



# Recruiting MDAAP Practices for Suicide Prevention Project

## Addressing Barriers to Disease Prevention in Children

The Maryland Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics is has received a grant from National AAP funded by the Drs. Shirley & Irvin Whiteman Endowment for initiatives that address barriers to disease prevention in children with complex health care needs.

**Recruitment Goal: By Friday, July 8, 2022, recruit ten (10) MDAAP practices – where each practice would identify five (5) pediatric patients and their parents/guardians to participate in this project.** We are looking for diverse MDAAP pediatric practices to recruit parents/guardians, pre-teens, and teens across the state to assist in the creation of suicide prevention educational campaign, including written materials and short videos to educate parents/guardians, pre-teens, and teens during well-child visits:

- This education would include how parents/guardians can improve communications about mental health with their pre-teens and teens; in particular, it would help parents/guardians identify risk of suicide.
- Pre-teen- and teen- focused education would include how youth can better express their mental health concerns and what to do if they have concerns about a friend’s mental health. *A particular focus will be on children and adolescents with complex health needs (including those with neurodevelopmental disabilities) who are at risk for mental health co-morbidities, including suicidal thoughts and behaviors.*

<b>TIMELINE</b>	June-July 2022	MDAAP recruit diverse MDAAP practices to identify parents/guardians, pre-teens, teens to be co-creators of educational resources.
	August-September 2022	MDAAP co-create educational resources (in English and Spanish) with parents/guardians, pre-teens, and teens.
	October-December 2022	MDAAP share educational resources to MDAAP participating practices – and survey parents/guardians, pre-teens, teens regarding usefulness of written materials and videos
	January-February 2023	MDAAP survey participating practices regarding: ease of implementation; value and quality of educational content; and long-term sustainability of resources.
	March 2023	MDAAP conduct data analysis, produce report of findings and recommendations, and share with MDAAP participating practices.

<p><b>Benefits For Participating Practices</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Educational materials (written materials and videos) for use with well-child visits</li> <li>• Incentive for participating practice</li> </ul>	<p><b>Benefits For Your Patients and Parents/Guardians</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Helping patients and families address suicidal thoughts and behaviors</li> <li>• Participation in video production</li> <li>• Incentive for patients and families</li> <li>• Community Service hours</li> </ul>
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This project is led by the MDAAP Mental Health Committee Co-Chairs Dr. Suzanne Rybczynski ([rybczynski@kennedykrieger.org](mailto:rybczynski@kennedykrieger.org)) and Dr. Kristi Machemer ([kmachemermd@gmail.com](mailto:kmachemermd@gmail.com)).

For more information and to sign-up as a recruiting MDAAP practice in this project, contact Loretta I. Hoepfner, MDAAP Executive Director at [loretta@mdaap.org](mailto:loretta@mdaap.org) or 410-878-9702.