



## LEGISLATIVE CORNER

### HELP Committee to Mark Up First Health Reform Bill This Week

As noted in last week's [Legislative Alert](#) the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee is expected to begin marking up – or amending – their draft health reform legislation this week. Please join AMCHP for a member audio conference on Wednesday, June 17 from 2:30 to 4 p.m. (EDT) to discuss the latest developments in health reform. Click [here](#) to register for the call.

### Congress Sets Schedule to Move Forward FY 2010 Appropriations

The Senate and House of Representatives have set dates to mark up the annual appropriations bills that include funding for the Title V Maternal & Child Health Block Grant. The House has scheduled a date of July 8 and the Senate will follow soon afterwards. Funding levels set at that time could serve as baselines for future appropriations deliberations. In some good news, during the federal budget process, a slight overall increase was given to the Labor, HHS Committee's to work with; so there is an opportunity for improved health funding. Therefore, now is a key time for individuals who are able to contact their representatives in Congress and ask them to support full funding of \$850 million for the MCH Block Grant in the Labor, HHS & Education appropriations bill. AMCHP will be circulating an Action Alert soon to all members and friends with additional details.

### Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Bill on Track to Final Passage

On Thursday, June 11, 2009, the Senate passed the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act (H.R. 1256/S.982), which previously was passed by the House of Representatives. When cleared for the President's expected signature, the bill will grant the FDA authority to: restrict tobacco advertising and promotions, especially to children; ban candy and fruit-flavored cigarettes; require tobacco companies to disclose the contents of tobacco products and research about the health effects of their products; and require larger, more effective health warnings on tobacco

products. The bill would also set up the Tobacco Products Scientific Advisory Committee to review the impact of the use of menthol in cigarettes on public health, including such use among children, African Americans, Hispanics, and other racial and ethnic minorities.



The text of the original Senate bill can be found [here](#).

### Authorization for Home Visiting Programs Considered on Capitol Hill

On June 9, 2009, the House Ways & Means, Income Security and Family Support Subcommittee held a hearing on proposals to provide federal funding for home visitation programs. In his opening remarks, Subcommittee Chairman Jim McDermott (D-WA) stated that there is discussion on including home visiting in the House's health reform proposal. The bill under the Ways & Means Committee consideration is the [Education Begins at Home Act](#) (H.R. 2205/S.244), which has also been introduced in the Senate by Sen. Bond (R-MO).

The legislation would expand home visiting programs through matching grants to states to establish or expand early childhood home visitation programs for families that are expecting a child or have pre-kindergarten children. Programs must provide: voluntary early childhood home visitation at least once a month to as many eligible families as is practicable; training and technical assistance to program staff; and provide participants with access to other early childhood and family services. The bill also proposes a public information and educational campaign to inform the public and new parents about the importance of proper care for infants and children under five years of age. In the House, the home visiting issue is being considered by multiple committees including Ways and Means, Energy and Commerce, and House Education and Labor. In the Senate, the bill has been referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions but the Senate Finance Committee has jurisdiction as well.

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As previously reported, the President's FY 2010 Budget proposes \$8.6 billion over 10 years for a new program that provides funds to states for evidence-based home visitation programs for low-income families. In addition, The House and Senate FY 2010 budget resolutions would both allow for the creation of President Obama's proposed home visitation program.

We are waiting to see if home visiting will appear in either the Senate or House health reform proposals and will update you as developments occur.



## GET INVOLVED

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### 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 emerging to promising to evidence-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. Best Practice submissions are accepted on a rolling basis.

- 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.

### Child Injury Prevention Webcast

The YMCA of the USA and CDC's Injury Center will host a "Summer Safety – Child Injury Prevention Webcast" on June 16 from 3 to 4 p.m. (EDT). Learn more about the latest information and current resources available for you to use to help prevent leading causes of child injuries. This free live

## GET INVOLVED CONT.

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webcast will include presentations by and online discussion with leading experts from CDC, the YMCA, Safe Kids Worldwide, Children's Safety Network, and the American Academy of Pediatrics. To register, visit [here](#).

