

Member Briefs



Mar. 1, 2016



THE ASSOCIATION OF MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH PROGRAMS



MANAGEMENT MINUTE

However long the night, the dawn will break. ~ *African Proverb*

As promised earlier this month, I'd like to share a brief update on the reschedule of the AMCHP Annual Conference. First, let me say, the quote and this column are really about perseverance. Human resiliency is astounding in the face of adversity and no more evident than with our members, partners, and other MCH professionals. It can really be humbling and rewarding to experience!

The last time I wrote, we were not sure whether or not we could pull off a reschedule of such a large and important event. With the support of many, including all of you and your AMCHP leadership, we have moved ahead with amazing speed and nimbleness sprinkled with lots of good, sheer luck. The new AMCHP 2016 Conference has been rescheduled for April 6-9, 2016 at the beautiful and historic Marriott Wardman Park Hotel in Washington, DC.

Even more fantastic is that we will have the original full program available for our participants. With only five of the seventy original sessions cancelled, this week we'll be sharing the revised programmatic schedule that remains largely intact with an excellent variety of topics across maternal and child health. Of the seventy-seven original posters, only seven will be unable to make the new dates. We will have another tremendously beneficial and rich program offering to our attendees as a result. A big shout out to all of our presenters who have made significant commitments to ensure that AMCHP 2016 can and will go on and that we will provide quality educational offerings in the same spirit of excellence that has prevailed for so long at AMCHP annual conferences over the years.

With any change of this magnitude, there are many worries in addition to the programming. Can folks make the new dates and can they make appropriate arrangements to attend a new meeting? We're so pleased to share that the answer is a resounding YES! Currently, about 75 percent of our original attendees are returning for the rescheduled conference. In addition, of those that had to cancel for scheduling purposes, 11 percent are sending substitutes on their behalf. Finally, five weeks out from the new conference, we have 18 brand new

attendees registered who were not able to come to the original January meeting. Welcome to you! All in all, we are proud and amazed that so many of you are able to return to DC and join us – our promise to you is our commitment to ensure you have a truly wonderful experience.

Finally, I'll mention a crucial success factor for all of AMCHP's meetings – support from our partners. Our federal and foundation partners (funders and friends alike), our corporate partners (our extraordinarily generous sponsors and exhibitors), our state agencies, and other organizations have all been supportive, understanding, and compassionate in so many ways of this reschedule. You have called, you have emailed, and you have sent gifts of encouragement. In short, you are **REMARKABLE**. Thanks to you all.

With this level of planning, there are lots of moving parts. Think of a 1000-piece puzzle that you just completed that fell off the table and needs reassembling. But, we also have some new and exciting additions. We are so pleased to be working with HRSA's Maternal & Child Health Bureau, and Dr. Michael Lu, to help coordinate programming for the states preceding the start of the Annual Conference. This working meeting for the State Title V Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Block Grantees will provide an opportunity for State/jurisdictional MCH Block Grant program staff to work collaboratively in finalizing their MCH Block Grant State Action Plans, with a special focus on identifying and developing evidence-based or –informed strategies for driving improvements in National Performance Measures, State priorities, and MCH outcomes.

Due to some other shuffling and placing of events in the best possible slots for peak participation, we'll be holding our annual Legislative Champion Capitol Hill Reception on Wednesday evening, April 6 – the first full day of the conference. This will be a great event on Capitol Hill that also provides an opportunity to stroll along the Mall afterwards to see the Cherry Blossoms in all of their wondrous glory.

Also, AMCHP plans to hold its Leadership Lab as a post-conference session on Sunday, April 10, 2016. For nearly 20 years, AMCHP has supported the development

MANAGEMENT MINUTE CONT.

of maternal and child health leaders – Family Leaders, State Title V and Children and Youth With Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN) Directors – through formal and informal learning opportunities, experience, dialogue, feedback, peer-to-peer learning, mentoring, coaching, and more. To meet the expanding needs of our organization's Title V staff, AMCHP redesigned its approach to leadership development by launching the Leadership Lab – a 10-month program experience, with an expanded peer support network and focus on growing individual leadership strengths. This is a broader inclusive program that promotes leadership development and learning across the entire Title V workforce. We are proud to host our first cohort of the Leadership Lab at the AMCHP 2016 Conference in April.

