” on April 21 from 10:30 a.m. to Noon (EST). To register, visit [here](#).

Webcast on Cyberbullying —

Bullying prevention experts will discuss Cyberbullying: Tools and Tips for Prevention and Intervention during a Stop Bullying Now! Campaign webcast on April 22 from 3 to 4.30 p.m. (EST). To register for the webcast, visit [here](#). For more information about the webcast, contact [Nicolle Grayson](#).

Call for MCH Case Studies —

Maternal and Child Health projects of all kinds are needed (community-based/indigenous, public health, NGO, foundation-funded initiatives) to be used in the “International Case Studies in Maternal and Child Health,” a textbook for health professionals. The deadline for submissions is September 30. Priority will be given to case studies written by, or in collaboration with, local



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voices. All questions and submissions should be addressed to the editor [Ruth C. White](#), PhD, MPH, MSW.

ON YOUR BEHALF

AMCHP is working to bridge its adolescent and women's preventive health efforts by creating the Adolescent & Women's Health Practice Collaborative. Initial efforts will focus on expanding preconception health efforts to include adolescent women. To help frame and guide the efforts of the project, AMCHP convened an Advisory Group composed of experts in adolescent health, women's health, and preconception health. Recently, Immediate Past AMCHP President Nan Streeeter, Director of Maternal and Child Health at the Utah Department of Health and Deborah Harris, Women's Health Coordinator at the Virginia Department of Health, along with seven other Advisory Group members, participated in a day-long meeting to provide content expertise as AMCHP moves forward in planning this Practice Collaborative. Each member expressed great excitement about being a part of the project and committed to serving as faculty throughout the life of the project. Other Advisory Group members represented CDC, MCHB, NACCHO, and the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health. For additional information please contact [Jessica Hawkins](#).

PUBLICATIONS & RESOURCES



General Maternal & Child Health

Dr. Maxine Hayes' Keynote Speech — At the 2009 AMCHP Annual Conference, the Monday morning plenary— "Preconception Care: Identifying New Opportunities to Improve Women's and Children's Health" inspired and challenged attendees to envision a new era for MCH. If you missed this amazing plenary, download Dr. Hayes' keynote speech [here](#) and see how she describes the opportunities for policy action in MCH. "Remember, you cannot achieve what you can't envision."

PUBLICATIONS & RESOURCES CONT.

AMCHP Family Delegate Fundamentals — The AMCHP Family & Youth Leadership Committee developed a new publication titled the "AMCHP Family Delegate Fundamentals." The purpose of the fact sheet is to address questions regarding what is an AMCHP Family Delegate, their potential roles and responsibilities, how they support families and programs, as well as what states should keep in mind in identifying an individual for this position and examples of support they might provide to an AMCHP Family Delegate. Download a copy of the AMCHP Family Delegate Fundamentals Fact Sheet [here](#). If you would like to know who is the AMCHP Family Delegate for your state or have questions about family involvement at AMCHP, please contact [Librada Estrada](#).

Special Notice

Please be sure to read AMCHP Family Delegate Ruth Walden's article on "[Families of CYSHCN Change Workforce Attitudes.](#)" The article explores how families and consumers with special health care needs are now very much a part of the nation's workforce.

Leadership Training Focuses on Organizational Change — A new module in the MCH Leadership Skills Development Series explores issues related to leading and responding to change in an organization. The module is comprised of activities, mini lectures, interviews and other tools. This is an excellent resource for programs at the federal, state, or community level looking to improve leadership skills. To learn more, visit [here](#)

HRSA Business Case for Breastfeeding Materials — The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) is offering a series of materials designed to create breastfeeding friendly work environments. The kit, "The Business Case for Breastfeeding, Steps for



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Creating a Breastfeeding Friendly Worksite: Bottom Line Benefits,” includes booklets for businesses and human resource managers to use to support breastfeeding employees along with an employee’s guide to breastfeeding after returning to work after maternity leave. To order online, visit [here](#).

