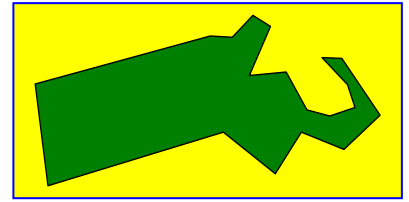


American Academy of Pediatrics



DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN™

MASSACHUSETTS CHAPTER FACTS.....

I already belong to the National AAP, why should I become a member of the Massachusetts Chapter?

Advocacy

- Increase knowledge of and participation in legislative and advocacy activities on the local level.
- Increase involvement in the legislative arena to positively influence the quality of pediatric practice and the welfare of children in Massachusetts.
- Build coalitions with other organizations working toward improving children's health and well-being.
- Promote and communicate the interests and concerns of Massachusetts' pediatricians in the Chapter and AAP.

Leadership

- Lead and participate in chapter committees of particular interest to members.

Networking

- Network with other pediatricians with similar interests.
- Represent chapter members on national AAP committees.

Education

- Receive the chapter newsletter, the *Forum*, and other information pertinent to the business of pediatrics via the Chapter listserv.
- Attend local PREP courses and Continuing Medical Education meetings sponsored by the Chapter.
- Attend discounted CME programs and receive CME category 1 credits for MCAAP sponsored CME course.
- Eligible to apply for grants to help fund international electives.

What has your Chapter done lately?

- Identified "Investment in Early Childhood" as a priority that will be reflected in all Chapter activities.
- Filed legislation that would create a fund to ensure that all children in Massachusetts receive the recommended immunizations.
- Helped to found a coalition of healthcare associations and institutions to develop recommendations for the regulation of Limited Based clinics in the state.
- Restructured the Pediatric Council to better streamline the overall process. The Pediatric Council consists of medical directors from the state's major insurers and members of Chapter leadership. The Council meets regularly to discuss pediatric health care policy and reimbursement.
- Expanded the Children's Mental Health Task Force (CMHTF) which is comprised of pediatric professionals from psychiatry, parent advocacy leagues, Department of Mental Health, Department of Social Services, Department of Education, health insurance plans, and other agencies concerned with addressing mental health issues that affect children. This Task Force continues to vigorously advocate for children with mental health issues.
- Continued Advocacy for a state-wide immunization initiative which has led to dramatic increases in rates of childhood immunization across all age groups throughout the state. The Initiative educates pediatricians, parents, and school nursing personnel which has resulted in a marked decrease in missed opportunities to immunize. These efforts have resulted in increased awareness among pediatricians and the public about the importance of immunizations, recent advances in immunizations, and the rapidly changing childhood immunization schedules. Advocated to return Massachusetts to a universal state. In 2007, the Chapter wrote a vaccine policy paper on the value of restoring the state to universal status. Many local organizations have endorsed the paper.
- Advocated for the expansion of FaCES (Foster Children Evaluation Services) which is a pilot project that has successfully provided screenings and comprehensive evaluations for all recently placed children from birth to 11 years of age.
- Established a residents' committee and supported a residents' lobby day at the state capitol. The Chapter has over 20 committees that are actively working to improve access to health care for children and their families. These committees are listed on the Chapter's web site at www.mcaap.org.
- Sponsored the Edward Penn Memorial Lecture, a CME program featuring a renowned speaker covering a timely topic of interest to pediatricians.

Annual Chapter Dues:

Voting Fellows \$135 Candidate Fellows \$75 Post Resident Fellows \$25 Residents \$0

Whom do I contact?

Contact Executive Director Cathleen Haggerty at 781/895-9852 or chaggerty@mms.org

You can visit the Massachusetts Chapter's Web page at www.mcaap.org.