Please help spread the word about our reschedule. Come join us in Washington in April during the beautiful Cherry Blossom Festival time for another incredibly relevant and important national exchange on Maternal & Child Health! Also, stay tuned for the latest conference scheduling and other information by visiting our [Conference webpage](#).

Finally, just to share a usable take-away from this Management Minute related to perseverance and resilience, there's a term from the education and psychology field that I adore. It's called grit. A rather old term, there's a lot of newer research on grit and its meaning and importance. Although grit feels like something we all possessed during these past several weeks, it is really more accurate to describe grit as having a long-term tenacity and drive – over the course of sometimes years or decades – to achieve goals. I like grit so much that I plan to focus the next Management Minute on the topic. Grit also implies the strong presence of other key human characteristics including courage, conscientiousness, endurance and follow-through, resilience, and excellence. Despite the new thinking around grit, I think we can all say we displayed some grit recently as we planned around our new conference. I hope you'll stay tuned for my next Management Minute on more about grit!

In the meantime, your comments, counter-points, suggestions, or thoughts are always welcomed. Email me at lfreeman@amchp.org.

LEGISLATIVE & POLICY CORNER



Zika Emergency Funding Outlook

Last week President Obama submitted to Congress a \$1.9 billion emergency funding request to address the Zika virus. The request includes funding for a wide range

LEGISLATIVE CORNER CONT.

of activities to prevent, detect and respond to the Zika virus including international assistance, vaccine and diagnostics development and emergency funding to states and US Territories. Of particular note, the request would allow the Department of Health & Human Services to provide services through the Title V Special Projects of Regional and National Significance (SPRANS) and Home Visiting program; expand PRAMS for Zika-related outcomes; and provide additional Medicaid funding to Puerto Rico and other US Territories to provide health services to pregnant women at risk of infection or diagnosed with Zika and for children with microcephaly. Republican leadership in Congress is pressing for unobligated Ebola funds to be used instead and the President's request allows for some transfer of funds, but the Administration has reiterated that as-of-yet unspent Ebola funding is still necessary to continue building infrastructure to prevent future epidemics. AMCHP has signed on to public health community letters urging Congress to allocate new money to address Zika rather than repurpose Ebola funding. We will continue to monitor any action on this issue and update you accordingly.

Congress Continues Tackling the Opioid Epidemic

This week the Senate will begin debate on the bipartisan [Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act \("CARA"\)](#) that would provide a series of incentives and resources designed to tackle the opioid epidemic. This legislation takes a number of approaches including prevention, treatment and law enforcement. It also includes a pilot program that would provide grants through State substance abuse agencies to support family-based services for pregnant and postpartum women, address gaps in services to pregnant and postpartum women, and encourage family-based programs for women in the criminal justice system. CARA is endorsed by the [National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors](#).

Health Reform Implementation

On February 24th, the [Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services](#) (CMS) announced a new verification process for health care consumers who enroll in marketplace coverage through a [Special Enrollment Period](#) (SEP). This Special Enrollment Confirmation Process will affect

LEGISLATIVE CORNER CONT.

consumers in [Federally-Facilitated Marketplace states](#), and it will require some documentation for the life changes that trigger the most commonly used SEPs, which include loss of minimum essential coverage, permanent move, birth, adoption, placement for adoption, placement for foster care or child support or other court order, or marriage. This process has not yet been implemented and therefore will not immediately impact consumers. CMS will release specific details including the type of documentation that will need to be provided in the coming weeks. See this [factsheet](#) from CMS for more information.

GET INVOLVED



AMCHP 2016 Annual Conference Update

We are pleased to announce that the 2016 AMCHP Annual Conference has been rescheduled for **April 6-9, 2016** at the Washington Marriott Wardman Park in Washington, DC! The AMCHP Annual Conference is an essential part of the maternal and child health field and a signature event for our members and other constituents to network, share best practices, and meet with federal and other crucial partners. The AMCHP Board of Directors felt it was very important that this event be re-scheduled as quickly as feasible. If you previously registered for this year's conference, please [click here](#) to confirm your attendance by **March 4, 2016**. If you are interested in attending this year's conference and have

GET INVOLVED CONT.

not registered, [click here](#). For continued updates, please visit our [conference webpage](#).