### Webinar on Incorporating Family Participation Practices in Your Practices

The American Academy of Pediatrics will offer a webinar on "Incorporating Family Participation Practices Into Your Practice and Project" on June 24 from Noon to 1:15 p.m. (EDT). Participants will learn how to gain buy in and involve parents/caregivers in planning and implementing their projects and practice; understand the opportunities for different levels of family participation; and evaluate ways to maintain and sustain family participation. To register for the webinar, visit [here](#).

### ASTHO, NACCHO, and STIPDA Injury Prevention Webcast

In this webcast presenters will describe a variety of programs that exemplify injury/violence prevention (IVP) and maternal and child health (MCH) program integration efforts being implemented at national, state, and local levels. Speakers will describe their experiences with cross-program integration, provide strategies on how to successfully integrate programs, and highlight opportunities to initiate integration efforts that meet the program goals of IVP and MCH professionals alike. The webcast will be held on Wednesday, June 24 from 2:30 to 4 p.m. (EDT). For more information, contact [Jacques Colon](#) or call (202) 507-4207. To register, visit [here](#).

### ASK AN EXPERT

Do you have a Family Advisory Council as part of your Children & Youth with Special Health (CYSHCN) Programs? How is your Family Advisory Council organized? We would appreciate it if CYSHCN programs would forward us a copy of their by-laws to share with states who are interested in beginning a Family Advisory Council. Please email your by-laws by June 26 to [Librada Estrada](#).

## ON YOUR BEHALF

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On Friday, June 5 AMCHP's CEO Mike Fraser participated in a White House listening session on women's issues and health reform. AMCHP was one of 26 national health organizations invited to share information on what the Administration should consider in forthcoming health reform proposals. The meeting was hosted by Nancy-Ann DeParle, Director of the White House Office of Health Reform, Melody Barnes, Director of the White House Domestic Policy Council, and Tina Tchen, Director of the White House Office of Public Engagement. Also present were senior White House advisors and Health and Human Services staff including Neera Tanden who spoke at AMCHP's Annual Conference in February. During the meeting various groups shared their thoughts on issues of concern to women that need to be addressed in health reform. AMCHP presented its case for increased support for activities carried out under the Title V MCH Block Grant as part of reform including a proposed option to address infant mortality and health disparities. There was wide recognition that health reform means more than just giving everyone insurance although much of the conversation focused on coverage and access issues. This meeting was the fourth meeting at the White House to which AMCHP has been invited since January 2009. Other meetings included a meeting of children's advocacy groups, a meeting on disability policy, and a meeting on international health.

## PUBLICATIONS & RESOURCES

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### *General Maternal and Child Health*

#### **Secretary Sebelius Makes Recovery Act Funding Available to Bolster Health Care**

HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius announced the availability of nearly \$200 million from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to support student loan repayments for primary care medical, dental and mental health clinicians who want to work at National Health Service Corps (NHSC) sites. The new funds are expected to double the number of Corps clinicians and make 3,300 awards to clinicians that serve in health centers, rural health clinics and other health care facilities that care for uninsured and underserved people. To learn more, visit [here](#).

## PUBLICATIONS & RESOURCES CONT.

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#### **Secretary Sebelius Releases New Report on Health Disparities**

The new report, "Health Disparities: A Case for Closing the Gap," finds that despite consistent increases in spending, disparities among demographic groups persist. Low-income Americans and racial and ethnic minorities experience disproportionately higher rates of disease, fewer treatment options, and reduced access to care. To view the report, visit [here](#).

#### **AAP Offers New Oral Health Curriculum**

The training guide, "Protecting All Children's Teeth (PACT): A Pediatric Oral Health Training Program," developed by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), is designed to educate pediatricians, pediatricians in training, and others interested in infant, child, and adolescent health about the role oral health plays in the overall health of patients. The 13 chapters of the PACT module comprehensively address issues of oral health promotion, disease prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of oral health disease in children. To learn more, visit [here](#).

#### **New Online Violence Prevention Resources from NCSL**

The National Center for Injury Prevention and Control is supporting the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) to develop publications designed to educate state policymakers on injury and violence topics and to track legislation on key injury and violence topics. NCSL has also created an injury and violence prevention webpage. This [website](#) includes legislative tracking for key injury and violence topics, links to injury prevention resources, and other reference materials.

