



LEGISLATIVE CORNER

Congress on Recess

There are no updates at this time as Congress has been on recess for the month of August. Stay tuned for reports on future action!

GET INVOLVED



AMCHP Annual Award Nominations and Call for Board of Directors

Help AMCHP Recognize Our MCH Leaders

AMCHP is currently soliciting nominations for our annual awards - the Vince Hutchins Leadership Award, the John C. MacQueen Lecture Award, and the McPherson Family Leadership award. Awards will be presented at the 2010 Annual Conference in Washington, DC, March 6-10. Submissions are due by September 30.

- The **Vince Hutchins Leadership Award** recognizes outstanding individuals, living or deceased, whose work has contributed to significant societal changes that have resulted in improvements in the health of American families and their various members. Last year's award was presented to Senator Edward M. Kennedy. To submit a nomination send a brief summary of the nominee's qualifications, supporting material and your contact information to [Nora Lam, Executive Assistant](#).
- The **John C. MacQueen Lecture Award** for Innovation in the Field of Maternal and Child Health is an annual lectureship award honoring one of its most distinguished members, John C. MacQueen, the former director of the Iowa Child Health Specialty Clinics, the state's program for Children with Special

GET INVOLVED CONT.

Health Care Needs (CSHCN). Last year's awardee was Dr. Magda Peck of the University of Nebraska Medical Center. To submit a nomination send a brief summary of the nominee's qualifications, supporting material and your contact information to [Nora Lam, Executive Assistant](#).

- Presented for the first time in 2008, the **Merle McPherson Family Leadership Award** was developed to honor Dr. Merle McPherson. Dr. McPherson retired from MCHB in January 2007. She has left a legacy of leadership and vision for how to create a new model of family-centered health care delivery for children and youth with special health care needs. She has also led the way to expand the family-centered care model for children with special health care needs internationally. In 2009, Ruth Walden of the New York State Department of Health received the McPherson Award. To submit a nomination, send a brief summary of the nominee's qualifications, supporting material, and your contact information to [Grace Williams, Program Manager](#).

For more information on the award criteria and submission, click [here](#).

Be a MCH Leader: Serve on the AMCHP Board!

AMCHP's Governance Committee is currently accepting nominations for 2010 AMCHP Board positions. These leadership positions guide, direct, inform and contribute to moving AMCHP's strategic directions and goals forward. Positions that will be open in the 2010 election include:

- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Region I Director
- Region VI Director
- Region IX Director
- Region X Director

GET INVOLVED CONT.

Volunteer leadership is critical to AMCHP's success. We hope that you will consider participating in the nominations process. More information about these positions, necessary qualifications and the nominations process may be found on the AMCHP website or by clicking [here](#). We ask that all nominations be forwarded to the Governance Committee by September 30 to ensure ample time for the Committee to review all candidates' materials. Please note: Only named AMCHP delegates may be nominated to the Board. To verify your membership status, contact [Julio Arguello, Editorial & Member Services](#).

AMCHP's Call for Abstracts for its 2010 Annual Meeting

AMCHP is seeking abstracts for its 2010 Annual Conference to be held March 6-10, 2010, at the Gaylord National Convention Center and Hotel in National Harbor, MD. The deadline for submissions is September 15. Accepted presentations will be notified by October 13. To submit an abstract, visit [here](#). For more information, contact AMCHPspeakers@conferencemanagers.com or call Colleen Campbell at (703) 964-1240, ext. 16.

Webinar on Health Reform

The Association of Health Care Journalists, Columbia Journalism Review, The Commonwealth Fund, and the CUNY Graduate School of Journalism, will present a "Talking Health" webinar on September 9 at 2 p.m. (EDT) to discover what top journalists think of the coverage of this complicated policy debate. To register, visit [here](#).

CDC to Host a Child Maltreatment Prevention Webinar

The webinar, "A Better Start: Child Maltreatment Prevention as a Public Health" will convene at 1 p.m. (EDT) on September 10. The webinar will discuss the important role public health agencies can and do play in preventing child maltreatment; the body of research linking harmful childhood experiences with long-term quality of life and how public health agencies can prevent child maltreatment by using the concept of safe, stable and nurturing relationships. To learn more, visit [here](#).