Join AMCHP for the 2016 March for Babies Campaign

Once again, AMCHP is supporting our partners at the March of Dimes by raising funds and participating in the Maryland-National Capital Area March for Babies on **May 8, 2016** at Nationals Park in Washington, DC! Last year, the AMCHP team raised over \$2,000 for stronger and healthier babies. This year our fundraising goal is **\$3,000**. If you participated in last year's fundraiser, [click here](#). Please sign in with your username and password and click to confirm your participation in the AMCHP Steps for Babies Team (re-enrolling for the previous year's team will be the automatic choice), and confirm your personal information and insert your fundraising goal. For new participants, visit the [AMCHP Steps for Babies](#) webpage and click on the link labeled "Join this Team". Please fill in your personal information and goal, and submit. Once you are done, you are now a member of our team. You may edit your personal page and begin fundraising!

DHPE Leap Webinar Series: Lupus and Pregnancy

The Directors of Health Promotion and Education will be hosting a webinar on Lupus and pregnancy on **Mar. 16, 2016 from 11 am-12 pm EST**. The webinar's learning objectives include explaining the relationship between lupus and pregnancy; discussing the signs and symptoms of lupus in pregnant women; and exploring how support systems, including family, friends, and the community can enhance the quality of life of pregnant lupus patients. [Click here](#) to register.

MCH Symposium Call for Abstracts 2016

The Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology Program, CDC, in partnership with AMCHP and the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE) is announcing a special call for abstracts for presentation at the MCH Symposium during the 2016 CSTE Annual Conference. All submitted abstracts should focus on the theme of emerging methods to incorporate populations underrepresented in MCH analysis and reporting. Please apply by **March 3, 2016** in order to be considered. For more information, [click here](#).

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GET INVOLVED CONT.

Young Invincibles Special Enrollment Webinar Series

Young Invincibles will be hosting a webinar on **Wednesday, March 2 at 2 pm EST** to discuss health insurance coverage for young adults. The webinar will focus on understanding taxes and health care. To register, [click here](#).

Reducing Teen Substance Misuse: What Really Works

The Big Initiative, National Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT), and NORC at the University of Chicago will be hosting a free webinar on **Mar. 9, 2016 from 3-4:30 pm EST**. The webinar will highlight ten indicators of the types of policy strategies that can help curb substance misuse by tweens, teens, and young adults, and provides scores for all 50 states and the District of Columbia based on these indicators. Additionally, this webinar will identify a set of research-based approaches and recommendations to modernize the nation's strategy to prevent and reduce substance use and support a full continuum-of-care. To register, [click here](#).

Approaches to the Community Access, Participation, and Engagement for Children with Developmental Disabilities and their Families

The Maternal and Child Health Life Course Research Network will be hosting a webinar on **Apr. 20, 2016 from 12-1 pm EST**. The webinar will highlight and provide examples of community accessibility initiatives that serve to create opportunities for a diverse population of children with developmental disabilities and their families. To register, [click here](#).

EnRICH Webinar: Introduction to Instrumental Variables-Based Methods for Casual Inference in Health Research

The latest EnRICH (Research Innovations and Challenges) Maternal and Child Health Research Program webinar will take place on **Mar. 14, 2016 from 2-3:30 pm EST**. The objectives of this webinar includes understanding the situations in which instrumental variables can be useful in health research; describing the assumptions and interpretations for instrumental variables based effect estimates; learning examples of instrumental variables used in health research, including policy differences, genetic variants, and other examples; and learning basic concepts for implementing instrumental

GET INVOLVED CONT.

variables analyses and understand whether the methods are feasible in a specific research setting. To register, [click here](#).

Genetics and ASD Webinar

The Autism Intervention Research Network on Physical Health and the Autism Treatment Network will be hosting a webinar on **Apr. 27, 2016 from 2-3 pm EST** to discuss genetics and Autism Spectrum Disorder. To register, [click here](#).