#### **New Brief on the Impact of Fetal Mortality on Our Nation's Families**

The brief, "The Challenge of Fetal Mortality," published by the National Center for Health Statistics, discusses the recent trend in fetal mortality and a growing awareness of the effect of fetal mortality on our nation's families. The brief presents key findings on differences in fetal mortality rates by maternal race and ethnicity, single compared with multiple pregnancies, maternal age, and number of pregnancies; definitions; data sources and methods; and references. The brief also summarizes federal initiatives to improve the quality

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of cause-of-fetal-death data from vital statistics, to study the causes and prevention of fetal death, and to conduct active surveillance of fetal deaths. To download the brief, visit [here](#).

### **14th Annual MCH EPI Conference Archive**

The 14th Annual MCH EPI Conference online presentation archive is now live and available for viewing. To view the archive, visit [here](#).

### **MCH Library Releases Resource Brief on Family Health**

The brief, “Family Health History: Resource Brief,” produced by the MCH Library at Georgetown University, contains information on the genetic, environmental and lifestyle causes of disease that family members may share. Sample resources include tools and guidelines for compiling a family health history, booklets on genetics and health (in non-English languages), public service announcements, a family health questionnaire, and a public health campaign on the importance of family health history. Additional resources address news, research findings, clinical trials, conferences, and demonstration projects. Information on genetics and genetic services, including newborn screening. To download the brief, visit [here](#).

## **Women’s Health**

### **Women’s Health and Research Podcast Series on Preterm Birth**

NIH Radio News Service has produced a series of podcasts on women’s health and research. Vivian W. Pinn, M.D., Director of the Office of Research on Women’s Health at the National Institute of Health (NIH) and Catherine Spong, M.D., Chief of the Pregnancy and Perinatology Branch of the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development at NIH, discuss what women can do to maximize their chances for a healthy pregnancy and reduce the risk of giving birth prematurely. To hear the podcast, visit [here](#).

## **Children’s Health**

### **CAHMI Releases Survey Results**

The Child and Adolescent Health Measurement Initiative (CAHMI) has just released the results of the 2007 National Survey of Children’s Health. You can view this specific

document or you can search national- and state-level findings at the Data Resource Center for Child and Adolescent Health. Get and compare state-level data on over 100 child health indicators on topics such as obesity, insurance, medical home, mental health, risk for developmental delays, dental health and more. To view the survey results, visit [here](#).

### **New Brief on Mental Health Needs for Low-Income CSHCN**

The brief, “Mental Health Needs of Low-Income Children with Special Health Care Needs,” published by the Child Health Insurance Research Initiative (CHIRI™), compares the prevalence of mental health problems among CSHCN to family perceptions of mental health needs. The study found that mental health issues (e.g., behavior, anxiety, and depression) were second only to asthma as the top health problems in CSHCN as reported by their families. Over one-third of CSHCN had a mental health problem, but only one-quarter of caregivers recognized the need for mental health services in their child. This study suggests that routine mental health screening in settings that serve CSHCN (e.g., primary and specialty care) would likely identify children previously unrecognized as needing mental health services. To download the brief, visit [here](#).

### **Resource Guide on Oral Health in Schools**

The guide, “Promoting Oral Health in Schools: A Resource Guide,” published by the National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center, lists resources for professionals and parents working to prevent oral disease and promote oral health in children and adolescents in the school setting. To download the guide, visit [here](#).

### **New Resource on Talking to Children About Swine Flu (H1N1)**

The resource, “Talking to Children About Swine Flu (H1N1): A Parent Resource,” produced by the Parent Teacher Association, the National Association of Schools Nurses and the National Association of School Psychologists, discusses how teaching children positive preventive measures, talking about their fears, and giving them some sense of control over their risk of infection can help reduce anxiety. In addition, guidance on keeping explanations age appropriate and how and when to communicate with the school, as well as a list of national organization and federal agency websites, are included. The handout is available in [English](#), [Spanish](#), and [audio](#) versions.



## Adolescent Health

### Improving Adolescent Health Status Brief

The issue brief, “Improving Adolescent Health Status through Preventive Strategies,” developed by the National Business Group on Health, discusses the need for preventive services, barriers to care, overall health of adolescents, and impact on the workplace. To download the brief, visit [here](#).

