

From: [Loretta Hoepfner](#)
Cc: [Ariana Kempa](#)
Subject: MDAAP: Executive Director's Digest – December 17, 2021
Date: Friday, December 17, 2021 9:39:33 AM
Attachments: [PosterPDF-KeepEveryoneSafeDuringCOVID-19.pdf](#)
[2021FdnLtrToAllMembers,ReplyForm&HolCardsAdFINAL121321.pdf](#)
[NIH Study- COVID-19 MIS-C Long-Term Effects in Children Young Adults.pdf](#)
[AdvancingAdolescentMentalHealth,RFP.pdf](#)
[AdvancingAdolescentMentalHealth,RFP,BudgetTemplate.xlsx](#)
[JohnsHopkinsProviderSurveyOnHPVvaccineHesitancy.pdf](#)
[LutheranImmigration&RefugeeSvc-SeekingPedProviders.pdf](#)

MDAAP Executive Director's Digest – December 17, 2021

Mark Your Calendars! Our MDAAP Chapter Legislative Session Zoom Meetings will start on Tuesday, January 4, 2022: Please register at <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0ofuiurDgjG9NmoINnPV1nEMjRmJVvq2QT> to get the login information. Our MDAAP lobbyist – Pam Metz Kasemeyer – will lead us through the proposed bills for discussion. Join this meeting to give *your* opinions/feedback about what issues are of importance to you as MDAAP members and how we advocate for Maryland's kids! These meetings start at 8:00 p.m. ET and will run through March 29, 2022.

General Membership Meeting December 7, 2021 - Recording: This meeting featured a presentations by the Maryland Department of Health regarding pediatric COVID-19 vaccination updates. The recording is available at https://drive.google.com/file/d/1TnYwlg7st_Gohj8MrGWzN0C9-lh3rSeF/view?usp=sharing. MDAAP Vice President Monique Soileau-Burke also shared information about practice experiences and logistics.

"Everyone Safe During COVID-19" Posters Available: Developed by our MDAAP CDC Project Firstline Faculty Leader Susan V. Lipton, MD, MPH, FAAP, and produced from funding the MDAAP received via National AAP from the CDC's Project Firstline (<https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/projectfirstline>), 17"x22" posters are available to help you reinforce COVID-19 safety principles with your staff and patients/families. The main goal of Project Firstline is to help every frontline health care worker gain knowledge and confidence around infection control principles and protocols. The aim is to ensure that health care workers feel they can confidently apply what they learn to protect themselves, their facility, their family, and their community from infectious disease threats, such as, but not limited to, COVID-19. Contact MDAAP Executive Director Loretta I. Hoepfner at loretta@mdaap.org if you would like posters mailed to you. [Attachment]

MDAAP Legislative Matters

Mark Your Calendars! Our MDAAP Chapter Legislative Session Zoom Meetings will start on **Tuesday, January 4, 2022**, and run through March 29, 2022, starting at 8:00 p.m. ET. Please register at <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0ofuiurDgjG9NmoINnPV1nEMjRmJVvq2QT> to get the login information. Our MDAAP lobbyist – Pam Metz Kasemeyer – will lead us through the proposed bills for discussion. Join this meeting to give *your* opinions/feedback about what issues are of importance to you as MDAAP members and how we advocate for Maryland's kids!

From the MDAAP Mental Health Committee

MDAAP Mental Health Committee Zoom Meeting - Set for Thursday, January 13, 2022 at 5:00-6:00p ET: Please register for this Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYld-mvqDguHtdcQPrWfrDAzvz-xJ4Ir3Y3>. After

registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

From the MDAAP Pediatric Council

Is CareFirst Denying You Payment for COVID-19 Vaccine Administration? If you are getting a denial from CareFirst for COVID-19 vaccine administration (0071A-first dose and/or 0072A-second dose), you can email Bob Sadowski, Pediatric Medical Director, Robert.Sadowski@carefirst.com with the patient's name, date of birth, membership ID number, and the date the immunization was administered.

From the MDAAP Foundation

Consider Making a Year-End Donation and Support Early Literacy for Maryland's Children: *Our 2021 Holiday Fundraising Campaign is underway!* See the attached letter from [MDAAP Foundation President Maria Brown](#). Your charitable gift to the MDAAP Foundation supports our mini-grants program to help put books in the hands of children through MDAAP members' practices. Donations can be made by:

*Mailing a check to the MDAAP Office

*Clicking on this link to make an online donation – https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=FE3DCXHJ8KXK6

*Using this QR code:



Support the MDAAP Foundation When Doing your Holiday Shopping at Amazon.com: Go to smile.amazon.com/ch/52-1762334 and AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchases --- no fees or extra costs to you.

COVID-19 Topics

Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine: Medical Updates & Immunization Site Training for All Healthcare Providers Led by Pfizer Vaccines US Medical Affairs: See <https://www.pfizermedicalinformation.com/en-us/medical-updates> for training sessions through January 27, 2021.