Call for Papers

The journal *Injury Prevention* is planning a supplement featuring papers that examine relationships between the child death review process (a multidisciplinary investigation of unexpected child fatalities) and injury prevention programs

and policies. Papers must be no more than 3,000 words in length and conform to all requirements for manuscripts submitted to the [journal](#). All will undergo peer review. Submissions must be made before February 1, 2010 to have the best chance of review and inclusion in this supplement. Authors with potential papers should contact the [editor](#).

ON YOUR BEHALF

On Thursday, August 27, AMCHP held a special all-member audio conference to learn more about the new White House Council on Women and Girls. The Council was created by President Barack Obama "to establish a coordinated Federal response to issues that particularly impact the lives of women and girls and to ensure that Federal programs and policies address and take into account the distinctive concerns of women and girls, including women of color and those with disabilities." Staff from the White House Office of Public Engagement and Intergovernmental Affairs including Dr. Kavita Patel, Karen Richardson, and Jennifer Yeager Kaplan shared the council's plans around issues affecting women and girls, and how health reform could benefit this population. Several AMCHP members shared issues they are experiencing in their states and told the White House staff about some of the initiatives currently going on around the U.S.

It was a great opportunity to raise visibility for State MCH programs, share information and hear about the great work that the Council is doing. AMCHP looks forward to remaining in touch with the Council in the future. To find out more about the Council, you can visit their [website](#).

PUBLICATIONS & RESOURCES



General Maternal and Child Health

AMCHP Releases New Brief on H1N1 Response

The issue brief, "The Role of State MCH Programs in H1N1 Response," developed by AMCHP's Emerging Issues Committee (EIC), summarizes State MCH program involvement with H1N1 response. The EIC suggests

PUBLICATIONS & RESOURCES CONT.

roles that State MCH programs can continue to play in preparedness and response efforts throughout the fall and winter. To download the brief, visit [here](#).

NHSA Unveils National Infant Mortality Awareness Month Toolkit

The National Healthy Start Association (NHSA) has produced a toolkit to help Healthy Start projects promote the effectiveness of programs and efforts to reduce infant deaths, low birthweight, preterm births, and disparities in perinatal outcomes. The toolkit includes ideas and strategies for fundraising activities, advocacy, facts and statistics, as well as tips for approaching the media. To download the toolkit, visit [here](#).

AHRQ Issues New Report on Community Health Worker Interventions

The report, “Outcomes of Community Health Worker Interventions,” published by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) and based on research conducted by RTI International – University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, NC, examines interventions designed to address health care disparities by involving community health workers. The report is intended to help clinicians, employers, policymakers, and others make well-informed decisions about the provision of health care services. To download the report, visit [here](#).

CDC Launches Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASDs) Website

The new website has information about state alcohol consumption data for 2008; a video, “The Story of Iyal,” which provides an inside look at one family living with FASDs; easy-to-read information on diagnosis and treatments for children with FASDs; individualized pages for different visitors - women, families, healthcare providers, educators, and partners; and updated information on CDC activities. To view the website, visit [here](#).

CDC Launches Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASDs) Website

The new website has updated and easy-to-read information on facts, screening, diagnosis, and treatments; pages dedicated to data and statistics, research, and publications; individualized pages for different visitors - people with ASD,

families, healthcare providers, educators, and partners; an interactive autism quiz and more. To view the website, visit [here](#).

APHL Offers Newborn Screening Collection Cards

The Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL) has announced the availability of 300,000 generic newborn screening blood collection cards for use in emergency situations. The purpose is to provide a single and immediate source of blood collection cards that newborn screening laboratories can tap into, should the need arise. If your state should experience a shortage of newborn screening blood collection cards, please contact [Jelili Ojodu](#) at (240) 845.2772 with the nature of the emergency, the number of cards requested and the estimated duration of the emergency. To download the card, visit [here](#).

Children’s Health

Bedsharing and Co-Sleeping, Swaddling and SIDS Resources

The National Sudden and Unexpected Infant-Child Death and Pregnancy Loss Resource Center’s website includes an updated bibliography on [Bed Sharing, Co-Sleeping, and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome \(SIDS\): A Selected Annotated Bibliography](#) and one on [Swaddling and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome \(SIDS\): A Selected Annotated Bibliography](#). Each bibliography presents definitions and lists recent citations and abstracts from peer-reviewed journals. The bibliographies also include a customized tool that can be used to search PubMed for additional articles. The Center’s website also features a new [A-Z Topics section](#): Shaken Baby Syndrome (Abusive Head Trauma). Contents include selected resources from the National Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome, the Colorado Prevention Campaign, MedlinePlus, KidsHealth from Nemours, and the National Institute of Neurological Disorders.