Online Continuing Medical Education (CME) Course on Six Core Elements of Health Care Transition Available

The Health Care Transition for Adolescents and Young Adults CME course is sponsored by the Health Services for Children with Special Needs, the National Alliance to Advance Adolescent Health/Got Transition, and the District of Columbia Department of Health. This is an hour long course that presents the experiences of pediatric, family medicine, and internal medicine leaders from DC who piloted the Six Core Elements as part of a transition learning collaborative. The course will feature physician leaders presenting quality improvement strategies, challenges, and benefits involved in implementing each core element. This course will be available until **Jan. 3, 2017**. [Click here](#) to register.

PUBLICATIONS & RESOURCES



General & Maternal Child Health Updated Interim Guidelines for Healthcare Providers Caring for Infants and Children with Possible Zika Virus Infection.

The CDC has updated its interim guidelines for caring for infants and children with possible Zika virus infection as of Feb. 2016. The guidelines has been expanded to include children up to 18 years old, as well as other new recommendations. To access the guidelines, [click here](#).

Title V National Outcome and Performance Measures Data Query

In order for to make it easier for states to access and interactively explore and compare National Outcome Measures and National Performance Measures data findings from the National Survey of Children's Health,

PUBLICATIONS CONT.

and the National Survey of Children with Special Health Care Needs, the Child and Adolescent Health Initiative developed an online tool. The data is available by state and numerous subgroups, including those required for the Block Grant, and will be updated as future data becomes available. To access the data, [click here](#).

Implementing Care Coordination in Your Program or Community

The National Center for Medical Home Implementation has released a Care Coordination guide that includes a collection of tools and resources for pediatric clinicians, state agencies, and family advocates looking to implement care coordination. Information on the National Center for Care Coordination Technical Assistance, which provides technical assistance on the Pediatric Care Coordination Curriculum, Care Coordination Measurement Tool, and the Pediatric Integrated Care Survey is also available. To access the guide, [click here](#).

Women & Infant Health

Infants and Toddlers in the District of Columbia: A Statistical Look at Needs and Disparities

This report reviews the challenges facing the District's youngest children and their families. The findings in this report display wide disparities between neighborhoods in terms of development, education, health, and supports. This data was commissioned by the Bainum Family Foundation and produced by Child Trends. To access the PDF, [click here](#).

Zika Virus: Information and Resources

AMCHP is closely monitoring news and information related to the Zika virus disease. Resources, links, and information about developments in current outbreak, including prevention, symptoms, and treatment, and material for travelers and pregnant women will be shared on [AMCHP's website](#). For more information visit the [CDC Zika Virus webpage](#) or [ASTHO's Zika webpage](#), which includes links to State Department resources.

PUBLICATIONS CONT.

Twenty States Receive Funding to Improve Newborn Screening and Timeliness

The NewSTEPs 360 Program, a collaboration between the Colorado School of Public Health and the Association of Public Health Laboratories, has selected 20 states that will endeavor to improve newborn screening and save the lives of babies who are born with serious and rare conditions. These states are the initial cohort supported through a HRSA initiative. NewSTEPs 360 aims to improve timeliness measures across the NBS spectrum. The program provides quality improvement training, individualized coaching of state and the analysis of real time data impacting changes in selected state programs by shortening the timeframe between birth and identification. To read more about the chosen states and their plans, [click here](#).

Child & Adolescent Health

Bullying Prevention Training Course

HRSA has officially launched the online Bullying Prevention Course. This is a self-directed course that features the latest research on bullying prevention and quizzes throughout the course to test your knowledge and ability to earn course credits quickly and easily. Credits are available to a wide variety of bullying prevention stakeholders, including nurses, certified health education specialists, and certified public health professionals. For more information, [click here](#).

Introduction to Child Welfare Funding and How States Use It

Child Trends recently published a report that examines key child welfare financing decisions based on interviews with child welfare agency officials in 10 states (Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Ohio, Texas, Utah, and Wisconsin) about the hows, whys, challenges, and successes of their child welfare financing structures and decisions. To view the publication, [click here](#).