Recruiting Participants for NIH Study: "COVID-19 and MIS-C Long-Term Effects in Children and Young Adults": *Please share with your patients/families.* This study is for children and young adults who have recovered from COVID-19, including MIS-C. Researchers at the National Institutes of Health want to find out if there are any lasting symptoms and side effects in patients – *those asymptomatic, with mild-to-moderate symptoms, and to those needing hospital care* – after they have recovered from COVID-19 and MIS-C. To learn more about this study, contact niaidpedscovid@niaid.nih.gov. Questions? Contact Karyl Barron kbarron@niaid.nih.gov, (301) 402-2208. [Attachment]

“Lessons from COVID-19 on Executing Communications and Engagement at the Community Level During a Health Crisis”: This report from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine outlines the lessons and insights shared during a meeting that examined the challenges and opportunities behind executing effective communications and community engagement in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This report summarizes key themes identified by the participants and their perspectives on issues to further explore or consider in strengthening the communications and community engagement capacity of the public health sector when anticipating and responding to future crises. ([Lessons from COVID-19 on Executing Communications and Engagement at the Community Level During a Health Crisis | National Academies](#))

Latest on Omicron Variant and COVID-19 Vaccine Protection: Read the recent NIH Director’s Blog at [Latest on Omicron Variant and COVID-19 Vaccine Protection – NIH Director’s Blog](#). There’s been great concern about the new Omicron variant of SARS-CoV-2, the coronavirus that causes COVID-19. A major reason is Omicron has accumulated over 50 mutations, including about 30 in the spike protein, the part of the coronavirus that mRNA vaccines teach our immune systems to attack. All of these genetic changes raise the possibility that Omicron could cause breakthrough infections in people who’ve already received a Pfizer or Moderna mRNA vaccine.

“Ensuring COVID-19 Vaccine Equity for Children: Considerations for Pediatric Teams and Community Partners”: The pediatric COVID-19 vaccine for 5- to 11-year-old children is being rolled out — a monumental milestone nearly two years into the pandemic. Early data relating to the rollout for 12- to 18-year-old children, however, indicate vaccination gaps — in distribution, access, and uptake — between white children and children of color, particularly Black children. Little data are available yet for the roll-out for 5- to 11-year-old children, but there are persistent disparities in immunization rates for other preventable childhood diseases. How can the child health field ensure this disparity isn’t perpetuated in rolling out the COVID-19 vaccine to younger children? ([Ensuring COVID-19 Vaccine Equity for Children: Considerations for Pediatric Teams and Community Partners - CHCS Blog](#))

“Hidden Pain Children Who Lost a Parent or Caregiver to COVID-19 and What the Nation Can Do to Help Them”: COVID Collaborative is mobilizing government, non-profit, and private sector partners to support the hundreds of thousands of children in the United States who have lost a parent or caregiver to COVID-19. In December 2021, their report ([Hidden Pain: Children Who Lost a Parent or Caregiver to COVID-19 and What the Nation Can Do To Help Them | COVID Collaborative](#)) estimates of the number of children who lost a caregiver and concrete recommendations to support them.

“COVID-19 Vaccines For Children: Exploring Immunization Strategies For Individuals Under 12”: Since the COVID-19 pandemic began, governors have been on the front lines, creating and executing policies to strengthen the nation’s COVID-19 response. A report by the National Governors Association includes considerations for Governors and state officials as they continue their COVID-19 pediatric vaccine rollout. ([COVID-19 Vaccines for Children: Exploring Immunization Strategies for Individuals Under 12 - National Governors Association \(nga.org\)](#))

MDAAP Upcoming Meetings/Events – FMI, <https://www.mdaap.org/events-meetings/> - *Mark your calendars!*

Tuesday, January 4, 2022

8:00-9:00 p.m. ET

MDAAP Chapter Legislative Session Zoom Meeting

Register at

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0ofuiurDgjG9NmoINnPV1nEMjRmJVvq2QT>.

Tuesday, January 11, 2022
8:00-9:00 p.m. ET
MDAAP Chapter Legislative Session Zoom Meeting
Register at <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0ofuiurDgjG9NmoINnPV1nEMjRmJVvq2QT>.

Thursday, January 13, 2022
5:00-6:00 p.m. ET
MDAAP Chapter Mental Health Committee Zoom Meeting
Register at <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYld-mvqDguHtdcQPrWfrDAzvz-xJ4Ir3Y3>.

Tuesday, January 18, 2022
8:00-9:00 p.m. ET
MDAAP Chapter Legislative Session Zoom Meeting
Register at <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0ofuiurDgjG9NmoINnPV1nEMjRmJVvq2QT>.

Thursday, January 20, 2022
7:00-8:00 p.m. ET
MDAAP Chapter Board of Directors Zoom Meeting
Register at <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0sdOuuqjojHNTQKhCFz-GTGU5IVLWp7fZZ>.

Tuesday, January 25, 2022
8:00-9:00 p.m. ET
MDAAP Chapter Legislative Session Zoom Meeting
Register at <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0ofuiurDgjG9NmoINnPV1nEMjRmJVvq2QT>.

Tuesday, February 1, 2022
8:00-9:00 p.m. ET
MDAAP Chapter Legislative Session Zoom Meeting
Register at <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0ofuiurDgjG9NmoINnPV1nEMjRmJVvq2QT>.