NCSL Report on Preventable Injuries Burden State Budgets

— This National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) report describes the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) data on the cost of injuries on national and state levels. Falls, unintentional poisonings, motor vehicle crashes, improper use of child safety seats, assault and homicide, teen dating abuse, and child maltreatment are highlighted as the most costly preventable injuries. The report provides brief summaries on current federal and states’ legislative and prevention actions. The author urges policymakers to ensure that every state has a comprehensive injury prevention program that includes surveillance and funding for full-time staff. The report highlights the collaboration between CDC and NCSL on tracking and analyzing state-level legislation; educating state policymakers on injury and violence issues; and developing injury prevention publications for state policymakers. To download the full report, visit [here](#).

Children’s Health

New Issue Brief on Increasing Access to Health Insurance for Children and Families

— The issue brief, “Increasing Access to Health Insurance for Children and Families: Innovative Health Plan Outreach and Enrollment Efforts,” published by the National Institute for Health Care Management Foundation, examines health plan efforts to increase enrollment in Medicaid and the SCHIP as well as to create and market affordable private insurance coverage options. Download the issue brief [here](#).

Zero to Three Policy Center’s State Policies and Initiatives Database

— “Baby Matters: A Gateway to State Policies and Initiatives” is a searchable database that contains resource information on state policies and initiatives that impact infants, toddlers and their families. The database, created by the Zero to Three Policy Center with support from the A. L. Mailman Family Foundation, is searchable by category, state or keyword. A detailed description of each policy or initiative is provided, as well as links to additional related resources. To access the database, visit [here](#).

Report Card on Child Homelessness

— The report card, “America’s Youngest Outcasts: State Report on Child Homelessness,” published by the National Center on Family Homelessness, describes homeless children (from birth to age 18) who are accompanied by one or more parent(s) or caregivers. Brief reports on each state include the state’s overall rank and information about four domains that comprise the score: the extent of child homelessness; child well-being; structural risk factors; and policy and planning efforts. Selected sub-domains also received individual scores and ranks, which contributed to the overall score. Topics include housing and income, child care, food security, homelessness and children’s health, and educational achievement. Ways that communities are addressing particular aspects of child and family homelessness are highlighted throughout the report card. To download the report, visit [here](#).

Preterm Birth Rate Drops

— The National Center for Health Statistics reports its latest available data (the preliminary 2007 data) showing that the U.S. preterm birth rate has declined from 12.8 percent to 12.7 percent. This statistically significant decline occurred predominantly among infants born late preterm. The preterm birth rate had generally been on the rise for more than two decades. To download a chart showing the rates of preterm birth by state, visit [here](#).



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CDC Resources on Cerebral Palsy — In recognition of CDC's Cerebral Palsy Awareness Day, they have created an [e-card](#), [podcast](#) and a [feature article](#) that focuses on the signs and symptoms of cerebral palsy.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

AMCHP is Recruiting for an Associate Director for Women's and Infant Health —

The Associate Director is accountable for the development, implementation and evaluation of program activities related to women's and infant health, maternal and child health, data and assessment through cooperative agreements and other funding sources. The Associate Director leads the Women's and Infant Health Team and contributes to the advancement of MCH programs. 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. To download the job description, visit [here](#). For additional information, please contact [Lauren Ramos](#).

FUNDING



Avon Foundation- Not Seen, Not Heard: Helping Children of Domestic Violence Grant

Deadline: **April 1**

The Avon Foundation, as part of its Speak Out initiative, launched the "Not Seen, Not Heard: Helping Children of Domestic Violence" program to assist children affected by domestic violence. Currently, the Avon Foundation is seeking applications from organizations that help children that have been exposed to domestic violence or who are victims of domestic violence. To learn more, visit [here](#).

Grants to States to Support Oral Health Workforce Activities

Deadline: **April 1**

Health Resources & Services Administration grants are

FUNDING CONT.

available to states to improve the accessibility of the oral health workforce for underserved geographic areas and populations. Section 340F defines a designated shortage area as "an area, population group, or facility that is designated by the Secretary as a dental health professional shortage area under section 332 or designated by the applicable state as having a dental health manpower shortage." To learn more, visit [here](#).

Healthy Start Leadership Training Institute

Deadline: **April 1**

The Health Resources & Services Administration has released a grant announcement, the purpose of which is to enhance Healthy Start Project Directors' knowledge of their Healthy Start program's capacity to address key maternal and child health care issues related to infant mortality and improving perinatal outcomes. Activities supported by this grant must include Healthy Start Project Directors and their staff responsible for designing and implementing health and social services for the vulnerable women and children served by Federal Healthy Start projects across the nation. To learn more, visit [here](#).