ON YOUR BEHALF

- On Feb. 18-19, AMCHP staff members Lori Freeman, Christina Ratleff, and Megan Phillippi participated in the convening current and future sites of the Best Babies Zone initiative in Oakland, California. AMCHP staff members facilitated sustainability discussions with current Best Babies Zone sites in Cincinnati, New Orleans, and Oakland and engaged in policy discussions with the Policy Corps on the future of Best Babies Zone.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Internship Opportunity with Population Health Improvement Partners

Population Health Improvement Partners helps health-focused organizations and coalitions build organizational and community capacity to improve and sustain population health. Population Health Improvement Partners is currently accepting applications for the Cappie L. Stanley Population Health Improvement Internship for summer 2016. This is a paid internship for undergraduate and graduate students interested in a career in public health, as well as members in the current public health workforce interested in transitioning to a career focusing on population health and quality improvement. The duration of this internship is 8-10 weeks and is located in Morrisville, NC. To apply, [click here](#). Please send all resumes to adavis@improvepartners.org. All materials must be received by **Mar. 3, 2016** in order to be considered. For additional information, [click here](#).

National Center for Health Statistics Searching for Statistician (Demography)

The National Center for Health Statistics, Division of Vital Statistics, and Reproductive Statistics Branch is seeking a Statistician (Demography) in Hyattsville, MD. The Statistician (Demography) duties include developing analytical plans incorporating appropriate statistical methods and techniques, executes the analysis of data, and interpret results; plan and conduct multiple research studies focused on the analysis of human populations and their characteristics; initiate, formulate, plan, and execute analytic research projects using population-based data collected by the organization; research the quality of methodologies and measures pertinent to the assessment and summarization of the health status of Americans; plan and carry out quality control programs and select appropriate statistical and demographic methods to be used in quality control analysis; provide technical assistance on the use of complex statistical and demographic techniques; and examine reports and articles prepared by others within the organization as part of the peer review process. For more information and to apply, [click here](#).

National Institute of Child Health & Human Development Recruiting Postdoctoral Fellows

The Epidemiology Branch of the Division of Intramural Population Health Research at the National Institute of Child & Health Human Development (NICHD) is recruiting post-doctoral fellows. Candidates approved to work in the United States with a doctoral degree in epidemiology or closely related field, or a medical degree and advanced graduate training in epidemiology and biostatistics within the past five years are invited to apply. Preference will be given to applicants with research interests in areas currently under investigation in the Branch and with superior analytic and communication skills. Salary is commensurate with training and experience. Multiple positions are available and will remain open until qualified applicants are found. All applicants should send a curriculum vitae, statement of research interests to be pursued during training, three letters of reference, and transcripts from undergraduate and graduate institutions to Dr. James Mills, Recruitment Committee Chair, at millsj@mail.nih.gov. For additional information, [click here](#). To learn more about the Epidemiology Branch, [click here](#).

Association of State and Territorial Health Officials Executive Director Search

The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) located in Arlington, VA is searching for an Executive Director. Responsibilities include providing strategic vision and leadership for ASTHO's staff, programs, and expansion, and the execution of its mission, including its role in supporting its members in successfully improving population health across the nation. The Executive Director will create annual operating plans supporting the strategic direction set by the Board and collaborate with Board to develop these strategies. The ideal candidate will have an advanced degree in public health, health sciences, or related area, as well as a minimum of 10 years of executive or senior-level management experience, preferably in nongovernment or governmental public health organizations at the local, state, and federal levels. For more information and to apply, [click here](#).

AMCHP CAREER CENTER

The Career Center is the premiere online job board for individuals seeking employment in MCH 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

Pediatric Diagnostic Biomarkers for Active Pulmonary TB Disease

Deadline: *Mar. 11, 2016*

The Department of Health and Human Services is now accepting applications for this funding opportunity. The purpose of this program is to support projects that identify

FUNDING CONT.

and/or validate biomarkers or biomarker combinations leading to improved diagnosis of active pulmonary tuberculosis (TB) in children, including HIV infected children. Projects that focus on young children are particularly encouraged. For more information, [click here](#).

Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Impact (ECCS Impact)

Deadline: *Mar. 15, 2016*

HRSA is accepting applications for Early Comprehensive Childhood Systems Impact (ECCS Impact). The purpose of this program is to enhance early childhood systems building and demonstrate improved outcomes in population-based children's developmental health and family well-being indicators using a Collaborative Innovation and Improvement Network (CoIIN) approach. An additional goal of the ECCS Impact grants is the development of collective impact expertise, implementation and sustainability of efforts at the state, county and community levels. For more information, [click here](#).