Thursday, February 3, 2022
7:00-8:00 p.m. ET
MDAAP/National AAP Webinar: "National Legislative Matters" of interest to MD pediatric providers
Register at https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_DCEhUc_RT02L_RIWdORNRw.

Tuesday, February 8, 2022
6:00-8:00 p.m. ET
MDAAP Chapter General Membership Zoom Meeting
Register at https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_5HBmjCqVS2mtVgXxtwIF0g.

Tuesday, February 8, 2022
8:00-9:00 p.m. ET
MDAAP Chapter Legislative Session Zoom Meeting
Register at <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0ofuiurDgjG9NmoINnPV1nEMjRmJVvq2QT>.

Tuesday, February 15, 2022
8:00-9:00 p.m. ET
MDAAP Chapter Legislative Session Zoom Meeting
Register at

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0ofuiurDgjG9NmoINnPV1nEMjRmJVvq2QT>.

Tuesday, February 22, 2022

8:00-9:00 p.m. ET

MDAAP Chapter Legislative Session Zoom Meeting

Register at

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0ofuiurDgjG9NmoINnPV1nEMjRmJVvq2QT>.

From National AAP

Input Sought on AAP Educational Programs and Materials: The AAP Committee on CME is requesting members' assistance in identifying the types of resources needed by developers of National AAP educational programs and materials. Browse the materials at [Welcome | cocme.courses.aap.org](#) and share your feedback with the COCME by completing a survey at [AAP Committee on CME Survey \(surveymonkey.com\)](#) by **Friday, January 7, 2022**.

Call for Proposals for CPTI's Advocacy Training Center Grants: The Community Pediatrics Training Initiative supports four pediatric faculty-resident pairs annually to attend the AAP Advocacy Conference. After the conference, the faculty-resident pairs are required to implement an educational project in collaboration with their AAP chapter to strengthen the advocacy skills of their trainees. The AAP chapter will receive up to \$1,000 in grant funds to support this advocacy project. The deadline to apply is **Friday, January 14, 2022**, by midnight ET. Find more information at [Community Pediatrics Training Initiatives Grants \(aap.org\)](#).

CATCH Call for Grant Proposals: The Community Access To Child Health (CATCH) Call for Proposals now is open through **Monday, January 24, 2022**. Pediatricians ([catchplanimpcall.pdf \(aap.org\)](#)) and residents ([catchresidentcall.pdf \(aap.org\)](#)) with innovative ideas for initiatives that address critical child health issues in their local communities can apply for grants. Additionally, the Resident Call for Proposals guidelines include targeted funding opportunities on more than 10 topics, including oral health, community pediatrics, environmental health, developmental and behavioral pediatrics, emergency medicine, school health, obesity prevention, and child abuse/neglect. Questions? Contact catch@aap.org. To learn more about CATCH see [Community Access to Child Health \(aap.org\)](#).

Advancing Adolescent Mental Health Grant – RFP Now Open: The National AAP is seeking proposals that develop, implement, and evaluate an advocacy project promoting adolescent mental health at the community or national level. Each proposal must address at least 1 of the 3 recommendations laid out in the report "The State of the World's Children 2021" ([The State of the World's Children 2021 | UNICEF](#)). Three small grants of up to \$10,000 USD are available to registered NGOs that support adolescent health and well-being. Pediatric societies and youth-led organizations will be prioritized. Proposals will be accepted from all regions; however, the project must be carried out in an LMIC setting, and the organization must confirm it can accept funds from US banks to be eligible. See attachment for background & application information. The deadline for the proposal submission is **Monday, January 31, 2022**. Questions? Contact Sherri Smith at ssmith@aap.org or (630) 626-6323. [Attachments]

Nomination Call for AAP Committee Members - Due Friday, February 18, 2022: The call for nominations for 2022 national committee member positions is now open. Member appointments will take place at the May 2022 Board Meeting and new member terms will begin on Friday, July 1, 2022. For more information about the current open positions and process for submitting a nomination, please visit the AAP Committee Nominations webpage at [LEAD @ AAP Committees, Councils, and Sections](#).

Free Online Course “Influenza During the COVID-19 Pandemic” Available Via

PediaLink: This four-part course series provides key information about the 2021-2022 flu season. The purpose of this PediaLink module is to educate pediatric health care professionals on the current AAP policy recommendations for routine use of seasonal influenza vaccine and antiviral medications for the prevention and treatment of influenza in infants, children, and adolescents. The recommendations for the prevention and treatment of influenza are updated annually. The course is available until **Saturday, October 10, 2022**, and does not offer CME credit. For more information go to [Influenza During the COVID-19 Pandemic - AAP](#).