### Adolescents and Electronic Media Brief

The research brief, “Adolescents and Electronic Media: Growing Up Plugged In,” published by Child Trends, provides a concise overview of research relating electronic media to the health, social development, and educational outcomes of adolescents. To download the brief, visit [here](#).

### Youth Not Working and Not in School Report

The report, “Disconnected Youth: A Look at 16- to 24-Year Olds Who Are Not Working or In School,” published by the Congressional Research Service, predicts that given the current state of the economy, we can expect to see higher rates of young people out of work and out of school. Overall, the trend data show that during recessions, when jobs become scarce, rates of youth disconnection increase. To download the report, visit [here](#).

### Survey Data on Latino Teens

The survey “Toward a Common Future Latino Teens and Adults Speak Out,” commissioned by the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy and the National Council of La Raza, found that Latino teens cite their parents more than any other source when asked who most influences their decisions about sex. To download the survey, visit [here](#).

### AMCHP’s CAREER CENTER

The Career Center is the premiere online job board for individuals seeking employment in Maternal and Child Health programs. Whether you are looking for an entry-level position or are a more seasoned professional looking for new opportunities, AMCHP’s Career Center has great openings for great people! Searching our database is free and open to all job-seekers. AMCHP members receive a discount on job-postings - so [sign up](#) today!

## HRSA Epilepsy and Telehealth Grants

Deadline: **June 29**

The objective of this project is to demonstrate how existing telehealth programs and networks and sites can improve access to quality health care services specifically for children and youth with epilepsy and their families residing in medically underserved areas, MUAs, and rural areas, and decrease existing challenges that families face in rural areas. EAT grants funded under this provision will support telehealth networks that provide services in different settings, (i.e., long- term care facilities, community health centers or clinics, medical homes, hospitals, schools) to demonstrate how telehealth networks can be used to expand access to, coordinate, and improve the quality of health care services, improve and expand the training of health care providers, and or expand and improve the quality of health information available to health care providers, patients, and their families. These grants will receive technical assistance from The National Center for Project Access, NCPA, which is housed within the National Epilepsy Foundation, EF, and link with existing epilepsy grantees. To learn more, visit [here](#).

## Family Connection Discretionary Grants

Deadline: **July 6**

The Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Children’s Bureau, has announced the availability of competitive grant funds authorized by the Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008. The purpose of this funding is to help children who are in or are at-risk of entering into foster care reconnect with family members by developing and implementing grant programs in the areas of kinship navigator programs; programs utilizing intensive family-finding efforts to locate biological family and reestablish relationships; programs utilizing family group decision-making meetings; or residential family treatment programs. Under this Program Announcement applicants will submit proposals for one, or any combination of, the aforementioned four inter-related grant program areas, which comprise elements of a strong system of services to support family connections. Applicants must clearly state for which of these four program areas, or which combination of program areas, they are applying, and must justify their selection of program area(s) in terms of documented needs associated with specified project goals and objectives. To learn more, visit [here](#).

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### **HRSA Funding for Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders**

Deadline: **July 6**

The demonstration program will continue the coordination of services between the National Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome and community health centers to improve the prevention, identification, and support of individuals with fetal alcohol syndrome. In addition, funds have been included to engage and include maternal child health sites in this demonstration. To learn more, visit [here](#).

### **CDC Funding for the ARRA Partnerships to Address Immunization Training and Information Needs of Health Department Staff, Coalitions, Nurses, and Medical Residents**

Deadline: **July 6**

Funds are available from the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) for financial assistance to create new immunization partnerships to address unmet needs. To learn more, visit [here](#).

### **Strengthening Communities Fund State, Local and Tribal Capacity Building Grant**

Deadline: **July 7**

The Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Office of Community Services (OCS) is seeking applications to award 48 grants to state, local and tribal governments to build their capacity to provide nonprofit organizations with capacity building training and technical assistance. To learn more, visit [here](#).

### **Effective Follow-up in Newborn Screening**

Deadline: **July 15**

HRSA is seeking applications for activities authorized under Section 1109 of the Newborn Screening Saves Lives Act of 2008, Improved Newborn and Child Screening for Heritable Disorders. The activities for this initiative focus on the use of electronic health information exchange, to improve the newborn screening system, with attention to both short and long term follow up. To learn more, visit [here](#).