New Community-Based Assessment Tool

The tool, “Examining State Capacity for Achieving a Community-Based Service System for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs,” developed by ChampionsInC, is designed to assist CYSHCN leaders in the

PUBLICATIONS & RESOURCES CONT.

needs assessment process, with focus on the state's capacity in implementing community-based service systems. To download the tool, visit [here](#).

Paper Highlights Integration of Mental Health in Primary Care

The paper, "Strategies to Support the Integration of Mental Health into Pediatric Primary Care," published by the National Institute for Health Care Management with support from MCHB, provides an overview of research advances and policy trends that support integration of mental health into primary care and explores various strategies primary care providers and health plans can employ to achieve more coordinated and integrated mental health care in the pediatric primary care setting. To download the paper, visit [here](#).

New Report on Integrating Programs into Community Initiatives

The report, "Programs for Children and Youth in a Community Context," published by Child Trends, offers advice and recommendations on how evidence-based and evidence-informed programs might be integrated into community initiatives to strengthen outcomes for children. To download the report, visit [here](#).

NAEYC Releases New Tool on Cultural Competence

The tool, "Quality Benchmark for Cultural Competence," developed by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), integrates key elements of cultural competence for early childhood programs within quality rating and improvement systems (QRIS) criteria. The tool is intended to help spark discussion and to serve as a guide to help early childhood programs respond to the needs of diverse children and families in a positive way. To download the tool, visit [here](#).

National Campaign Launches to Help Girls Build Strong Bones

The new campaign, "Best Bones Forever!" launched by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office on Women's Health, empowers girls to "grow strong together, stay strong forever." The campaign's website offers quizzes, recipes, a calcium calculator, fun activities and more. There's also a website for parents that offers tips about their own health needs, offers recipes and tips to help their daughters to build strong bones. To learn more, visit [here](#).

CDC Releases New Report on Childhood Lead Poisoning

The report, "Childhood Lead Poisoning Associated with Lead Dust Contamination of Family Vehicles and Child Safety Seats - Maine, 2008," published in CDC's Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, finds that persons employed in high-risk lead-related occupations can transport lead dust home from a worksite through clothing, shoes, tools or vehicles. During 2008, the Maine Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program identified 55 new cases of elevated venous blood lead levels through mandated routine screening. An expanded environmental investigation determined that six of these children were exposed to lead dust in the family vehicles and in child safety seats. To view the report, visit [here](#).

Adolescent Health

CDC Releases New Report on Alcohol Use Among Teenagers

The report, "Alcohol Use Among High School Students - Georgia, 2007," published in CDC's Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, finds that excessive alcohol consumption contributes to an average of approximately 4,700 deaths among underage youths in the United States each year (e.g., from homicides, motor-vehicle crashes, and suicides) and an average of 60 years of life lost per death. Although drinking by underage persons is illegal in every state, youths aged 12 to 20 years drink nearly 20 percent of all the alcohol consumed in the United States. To view the report, visit [here](#).

Chapin Hill Issues New Report on Pregnant and Parenting Foster Youth

The report, "Pregnant and Parenting Foster Youth: Their Needs, Their Experiences," published by Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago, finds that although the exact rates of teenage pregnancy and childbearing among youth in foster care are not known, research suggests that female foster youth are at high risk of becoming pregnant and giving birth. To download the report, visit [here](#).

Report on Contraceptive Use Among Teens

The report, "Unlocking the Contraceptive Conundrum," published by the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy, provides a detailed summary of what is known from scientific literature about contraceptive use among young adults in the United States. To download the report, visit [here](#).