Social Determinants of Health Information Flyer for Families: The National Resource Center for Patient/Family-Centered Medical Home has released a supplemental social determinants of health flyer for the National AAP and the Food Research & Action Center screening toolkit ([FRAC AAP Toolkit 2021.pdf](#)). The flyer is available in both English ([SDOH ResourceFlyer Nov2021.pdf \(aap.org\)](#) and [SDOH ResourceFlyer Nov2021 11x14.pdf \(aap.org\)](#)) and Spanish ([ResourceFlyer-NEW SPANISH.pdf \(aap.org\)](#) and [ResourceFlyer-NEW11x14 SPANISH.pdf \(aap.org\)](#)). Please consider posting in your pediatric clinics and practices to support families of children and youth with special health care needs and children with disabilities to increase their awareness of their pediatricians’ role in supporting their non-medical needs, such as food insecurity, housing, transportation, and mental health.

Information Sharing Consequences in Pediatric Care – Data Collector: National AAP is collecting your stories (at [Information Sharing Consequences in Pediatric Care Survey \(surveymonkey.com\)](#)) of real-world scenarios involving your organization or patients/families that may demonstrate unintended consequences of information sharing and/or the 21st Century Cures Act Interoperability Final Rule. Please note that this is an information collecting tool and not intended as a technical assistance/guidance request. If you have questions about information sharing/blocking under the 21st Century Cures Act, please email cocit@aap.org.

Free Online Course “Effective COVID-19 Vaccine Conversations”: A new FREE online course, “Effective COVID-19 Vaccine Conversations,” now is available via PediaLink. This free course aims to improve knowledge and competency among pediatricians and non-physicians to have effective COVID-19 vaccine conversations with patients and families, including the sharing of credible COVID-19 vaccination information and responding to misinformation. Register for this course at [Effective COVID-19 Vaccine Conversations - AAP](#).

Becoming a COVID-19 Vaccinator Video Series: View the videos in this series to find answers to common questions about administering COVID-19 vaccine in pediatric practice settings. ([Becoming a COVID-19 Vaccinator Video Series \(aap.org\)](#))

Advocacy Emails and Alerts: Are you an AAP member who is interested in receiving advocacy opportunities and timely policy updates on federal legislation and other issues important to the Academy? By signing up for advocacy emails, AAP members receive a weekly email every Friday that Congress is in session, as well as targeted advocacy action alerts. To sign up for these advocacy communications, email kids1st@aap.org with your name, email address, and AAP ID. Questions? Contact Devin Miller dmiller@aap.org.

Fellowship Opportunities

Postdoctoral Fellowship in School Mental Health: The National Center for School Mental Health in the Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at the University of Maryland School of Medicine (Baltimore, MD) invites applications for a full-time, 1-2 year(s) postdoctoral fellowship in child and adolescent mental health starting in Summer 2022. Fellows will work with faculty and a multidisciplinary team to advance skills in research, training, policy, and practice related to child and adolescent mental health services with an emphasis on school-based services. In addition to collaborating on school mental health research and training activities, the fellowship may include the opportunity for clinical practice in schools, depending on candidates’ interests and experiences. For more information, go to [Postdoctoral-Fellowship-in-School-Mental-Health-](#)

[2022.pdf \(schoolmentalhealth.org\)](#).

Funding Opportunities

RFPs 2021-2022 – SBHC Food Access Learning Network: The School-Based Health Alliance, in partnership with Share Our Strength’s No Kid Hungry campaign, will award up to 10-14 SBHCs \$25,000 each to plan, implement, and record the results of programming to address access to healthy foods. Awardees will receive monthly virtual coaching throughout 2022, evaluate and share findings with a network of peers, participate in a national case study toolkit, gain access to subject-matter expertise, and serve as a community leader addressing food insecurities. Applications due **Friday, January 7, 2022**. More information and the online application can be found at [School-Based Health Center Food Access Learning Network \(smartsheet.com\)](#).

2022 Nurse Corps Loan Repayment Programs: Applications are now open through **Thursday, January 13, 2022**. Informational webinars will be held on Wednesday, December 1, 2021, and Thursday, January 6, 2022. For more information go to [Apply to the Nurse Corps Loan Repayment Program | Bureau of Health Workforce \(hrsa.gov\)](#).

NHSC Loan Repayment Program: Applications are now open through **Thursday, February 3, 2022**. Licensed primary care clinicians in eligible disciplines can receive loan repayment assistance through the NHSC Loan Repayment Program. For more information go to [NHSC Loan Repayment Program | NHSC \(hrsa.gov\)](#).

NHSC Substance Use Disorder Workforce Loan Repayment Program: Applications are now open through **Thursday, February 3, 2022**. To combat the nation’s opioid crisis, HRSA launched the NHSC Substance Use Disorder Workforce Loan Repayment Program. The program supports the recruitment and retention of health professionals needed in underserved areas to expand access to SUD treatment and prevent overdose deaths. For more information go to [NHSC Substance Use Disorder Workforce Loan Repayment Program | NHSC \(hrsa.gov\)](#).

NHSC Rural Community Loan Repayment Program: Applications are now open through **Thursday, February 3, 2022**. The NHSC Rural Community LRP will make loan repayment awards in coordination with the Rural Communities Opioid Response Program (RCORP) from the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP). This will provide evidence-based substance use treatment, assist in recovery, and prevent overdose deaths across the nation. For more information go to [NHSC Rural Community Loan Repayment Program | NHSC \(hrsa.gov\)](#).