### **HRSA Congenital Conditions Funding**

Deadline: **July 15**

The purpose of the Prenatal and Postnatal Diagnosed Conditions awareness program is to provide information and support services to families receiving a diagnosis for Down syndrome, spina bifida, dwarfism, or other prenatally or postnatally diagnosed conditions. The grantee will work with support groups and health professionals in the collection and dissemination of current science based information and to coordinate the provision of supportive services to parents who receive a positive diagnosis prenatally, at birth, or up to one year after the affected child's birth. These services may include the expansion and further development of national and local peer-support programs. Competitive grants may be made to states and territories, localities, and non-governmental organizations with expertise in these conditions. The purpose of this funding opportunity is for family support groups to work with health professionals, state genetic services programs and Health Resources and Services Administration, (HRSA) Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB) funded projects on a set of activities leading to increased awareness and education for families (including potential adoptive parents) regarding general knowledge of prenatally/postnally diagnosed conditions. To learn more, visit [here](#).

### **National Organizations that Serve Minority Communities Initiative to Share Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Eliminate Health Disparities with Local Affiliates & Chapters (MNOs REACH-US)**

Deadline: **July 16**

The CDC has announced the availability of FY 2009 funds to support national minority organizations to 1) disseminate evidence-based strategies, tools and best practices to their local affiliates and chapters; and 2) to provide capacity-building technical assistance to local affiliates and chapters to address the growing health disparities among their constituents. The MNOs will work with affiliates or chapters to address specific health disparity areas by supporting the implementation of proven or promising interventions in specific populations. Each MNO will build capacity in communities by working with local affiliates and chapters to share the knowledge, skills, and organizational structure needed for effective leadership and implementation of a

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health disparities program at the local level. The MNOS will be expected to work with currently funded REACH CEEDs to identify strategies that work locally and highly encouraged to collaborate with the REACH Coalition to disseminate effective interventions. To learn more, visit [here](#).

### **Evaluation of Current Practices in Reporting Gynecologic Cytology Test Results and Cytology Proficiency Testing**

Deadline: **July 20**

CDC's Procurement and Grants Office has a funding opportunity to develop an inventory of current practices in gynecologic cytology laboratories to attempt to standardize procedures for quality improvement. Approximately \$100,000 will be available in fiscal year 2009 to fund one award. To learn more, visit [here](#).

### **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](#).

## CALENDAR

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### [National Conference on Childhood Obesity](#)

June 18-19  
Washington, DC

### [Children and Youth in Disasters: Closing Gaps among Research, Practice, and Policy](#)

June 25  
Washington, DC

### [Leadership, Legacy, and Community: A Retreat to Advance Maternal and Child Health Scholarship and Practice](#)

July 20-22  
Oakbrook, IL

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

July 23-25  
San Francisco, CA

### [Weight of the Nation – Obesity Prevention and Control](#)

July 27-29  
Washington, DC

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

August 1-7

### [18th Annual Summer Institute for Public Health Practice](#)

August 10-14  
Seattle, WA

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

August 11-13  
Atlanta, GA

## CALENDAR CONT.

### [International Swine Flu Conference](#)

August 19-20  
Washington, DC

### [CityMatCH 2009 Urban Maternal and Child Health Leadership Conference](#)

August 22-25  
New Orleans, LA

### [Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality 2009 Annual Conference](#)

September 13-16  
Bethesda, MD

### [2009 ASTHO Annual Meeting](#)

October 13-16  
Vienna, VA

### [15th Annual Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology \(MCH EPI\) Conference](#)

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

December 9-11  
Tampa, FL

## SAVE THE DATE!

## AMCHP'S 2010 ANNUAL CONFERENCE - "Moving Ahead Together: Celebrating the Legacy, Shaping the Future of MCH"

March 6-10, 2010  
Gaylord National Convention Center  
National Harbor, MD

The 2010 AMCHP Conference will bring together leaders in maternal and child health, public health practitioners and family advocates. Join us for sessions led by researchers, federal officials, advocates, families, healthcare providers and directors of state programs.

[Click here to view the slides, transcripts and videos from the 2009 conference.](#) NOTE: You may need to download [RealPlayer](#) and/or [PowerPoint 2007 Viewer](#) to view the presentations.

### 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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