Interventions for Youth and Young Adults with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders

Deadline: **April 9**

The purpose of this funding opportunity announcement issued by the CDC is to support innovative research to identify and evaluate components of a systematic intervention for youth and young adults (aged 16 to 25 years old) with a Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders and their families. This program is a directive within the Children's Health Act of 2000 to develop and scientifically evaluate interventions for children and adolescents affected by Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS) or other conditions resulting from prenatal alcohol exposure. To learn more, visit [here](#).

Special Project Grants to WIC State

Deadline: **April 13**

The USDA Food and Nutrition Service expects to have approximately \$500,000 in fiscal year (FY) 2009 funds available for Special Project Grants to WIC state agencies.



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Grant funds will be available only to the 90 WIC state agencies responsible for administering WIC in the states, territories, and Indian Tribal Organizations (ITOs). FY 2009 WIC Special Project Full Grants are open for consideration from all WIC-related program areas and may focus on either the general WIC population or specific segments of the WIC population. Grants should be used to help states develop, implement and evaluate new or innovative methods of service delivery to meet the changing needs of WIC participants. To learn more, visit [here](#).

DHHS Request for Proposals for its Healthy People 2020 Project

Deadline: **April 27**

The Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is pleased to announce a Request for Proposals for "State Action: Evaluating the Healthy People 2020 Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Agenda" project. This evaluation project will fund state, territory, and tribal governments to conduct innovative and participatory strategic planning activities, with an emphasis on multi-sector collaboration, using the Healthy People 2020 framework and population health improvement concepts (i.e., Healthy People 2020 mission and overarching goals; social, physical, and environmental determinants of health; and health equity). Up to 12 projects, taking place between July 1, 2009 and June 30, 2010, will be funded. To download the request for proposal forms, visit [here](#). For more information, please contact [Ann Loeffler](#) or call 1-800-839-0934.

Funding Available for Male Involvement in Child Maltreatment Prevention Programs

Deadline: **Open**

The CDC's National Center for Injury Prevention and Control solicits research applications that will help advance knowledge of effective strategies for engaging the participation of fathers and male caregivers in evidence-based parenting programs that may prevent child maltreatment. Specific proposals are being sought to take an evidence-based parenting program (that is, a program that has been evaluated using a randomized- or quasi-experimental design

with evidence of positive effects on parenting and/or child behavior outcomes) and develop systematic adaptations to the delivery structure, content, and/or materials to target father or male caregiver involvement and engagement in the program. Furthermore, the applications should seek to conduct pilot evaluations of the effects of the adapted programs on participant involvement and engagement in the program; parenting behaviors and male caregiver-child relationships; and child behavior outcomes. 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](#).



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CALENDAR

[Empowering the Majority: Increasing Access to Family Planning National Conference](#)

April 26-29
Bethesda, MD

[Coalition for Juvenile Justice Annual National Conference and 25th Anniversary Celebration: Unlocking the Future of Juvenile Justice](#)

May 2-4
Arlington, VA

[Family Voices 2009 National Conference](#)

May 3-5, 2009
Washington, DC

[National Day to Prevent Teen Pregnancy](#)

May 6, 2009

[American College of Nurse-Midwives 54th Annual Meeting & Exposition](#)

May 21-27
Seattle, WA

[National WIC Association's Annual Conference](#)

May 24-27
Nashville, TN

[36th Annual International Conference on Global Health: New Technologies + Proven Strategies = Health Communities](#)

May 26-30
Washington, DC

[The Bill & Melinda Gates Institute's 7th Annual Summer Institute in Reproductive Health & Development](#)

June 1-12
Baltimore, MD

[Second Annual MCH Leadership Retreat: Leadership, Legacy, and Community](#)

July 20-22
Chicago, IL

[Health Forum and the American Hospital Association's 17th Annual Leadership Summit](#)

July 23-25
San Francisco, CA

[World Breastfeeding Week 2009 - Breastfeeding: A Vital Emergency Response Are you ready?](#)

August 1-7

[National Conference on Health Communication, Marketing and Media](#)

August 11-13
Atlanta, GA

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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