Strategic Consultation Grants for Baltimore City: This Johns Hopkins Urban Health Institute funding opportunity advances health in Baltimore by supporting Johns Hopkins faculty working directly with Baltimore City government and quasi-governmental agencies. Funds are awarded to proposals that respond to requests from city government for specific assistance on significant projects that improve the health of the city. For more information, see [Strategic Consultation Grants - Funding Opportunities - What We Do - Urban Health Institute - Johns Hopkins University \(jhu.edu\)](#). The program is accepting proposals on a rolling basis.

From the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation: See [Funding and Engagement Opportunities - RWJF](#) for information about:

**Pioneering Ideas: Exploring the Future to Build a Culture of Health:* Welcomes proposals that are primed to influence health equity in the future. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

**Evidence for Action: Innovative Research to Advance Racial Equity:* Prioritizes research to evaluate specific interventions that have the potential to contribute to dismantling and counteracting the harms of structural and systemic racism and improving health, well-being, and equity outcomes.

Educational Opportunities

Virtual: “Understanding the Opioid Epidemic: Prescribers’ Next Steps in the Treatment of Opioid Use Disorder”: This live, virtual CME training on **Tuesday, January 11, 2022**, at 12:00-1:00 p.m. ET is designed for Maryland prescribers who have obtained their waiver to prescribe buprenorphine for OUD. This event is hosted by the Maryland Addiction Consultation Service (<https://www.marylandmacs.org>) and the Anne Arundel Health Department. For more information and to register go to [Understanding the Opioid Epidemic: Prescribers' Next Steps Registration, Tue, Jan 11, 2022 at 12:00 PM | Eventbrite](#).

Virtual: “Learning Series: Advancing Equity in Maternal & Infant Health”: HRSA’s Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health is hosting a three-part series to define health equity, highlight disparities in maternal and infant health outcomes among disproportionately affected populations, and identify systemic issues that are contributing to these health disparities. Session 1 was held on November 2, 2021 (recording at [Learning Series: Advancing Equity in Maternal & Infant Health - Zoom \(zoomgov.com\)](#)), and Session 2 was held on December 7, 2021 (recording at [Learning Series: Advancing Equity in Maternal & Infant Health - Zoom \(zoomgov.com\)](#)). Session 3 will be held on **Tuesday, January 11, 2022**, at 2:00-3:00 p.m. Central Time. More information and registration information is available at [Learning Series: Advancing Equity in Maternal & Infant Health Tickets, Tue, Nov 2, 2021 at 2:00 PM | Eventbrite](#). Questions? Contact Rae Hutchison at CHutchison@hrsa.gov.

Virtual: “Lessons Learned from the COVID-19 Pandemic to Improve Diagnosis”: The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine will convene a virtual workshop on **Friday, January 14, 2022**, at 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. ET to examine changes to diagnostic paradigms in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and to consider the lessons learned and opportunities for improving diagnosis within the U.S. health care system. For more information and to register, go to [Lessons Learned from the COVID 19 Pandemic to Improve Diagnosis | National Academies](#).

Virtual: “School-based Suicide Prevention: Promising Approaches and Opportunities for Research”: This NIMH-hosted webinar on **Friday, January 14, 2022**, at 2:00-3:30 p.m. ET will provide an opportunity for diverse stakeholders, including school administrators, researchers, practitioners, policymakers, and funders, to learn about new and innovative practices in school-based suicide prevention. There will be a particular focus on identifying and supporting high-risk youth, as well as opportunities for evaluating these efforts. Register at [NIMH » School-based Suicide Prevention: Promising Approaches and Opportunities for Research \(nih.gov\)](#).

Virtual: ZERO TO THREE Webinar Series “Foundation for All Future Development: Celebrating Highlights in Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health”: These events will highlight innovations and successes from SAMHSA IECMH, Project LAUNCH, and Indigenous LAUNCH grantees. Grantees from across the nation will showcase examples from their communities and share lessons learned with the broader early childhood field. The first webinar

was held on December 2, 2021 (Preparing the Workforce to Better Support our Little Ones). Register for the two remaining webinars at [Webinar Registration - Zoom](#):

***Thursday, February 3, 2022**, from 2:00-3:30 pm ET: [Integrating IECMH into Early Childhood Delivery Systems](#)

***Thursday, March 3, 2022**, from 2:00-3:30 pm ET: Strategies Supporting Service Delivery

Maryland Behavioral Health Online Training: Offered by the University School of Medicine, go to [University of Maryland Behavioral Health | Online Training \(mdbehavioralhealth.com\)](#) for access to implementation training videos, downloadable materials, tips from providers who have already implemented the interventions, and expert advice on a variety of topics related to implementation and fidelity. Ask questions of the intervention developers, share your own tips and experiences, and discuss areas of interest with fellow intervention providers. Registration also allows you to earn continuing education credit. Topics include:

**Maryland Early Intervention Program:* Covers the early identification and intervention for adolescents and young adults at risk for, or in the early stages of, a mental illness with psychosis.