Communities Addressing Childhood Trauma (ACT)

Deadline: *Apr. 18, 2016*

The Department of Health and Human Services is now accepting applications for Communities Addressing Childhood Trauma (ACT). Communities ACT seeks to address unhealthy behaviors in minority youth and provide them with opportunities to learn coping skills and gain experiences that contribute to more positive lifestyles and enhance their capacity to make healthier life choices. ACT projects will demonstrate the effectiveness of a highly innovative and multi-partnership collaborative approach, incorporating culturally and linguistically appropriate services. For more information, [click here](#).

Improving the Health of People with Mobility Limitations and Intellectual Disabilities through State-based Public Health Programs

Deadline: *Apr. 19, 2016*

The CDC and National Birth Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities invites eligible states, territories, and tribal governments that work with individuals with mobility limitations and intellectual disabilities to submit grant applications for this funding opportunity. This opportunity will support a new 5 year initiative to improve the health and quality of life among people with mobility limitations and/or ID through adaptation and implementation of evidence-based strategies. This will provide funding to develop and strengthen internal capacity and health-related disability

programs to: improve knowledge and awareness about the usefulness and effectiveness of programmatic, policy, systems and environmental changes for people with select functional disability types; and support applicant to plan, implement, evaluate, and disseminate non-research activities aimed at promoting inclusion and accessibility and reducing health disparities between people with and without disabilities. A conference call will be held on **Mar. 3, 2016 from 3-4 pm EST** to provide more information. To join the call, please dial 1-877-988-0576 and use passcode 27284619 #. For disability accommodations, please email Arlene Vincent-Mark at dsz4@cdc.gov. For further information, [click here](#).

Developmental Behavioral Pediatrics Research Network Program

Deadline: *Apr. 26, 2016*

HRSA is announcing a new funding opportunity that will establish and maintain a national scientific and clinical research network that will promote and coordinate research activities in departmental, behavioral, and psychosocial aspects in pediatric care to improve clinical services, health, and related outcomes for children and adolescents with autism, as well as other developmental disabilities. The Developmental Behavioral Pediatrics Research Network supports the design and implementation of interdisciplinary research studies that focus on transition of research practice; provide the mentoring environment to train a new generation of developmental behavioral researchers, and foster the implementation of multi-site research studies. For more information, [click here](#).

HHS Centers for Disease Control and Prevention NCIPC: Core State Violence and Injury Prevention Program

Deadline: *May 8, 2016*

The overall purpose of this funding is to: 1) decrease and prevent injury and violence related morbidity and mortality and 2) increase sustainability of injury prevention programs and practices. This will be achieved through support to State Health Departments (SHDs) in the implementation, evaluation and dissemination of programs, practices, and policies with the best available evidence. To learn more, [click here](#).

FUNDING CONT.

NIH Initiative to Maximize Research Education in Genomics Diversity in Education Plan

Deadline: *Sept. 6, 2016*

NIH present this funding opportunity to facilitate the training of individuals at all careers levels (the undergraduate, graduate, post baccalaureate, postdoctoral and faculty levels) from diverse backgrounds underrepresented in scientific disciplines relevant to genomics to enable them to pursue genomics research that spans all areas of interest to National Human Genome Research Institute later in their careers. To learn more, [click here](#).

Using Existing Early Intervention Data to Assess Outcomes among Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children

Deadline: *Sept. 30, 2016*

The Disability Research and Dissemination Center is presenting a funding opportunity to assess the outcomes of deaf or hard of hearing (DHH) children identified through state early intervention (EDHI) programs by using existing intervention and educational data sets. For more information, [click here](#).

Improving the Coordination and Documentation of Enrollment into Early Intervention for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children through Parent Engagement

Deadline: *Sept. 30, 2016*

The Disability Research and Dissemination Center is presenting a funding opportunity to help increase parental/public awareness about the importance and benefits of signing a release to share early intervention information (information release) with the state EHDI programs, as well as engaging and supporting families in the intervention process. For more information, [click here](#).