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

AMCHP Job Opening for a CYSHCN Program Manager

This position is accountable for development, implementation and evaluation of program activities related to children and youth with special health care needs (CYSHCN), birth defects and developmental disabilities, and early childhood development. The Program Manager will assist in the tracking, analyzing, and reporting on national and state programs impacting CYSHCN, birth defects and disabilities and early childhood. The Program Manager will partner with relevant federal agencies such as the Maternal and Child Health Bureau and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and other national organizations and groups concerned with CYSHCN and early childhood. This position reports to the Associate Director, Workforce Development and Leadership, Family Involvement. To read the full job description and to learn how to apply, visit [here](#).

EIS is Seeking Applicants for its Postgraduate Program

The Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) is a two-year, postgraduate program of service and on-the-job training for health professionals interested in the practice of epidemiology. Each year, EIS provides approximately 90 persons, who have been selected from around the world, opportunities to gain hands-on experience in epidemiology at CDC or state or local health departments. EIS Officers, often called CDC's "disease detectives," have gone on to occupy leadership positions at CDC and other public health agencies nationally and internationally. However, the experience also is useful for health professionals who want to gain a population health perspective. Applications are due by September 15. To learn more and to apply, visit [here](#).

RWJF Scholars in Health Policy Research Call for Applications

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Scholars in Health Policy Research program helps to develop a new generation of creative health policy thinkers and researchers within the disciplines of economics, political science and sociology. Each year the program selects up to nine highly qualified individuals for two-year fellowships at one of three nationally prominent universities with the expectation that they will make important research contributions to future health policy in the United States. The deadline for all applications is October 21. To learn more, 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!

FUNDING



HHS Announces \$13.4 Million in Financial Assistance to Support Nurses

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) announced the release of \$13.4 million for loan repayments to nurses who agree to practice in facilities with critical shortages and for schools of nursing to provide loans to students who will become nurse faculty. The funds were made available by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), signed Feb. 17, 2009, by President Obama. The awards come from two programs administered by HHS' Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA): the [Nurse Education Loan Repayment Program](#) (\$8.1 million) and the [Nurse Faculty Loan Program](#) (\$5.3 million).

HRSA Funding Opportunity for Healthy Start Initiative: Eliminating Racial/Ethnic Disparities

Deadline: **September 30**

Under this program, grants will be awarded to address significant disparities in perinatal health indicators: Eliminating Disparities In Perinatal Health focuses on disparities among Hispanics, American Indians, African Americans, Alaska Natives, Asian/Pacific Islanders, Immigrant Populations, or differences occurring by education, income, disability, or living in rural-isolated areas by enhancing a community's service system. Communities must provide a scope of project services that will cover pregnancy and interconceptional phases for women and infants residing in the proposed project area. Services are to be given to both mother and infant for two years following delivery to promote

FUNDING CONT.

longer interconceptional periods and prevent relapses of unhealthy risk behaviors. To learn more, visit [here](#).

RWJF Health and Society Scholars Funding for Post Doctoral Scholars

Deadline: **October 2**

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) Health and Society Scholars program provides two years of support to postdoctoral scholars at all stages of their careers to build the nation's capacity for research and leadership to address the multiple determinants of population health and contribute to policy change. The program is based on the principle that progress in the field of population health depends upon multidisciplinary collaboration and exchange. Its goal is to improve health by training scholars to investigate the connections among biological, genetic, behavioral, environmental, economic and social determinants of health; and develop, evaluate and disseminate knowledge and interventions that integrate and act on these determinants to improve health. The program is intended to produce leaders who will change the questions asked, the methods employed to analyze problems and the range of solutions to reduce population health disparities and improve the health of all Americans. To learn more, visit [here](#).

CDC Funding for HIV Prevention Projects

Deadline: **October 5**

CDC's Procurement and Grants Office has approximately \$293 million available in fiscal year 2010 to fund 59 awards. The purpose of this FOA is to reduce transmission of HIV by supporting and improving the ability of public health departments to design, implement, and evaluate comprehensive HIV prevention programs. To learn more, visit [here](#).

CDC Funding for Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Prevention Projects for Community-Based Organizations

Deadline: **October 26**

CDC's Procurement and Grants Office has published a funding opportunity for approximately \$43,000,000 which will be available in fiscal year 2010 to fund 145 awards. The purpose is to develop and implement HIV Prevention Programs that provide HIV prevention services for members of racial/ethnic minority communities (e.g., African Americans, Hispanics/Latinos) in which there may be a high risk for HIV

infection and for members of groups [i.e., men who have sex with men (MSM), injection drug users (IDUs), HIV-infected persons] in which there may be a high risk for acquiring or transmitting HIV infection, regardless of race/ethnicity. Approximately \$1,800,000 may also be available for outcome monitoring activities. To learn more, visit [here](#).