**Pediatric Psychopharmacology:* Presents an overview of a conceptual framework and practical guidance for selecting, prescribing, and monitoring psychiatric medications in pediatric primary care, as well as in specialty mental health settings. Information provided is intended to guide decision-making, not as a substitute for clinical judgment.

**Supporting Social Emotional Wellness in Early Childhood:* Expert faculty, providers, community partners, and family members provide a range of information and resources for promoting social emotional development in young children ages 0-5 and their families.

Free CME and Other Educational Activities in Pediatrics: See the offerings from PRIME Education, LLC, at [Recommended Free CME and Other Educational Activities in Pediatrics | PRIME® Continuing Medical Education \(primeinc.org\)](#). Topics include:

*Breastfeeding and Insights From Human Milk Research

*Evolving Approaches to Asthma Treatment Across the Lifespan

*Evolving Paradigms in Atopic Dermatitis Care

[FYIs](#)

NIH Listening Sessions - NIH Stakeholders Discuss Racial & Ethnic Equity: The UNITE initiative ([The NIH UNITE Initiative | National Institutes of Health \(NIH\)](#)) was established to identify and address structural racism within the NIH-supported community and the greater scientific community. The listening sessions are part of UNITE's efforts to listen and learn. Key stakeholders at all levels of the biomedical research community who work and serve in diverse settings and hold various roles, and who partner and collaborate with research teams have important experiences and insights to share. Listening sessions will be held in **December 2021, January 2022, and February 2022**. For more information about listening sessions that align with your affiliation/s and to register, go to [Listening Sessions - NIH Stakeholders Discuss Racial & Ethnic Equity Tickets, Multiple Dates | Eventbrite](#). Questions? Email UNITEInitiative@nih.gov.

School Mental health Virtual Learning Series 2021-2022: The School Mental Health Virtual Learning Series offers free, cutting-edge trainings in school mental health. Registration links and recordings of past webinars can be found on at [Webinars | University of Maryland School of Medicine \(schoolmentalhealth.org\)](#). Upcoming topics include:

*Cultural Responsiveness, Anti-Racism, and Equity (CARE) Best Practices in School Mental Health – Teaming - **Wednesday, January 5, 2022**, at 3-4 p.m. ET

*Cultural Inclusiveness and Equity (CIE) Part 1: Understanding How Social Injustices Impact Student Mental Health - **Wednesday, January 19, 2022**, at 3-4 p.m. ET

*Cultural Responsiveness, Anti-Racism, and Equity (CARE) Best Practices in School Mental Health – Screening - **Wednesday, March 2, 2022**, at 3-4 p.m. ET

*Cultural Inclusiveness and Equity (CIE) Part 4: Supporting Students Experiencing Distress from a Cultural Inclusiveness and Equity Lens - **Wednesday, April 6, 2022**, at 3-4 p.m. ET

Behavioral Health System Baltimore 2022 Legislative Preview: Join this event on **Tuesday, January 11, 2022**, from 9:00-10:00 a.m. ET to hear BHSB (<https://www.bhsbaltimore.org>) leaders review key behavioral health policy priorities for the upcoming Maryland General Assembly legislative session. BHSB will also discuss the state budget outlook for behavioral health services in Maryland. Register at [2022 Legislative Preview \(constantcontact.com\)](#).

“Propel Your Future Leaders: A 3-Part Webinar Series”: Hosted by the Center for Creative Leadership, see [Session 1: Using Resilience Strategies to Reduce Workplace Barriers for Emerging Leaders \(on24.com\)](#) for more information about this upcoming series:

Session 1: Using Resilience Strategies to Reduce Workplace Barriers for Emerging Leaders* - **Tuesday, January 11, 2022, at 12:00-1:00 p.m. ET

Session 2: Value Alignment: The Role of Empathy and Identity in Developing Next Generation Leadership* - **Friday, January 21, 2022, at 12:00-1:00 p.m. ET

**Session 3: Providing Employees with Equitable Access to Opportunities to Drive Better Business Outcomes - Tuesday, January 25, 2022, at 12:00-1:00 p.m. ET*

Vot-ER 2022 Winter Summit: Join this event on **Tuesday, January 11, 2022**, at 2:00-3:30 p.m. ET which will gather [Vot-ER \(www.vot-er.org\)](http://www.vot-er.org) partners and volunteers to learn new tools and hear from experts about important multicultural research and data. Together, we will create a shared vision for the 2022 midterm elections and develop strategies to change the culture of healthcare and expand voter access in healthcare spaces. For more information and to register, go to [Vot-ER Winter Summit 2022 – Vot-ER](#). [Vot-ER](#) integrates voter registration into the health care delivery system. [Vot-ER](#) is founded on a core belief that empowered voices and full participation in the democratic process lead to positive health outcomes.

2022 Children's Mental Health Matters! Campaign Winter Launch Meeting: Join this event on **Tuesday, January 25, 2022**, at 12:00-1:00 p.m. via Zoom to increase public awareness of the importance of children's mental health - reducing stigma surrounding mental health and substance use disorders and connecting children and families with resources for prevention and support across Maryland. More information and registration is available at [Children's Mental Health Matters! Campaign Winter Launch Meeting Registration, Tue, Jan 25, 2022 at 12:00 PM | Eventbrite](#).

