



Pathways to Family Leadership Within AMCHP

Family leaders are encouraged to become involved in Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs (AMCHP) activities. The designation *family leader* includes parents, youth, self-advocates and/or extended family members who are immediately involved in the day-to-day life of the family receiving Title V Maternal and Child Health (MCH) or Children or Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN) services. Generally family members are considered family leaders when they are involved in the planning, development and evaluation of programs and policies at the community, organizational or policy level. Whether family leaders are employed or volunteer, they bring unique insight and experience to policy discussions. These contributions include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Direct experience as the recipient or family member of the recipient of MCH or CYSHCN services
- An understanding of MCH and/or knowledge of at least one MCH program within a state or territory
- The ability to communicate effectively
- The ability to use personal experience with the service delivery system to identify strengths and gaps
- The ability to share one's unique perspective to educate others broadly about the individual needs and priorities of families who represent all cultures
- The ability to work collaboratively with others to influence Title V partners, families, students, trainees and faculty through teaching, training, serving on councils and boards, and mentoring

The table below describes roles open specifically to family leaders in AMCHP. For more information, see the AMCHP Website, amchp.org.

| Family Leader Title | Eligibility Criteria | Selection Process | Timeline | Duties |
|-----------------------------|---|-----------------------|--|--|
| Family Delegate (FD) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of MCH and the systems of supports for families • Connected to other families in state/territory and able to speak on behalf of many families • Recognized as a family leader in state/territory (i.e., has demonstrated track record of taking lead in representing families in state/territory through training, policy, parent support or work with Title V) | Designated by Title V | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific time to be designated for this role • No specific term length (left to discretion of state/territory) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in state/territory delegation to AMCHP conference, lending family perspective to delegation • Vote in AMCHP elections (FD has 1 in 5 votes allocated to each state/territory) • Establish linkages with families in state/territory to relay relevant AMCHP information • Represent family perspective • See AMCHP fact sheet, "AMCHP Family Delegate Fundamentals," for more information. Fact sheet is available here. |

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| Family Representative to AMCHP Board (two positions) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AMCHP member • Active participation within AMCHP as a Family Delegate, family participant in AMCHP Leadership Lab, and/or member of AMCHP committee • Ability to view AMCHP's Strategic Plan through family perspective • Knowledgeable about state and/or national MCH issues related to the MCH population • Ability to provide experiential knowledge regarding the system of the care for MCH populations • Familiar with national health policy discussions and the impact on families | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nominate self or be nominated • Nominees stand for election • Nomination is supported by state Title V director | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nominations open in June; elections by the full AMCHP voting membership are held the following December • Representatives serve for three years beginning in March and ending after the AMCHP Conference | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regularly attend Board meetings and conference calls, sharing in the work of the Board and bringing the perspective of families to the Board • Represent the voice of families in annual meetings • Provide mentoring to emerging family leaders to support a growing national family leader network |

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| <p>Family Leader Representative on these AMCHP committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Conference Planning Committee • Best Practices Review Committee • Emerging Issues Committee • Family and Youth Leadership Committee • Governance Committee • Legislative and Health Care Finance Committee • Workforce Development Committee | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AMCHP member • Ability to connect broader goals of MCH health areas • Preference given to active participation within AMCHP as Family Delegate, family participant in Leadership Lab, and/or previous experience on AMCHP committee • Connected to and knowledgeable about Title V services in one's state | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nominate self or be nominated • Selection made by AMCHP President, President-Elect and CEO | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call for members remains open year-round • Committee year runs from October through September • Members may serve up to two one-year terms | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be active participant by regularly attending conference calls, meetings; sharing in work of committee; bringing perspective of families to committee |

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| Leadership Lab, Family Leader Cohort Participant | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has an interest in impacting Title V programs • Connected to and knowledgeable about Title V services in one's state • Is a leader within local, state or national community • Has support from Title V MCH or CYSHCN director to submit application • Has support from supervisor • Is committed to growing in leadership • Is able to commit six-12 hours/month • Preference given to current AMCHP Family Delegates; current volunteers, consultants or staff of Title V Program; or those who work with a Title V-funded Program | Selection is based on applications, which are processed through AMCHP | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applications accepted in early November • Program runs from December through the following September | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in virtual trainings and mentor/peer calls • Create Individual Development Plan • Complete self-directed learning modules |

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