NAF and Johnson & Johnson Funding for Women Affected by HIV/AIDS

Deadline: **November 2**

The National AIDS Fund (NAF) and Johnson & Johnson have announced a new grant through the GENERATIONS: Strengthening Women and Families Affected by HIV/AIDS program. This third grant round ("GEN III") will award six to eight grants to Community Based Organizations to create or adapt evidence-based HIV/AIDS prevention interventions that reduce the spread of HIV among at-risk women/girls. GEN III funds will be targeted toward geographic regions with high HIV/AIDS incidence and prevalence rates in women based on state or local epidemiology, and in areas with emerging epidemics. To learn more, visit [here](#).

AHRQ Funding Opportunity for Transforming Primary Care Practice

Deadline: **November 18**

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) solicits grant applications from organizations that propose systematic studies of on-going, successful efforts to transform the delivery of primary care in the U.S. The patient-centered medical home (PCMH) has been proposed by a broad coalition of providers, employers, insurers and others as a model for improving primary care in the U.S., and numerous health care systems and medical groups are currently attempting to transform their primary care practices into PCMHs. These attempts go beyond incremental quality improvement activities and aim toward whole practice redesign. The research funded through this announcement will first validate that healthcare quality, as reflected in quantifiable changes in process and outcome measures, has in fact improved subsequent to practice transformation into a PCMH. Investigators will then study in detail how the transformation occurred and its impact on costs of care and actual patient and provider experiences/satisfaction. In addition, investigators will study the organizational and contextual factors within practices that have influenced the success of these efforts. AHRQ is interested in research that

FUNDING CONT.

will identify, describe and disseminate the best methods for transforming the structure, characteristics and function of primary care so that practices can improve quality, reduce costs, and better satisfy the needs of patients and families. To learn more, visit [here](#).

NIH Funding for the Role of Human-Animal Interaction in Child Health and Development (R01)

Deadline: **November 19**

The Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) and the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR) is soliciting Research Project Grant (R01) applications from institutions/ organizations that propose to study the impact of human-animal interaction (HAI) on children's health and development and to test the efficacy of therapeutic uses of HAI with children. In 2008 NICHD and The WALTHAM Centre for Pet Nutrition, a division of Mars, Inc., entered into a public-private partnership to explore the interaction between humans and animals. The partnership encourages research on HAI, especially as it relates to child development, health and the therapeutic use of animals with children and adolescents. This shared interest resulted in The WALTHAM Centre donating funds to NICHD to enhance NICHDs ability to support research in this field. The purpose of this FOA is to build an empirical research base on how children perceive, relate to and think about animals; how pets in the home impact children's social and emotional development and health (e.g. allergies, the immune system, asthma, mitigation of obesity); and whether and under what conditions therapeutic uses of animals is safe and effective. Mechanism of Support. To learn more, visit [here](#).

CALENDAR



[American College of Epidemiology Annual Meeting](#)

September 12-15
Silver Spring, MD

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

September 13-16
Bethesda, MD

CALENDAR CONT.

[2009 Global Youth Enterprise Conference](#)

September 29-30
Washington, DC

[March of Dimes Symposium on Quality Improvement to Prevent Prematurity](#)

October 8-9
Arlington, VA

[Family Violence Prevention Fund National Conference](#)

October 8-10
New Orleans, LA

[2009 ASTHO Annual Meeting](#)

October 13-16
Vienna, VA

[2009 Healthy People 2020 Public Meetings](#)

October 22
Kansas City, KS

[Strengthening Families Leadership Summit: Creating Opportunities in Challenging Times](#)

October 28-29
Atlanta, GA

[APHA Annual Meeting and Exposition: Water and Public Health](#)

November 7-10
Philadelphia, PA

[2009 Healthy People 2020 Public Meetings](#)

November 20
Seattle, WA

[The Office of Special Education Programs' 2009 National Early Childhood Conference](#)

December 7-9
Arlington, VA

[15th Annual MCH EPI Conference](#)

December 9-11
Tampa, FL