Public Comment for PCORI Proposed Research Agenda is Now Open: PCORI has launched the public comment period on its proposed Research Agenda, which will provide the framework for PCORI's future funding of comparative clinical effectiveness research and other research initiatives. It stems from the five National Priorities for Health ([National Priorities and Research Agenda | PCORI](#)) adopted by PCORI's Board of Governors in October. More details on the types of projects that could be included in each area of focus are available at [PCORI's Proposed Research Agenda | PCORI](#). The public comment period is open through **Monday, January 31, 2022**.

Johns Hopkins Provider Survey on HPV Vaccine Hesitancy: As a provider on the frontlines of HPV vaccination, you are invited to participate in a 12–15-minute survey ([Qualtrics Survey | Qualtrics Experience Management](#)) regarding your opinions and attitudes towards parents who are hesitant about the HPV vaccine. Hopkins researchers are reaching out to pediatric and primary care providers in Maryland to better understand your experiences recommending the HPV vaccine. Your answers will help them develop interventions to increase HPV vaccination rates in our state. For each completed survey, they will donate \$15 to the Ronald McDonald House Charity. Hopkins researchers are also conducting 1-hour virtual interviews about your experiences with vaccine-hesitant parents. Those who are eligible and complete the virtual interview will be compensated with a \$100 gift card. This study is being led by co-Principal Investigators Dr. Anne Rositch at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and Dr. Anna Beavis at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. [Attachment]

Survey: "Virginity Testing in the United States: Prevalence, Attitudes, and Effects": Johns Hopkins researchers would like to invite you to participate in a survey study which is trying to determine people's thoughts and opinions towards virginity testing, also known as hymen testing. Your answers will help researchers learn more about people's beliefs and feelings towards virginity testing, determine its prevalence in the United States, and study its effects on mental and physical health. This study is polling both the general population and healthcare providers. Please go to https://jhmi.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5p4JPUuYc0GqYCi to find the survey, which will take no more than 5 minutes to complete. Questions? Contact Dr. James Segars at jsegars2@jhmi.edu.

Are You Interested in Caring for Refugee and Migrant Children?: The Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (<https://www.lirs.org>) is seeking Maryland pediatricians to provide primary care. *LIRS children have benefits through Point Comfort Underwriters medical insurance which is reimbursed at Medicare rates.* Point Comfort Underwriters provides two main benefits: 1) Pre-approved treatment authorization will be prepared for pediatricians, and 2) LIRS

will bring those authorizations to the appointment pre-filled, and a LIRS medical coordinator will complete all the paperwork. LIRS has limited time for the children to be evaluated upon entrance into their program; given only 48 hours for evaluation, it's important to work quickly with pediatricians to ensure LIRS children receive the medical care they need. For questions or more information, contact Maryann Rico at (302) 688-6602 or mrico@lirs.org. [Attachment]

Racism and Health: How does racism affect health? See resources, tools, and data from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation at [Race, Racism and Health - RWJF](#) on why the inequities across our nation have their roots in discrimination.

"Chartbook on Rural Healthcare: National Healthcare Quality and Disparities Report": AHRQ has released a report that shows that people in rural areas face difficulty getting timely, high-quality, affordable healthcare. Almost 60 million Americans live in rural communities, often some distance from healthcare resources, which can add to the burden of accessing care. The new chartbook is based on data from AHRQ's most recent "National Healthcare Quality and Disparities Report" ([2019 National Healthcare Quality and Disparities Report | Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality \(ahrq.gov\)](#)), an annual publication that uses quality measures to assess the healthcare system's strengths and weaknesses, as well as disparities. The chartbook shows that although about half of quality measures have improved for residents of rural areas, healthcare access and quality tend to be worse in rural areas than in suburbs. ([National Healthcare Quality and Disparities Report Chartbook on Rural Healthcare \(ahrq.gov\)](#))

Maryland Oral Health Plan 2018-2023: The Maryland Oral Health Plan 2018-2023 is a five-year roadmap to improved oral health for all Marylanders. It builds on the oral health improvements achieved since the release of the first state plan in 2011, identifies critical remaining gaps, and outlines strategies to expand access to oral health care, prevent oral diseases and injury, and improve the oral health and overall health of residents statewide. The plan is a framework to guide our collective efforts. It outlines 11 key goals, which are intentionally non-prescriptive to enable the development of innovative implementation strategies to meet the needs of Maryland's unique regions and communities. ([2018-2023 Maryland Oral Health Plan Goals \(mdac.us\)](#))

"Strategies to Improve Patient Safety: Final Report to Congress Required by the Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Act of 2005": A report ([Strategies to Improve Patient Safety: Final Report to Congress Required by the Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Act of 2005 \(ahrq.gov\)](#)) from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services on strategies to improve patient safety and reduce medical errors has been delivered to Congress by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in consultation with AHRQ. The report outlined several strategies to accelerate progress in improving patient safety, including using analytic approaches in patient safety research, measurement and practice improvement to monitor risk; implementing evidence-based practices into real-world settings through clinically useful tools and infrastructure; encouraging the development of learning health systems that integrate continuous learning and improvement in day-to-day operations; and encouraging the use of patient safety strategies outlined in the National Action Plan by the National Steering Committee for Patient Safety ([Safer Together: A National Action Plan to Advance Patient Safety | Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality \(ahrq.gov\)](#)).