Exploratory and Developmental Grant to Improve Health Care Quality through HIT

Deadline: *Nov. 16, 2016*

The purpose of this grant is to fund exploratory and developmental research grants that will contribute to the evidence base of how health information technology (HIT) improves health care quality. This funding

opportunity supports the use of a wide variety of research designs in order to generate information regarding the design and development, implementation, use, or impact of health IT on quality. For more information, [click here](#).

Reducing Health Disparities among Minority and Underserved Children

Deadline: *Jan. 7, 2017*

This initiative encourages research that targets the reduction of health disparities among children. Specific targeted areas of research include biobehavioral studies that incorporate multiple factors that influence child health disparities such as biological (e.g., genetics, cellular, organ systems), lifestyle factors, environmental (e.g., physical and family environments) social (e.g., peers), economic, institutional, and cultural and family influences; studies that target the specific health promotion needs of children with a known health condition and/or disability; and studies that test and evaluate the comparative effectiveness of health promotion interventions conducted in traditional and nontraditional settings. For more information, [click here](#) (R01) or [here](#) (R21).

Chronic Illness Self-Management in Children and Adolescents

Deadline: *Jan. 7, 2017*

The purpose of this announcement is to encourage research to improve self-management and quality of life in children and adolescents with chronic conditions. Managing a chronic condition is an unremitting responsibility for children and their families. Children with a chronic condition and their families have a long-term responsibility for self-management. For more information, [click here](#) (R01) or [here](#) (R21).

Understanding Factors in Infancy and Early Childhood That Influence Obesity Development

Deadline: *Feb. 5, 2017*

This funding announcement invites Research Project Grant (R01) applications from institutions/organizations which propose to characterize or identify factors in early childhood (birth-24 months) that may increase or mitigate risk for obesity and/or excessive weight gain and/or to fill methodological research gaps relevant to the understanding of risk for development of obesity in

FUNDING CONT.

children. For more information, [click here](#).

Maternal Nutrition and Pre-pregnancy Obesity: Effects on Mothers, Infants and Children

Deadline: *May 7, 2018*

This announcement encourages applications to improve health outcomes for women, infants and children, by stimulating interdisciplinary research focused on maternal nutrition and pre-pregnancy obesity. Maternal health significantly impacts not only the mother but also the intrauterine environment, and subsequently fetal development and the health of the newborn. For more information, [click here](#).



CALENDAR

AMCHP Events

[2016 AMCHP Annual Conference](#)

Apr. 6-9, 2016
Washington, DC

MCH Events

[Youth in Context: Interactions among Adolescents, Environments, and Healthcare](#)

Mar. 9-12, 2016
Washington, DC

[Early Hearing Detection & Intervention Meeting](#)

Mar. 13-15, 2016
San Diego, CA

[2016 Preparedness Summit](#)

Apr. 19-22, 2016
Dallas, TX

[YTH Live](#) (the youth+tech+health conference)

Apr. 24-26, 2016
San Francisco, CA

[Building a Healthier Future 2016 Summit](#)

May 18-20, 2016
Washington, DC

CALENDAR CONT.

[CSTE Annual Conference](#)

Jun. 19-23, 2016
Anchorage, AK

[NACCHO Annual Conference](#)

Jul. 19-21, 2016
Phoenix, AZ

[Public Health Informatics Conference](#)

Aug. 21-24, 2016
Atlanta, GA

[CityMatCH Leadership and MCH Epidemiology Conference](#)

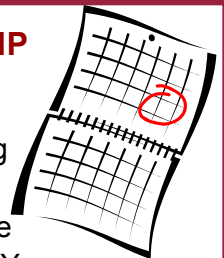
Sept. 14-16, 2016
Philadelphia, PA

[Congenital Cytomegalovirus Public Health and Policy Conference](#)

Sept. 25-27, 2016
Austin, TX

List Your Event on the AMCHP MCH Events Calendar

Do you want to include your listing on the AMCHP MCH Events Calendar? It's easy! Just complete our easy [online submission form](#). You are welcome to submit MCH conferences, webinars, trainings, webcasts and meetings. Thanks for helping us to build our MCH Events Calendar! If you have any questions, please contact [Karissa Charles](#), Communications and Membership Associate. Please note: All event listings are subject to AMCHP approval.



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