"Persistent, Distressing Psychotic-like Experiences Associated with Impairment in Youth": In this NIMH-funded study, researchers examined the association between distressing and persistent psychotic-like experiences in youth and important risk factors for psychopathology. The study findings highlight the need for early intervention for youth who report these experiences. ([NIMH » Persistent, Distressing Psychotic-like Experiences Associated with Impairment in Youth \(nih.gov\)](#))

"Disruptive Behavior and DMDD": See information from MD BHIPP's recent Resilience Break and other archived events at [BHIPP Resilience Breaks \(mdbhipp.org\)](#).

"Still in Uncertain Times; Still Facing Hunger": A fact sheet ([uncertain-times-factsheet_nov2021.pdf \(squarespace.com\)](#)) from Rapid Assessment of Pandemic Impact on Development-Early Childhood (RAPID-EC) revisits findings on food insecurity from their national survey of households with children under 6. Almost a year later, many American families are still struggling to afford food. The fact sheet details demographic risk factors and the impact of hunger on emotional well-being. RAPID-EC is an ongoing national survey of households with children ages 0–5 designed to gather essential information on the needs, health promoting behaviors, and well-being of children and their families during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Advancing Agendas and Routing Relief: The Alliance for Early Success 50-State Progress Report on Early Childhood Policy": In this report, you'll see the immediate policy wins states were able to achieve – as well as the evolution and trajectory of each state's early childhood policy climate. ([ProgressReport20211205.05f.pdf \(buildinitiative.org\)](#))

Job Postings – FMI, <https://www.mdaap.org/job-opportunities/>

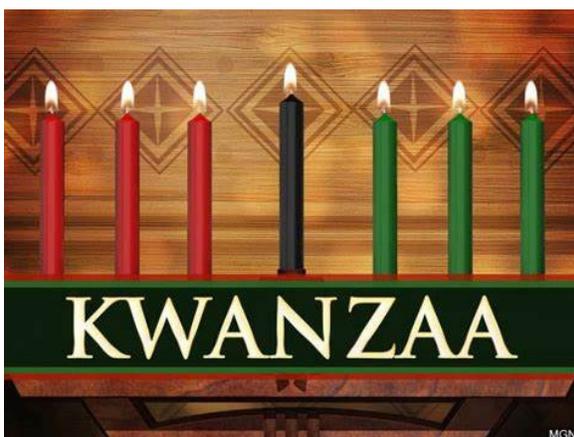
Pediatrician Needed – Baltimore City, Maryland (10/25/21)

Pediatrician Position available at well established Pediatric practice in Baltimore City close to County inside Hospital compound with plenty of parking spaces. Looking for a motivated Team player, Female Pediatrician who is willing to learn from others and adapt to the current changing environment of a private medical practice. Candidate should be BE/ BC, Offering Part-Time or Half-Time 30hrs per week position during first year. Decent call schedule 1 is to 4 or 5 weekends sharing with other Pediatric Practice. Competitive Salary. Clinic Hours: 8 Am to 4:30 Pm, Clinic opens Only Week days. Offering full benefits for those working 30 hrs per week including 401(k) with profit-sharing. Potential to become a partner in three years. Please send CV to Pediatrics22021@gmail.com, Attention: Chan Aung, MD., FAAP. Director of Pediatric & Adolescent Medical Practice. Phone: 443-444-5709.

Pediatrician Wanted to join Main Street Pediatrics, Towson, Maryland (10/26/21)

Main Street Pediatrics is a private Pediatric practice consisting of 12 Board Certified/Board Eligible Pediatricians in two locations- Towson and Owings Mills- in suburban Baltimore, Maryland. The Towson physicians are looking for a new Pediatrician to join them. They are a dedicated, caring group that provides excellent, compassionate care to their patients whose age range from premature infants to graduating college students. They believe in providing comprehensive care with special emphasis on the psychosocial needs of all their children and their families. Their group fosters collaboration between all members including those new to practice as well as those with over 30 years of practice. There are opportunities to teach clinical skills to Johns Hopkins University medical students as well as precepting Pediatric residents. The typical work week is 4.5 days with equal rotation of on call night and weekends (every 7th weekend). They are looking for someone who plans to continue in the area and may be interested in becoming a future partner of the group. Their website is www.mainstreetpeds.com. If interested, please contact Dr. Debbie Bittar at debbiebittar@gmail.com.

STAY WELL.



Best,

Loretta I. Hoepfner, MSOD

Pronouns: She/Her/Hers

Executive Director

Maryland Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics

71 Years of Caring for Children - 1950-2021

MDAAP's Mission: "To support and encourage pediatricians in the promotion of optimal health for all of Maryland's children and adolescents."

Email: loretta@mdaap.org

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Donations to the MDAAP Foundation can be made at: https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=FE3DCXHJ8KXK6

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