

District VII Resident Newsletter



Volume 2, Issue 1



December 2007- January 2008

District VII Takes Over San Francisco!



Kristin, Shruti, Carolyn and Lucy from Baylor College of Medicine at the NCE Welcome Reception. Aloha!

Pediatricians from around the country were thoroughly enjoying the beautiful Fall weather in San Francisco while experiencing all that the American Academy of Pediatrics had to offer at the 2007 National Conference and Exhibition!

The Resident Section kicked off the NCE with a reception honoring the Dyson Initiative winners. Then the group headed over to the official welcome reception/tiki party.

Saturday, the Resident Section had a its assem-

bly featuring a keynote address by Dr. Fernando Stein from Baylor/ Texas Children's Progressive Care Unit. Our section's advocacy project on mental health was launched. (Contact your program delegate for more info!)

We also had a chance to spend time together as a district at lunch. The program delegates discussed a variety of issues including the barriers to resident advocacy projects. Together, the dis-

Lori, Kathleen, and Elisabeth from Texas Tech Lubbock with the Giants Mascot at the AAP Night at the Ballpark

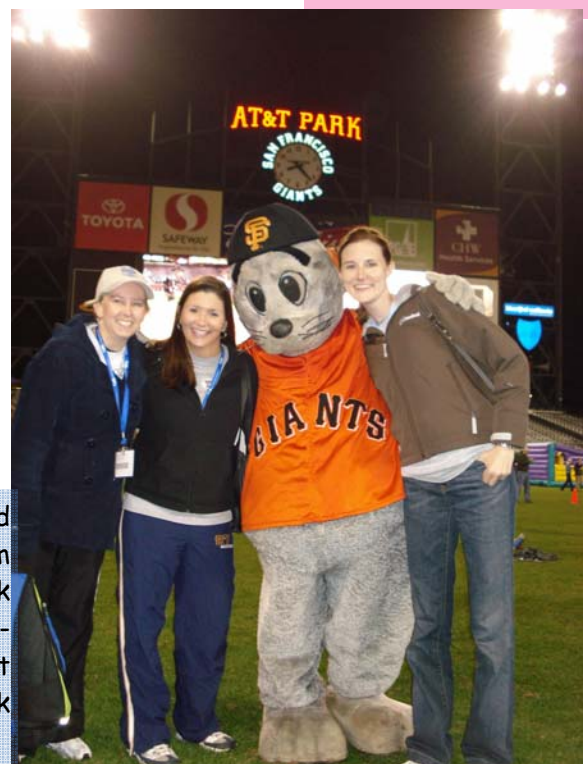
trict wrote 3 fabulous resolutions on educational loan deferment, an electronic pediatric board exam, and reduced fees for residents for the NCE. All 3 resolutions passed through the Resident Section (to applause!) and then were later voted amongst the 10 best from the section! They will be sent to the Annual Leadership Forum in March.

Next year's NCE will be in Boston October 11-14!

Make plans to attend!

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Spotlight on...

Advocacy Efforts at Baylor College of Medicine

By Lucy Marquez, PL 3
Baylor Program Delegate

The Baylor Resident Advocacy Group is currently working on a number of projects.

We have started a multifaceted "Campaign against Childhood Obesity" for which we have drafted a 5 point position paper including our recommendations on nutrition education, school meal/ PE requirements, and healthier fast food options, and hope to work with our community leaders to enact change within the Houston area.

Another aspect of this initiative is to involve residents, students, and patients through education and direct contact with their representatives (through letter writing and follow up meetings).

We are also sponsoring a "Healthy Mind and Body" art, prose, and poetry competition at area middle schools which includes seminars on nutrition, exercise, and self-esteem. A traveling exhibit of winning entries will visit each participating school and will serve as peer education on these topics.

We are creating a resource guide for families of patients at Ben Taub General Hospital (our county hospital). This resource guide will include information on dental services, CPR classes, family counseling options, Medicaid/ CHIP/ Gold Card, WIC, getting a job, smoking cessation, literacy/ English classes, parenting classes, child care options, domestic violence resources, mental health resources, pediatric rehab services, community health centers, YMCAs,

nutrition resources, and information on rights for child support and school testing. The guide will also be handed out to all residents to facilitate their ability to advocate for their patients.

In October the Advocacy Group created a resident voters guide to keep residents updated and involved in the local elections.

Every December, the advocacy group also has an adopt-a-family program. This year we are 'adopting' three families who have at least one child for whom we have provided medical care. We will be providing each family with toys, clothing, shoes, and any other particular items the families have requested. It is a very neat program!

Each district newsletter will spotlight different program's advocacy efforts or a special event. If you'd like to share what is going on at your program, drop us an email!

SCHIP Update

One of the highest advocacy priorities for the Academy, reauthorization of the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) drew national attention for most of 2007. Despite broad bipartisan support, Congress failed to enact a strong and timely SCHIP reauthorization before the end of their congressional session following two presidential vetoes. A third veto override vote is expected in Congress the week of January 23.

Members of the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate were able to pass legislation to extend SCHIP through March 2009. The legislation in-

cludes sufficient funding to maintain current SCHIP enrollment levels and at least temporarily protect the children who rely on the program for their health care coverage.

Despite requests by the Academy and other child health organizations, 40 senators, and the National Governor's Association, the extension legislation does not address an August 17th letter from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to state directors that limits states' flexibility to extend SCHIP eligibility above 250% of the federal poverty level. Without further congressional or legal action, 23 states will have to

scale back their current programs or forego their plans to extend SCHIP to additional uninsured children. As a result, many children will either lose their existing health care coverage or continue to go without insurance.

The president is expected to sign the SCHIP extension legislation, which also delays a Medicare Part B payment cut for physicians until July 2008.

If you have questions about the SCHIP legislation and continuing efforts, contact Bob Hall in the AAP Department of Federal Affairs at 800-336-5475, ext. 3309 or rhall@aap.org.





Resident Initiative Fund

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) has created a grant fund that will allow residents to initiate projects/ programs in their community to improve the health of children.

This funding will enable residents to educate fellow residents and/or parents on a specific aspect of one of the Academy's national child health priorities (Special Health Care Needs – Foster

Care, Oral Health, Disaster Preparedness, Mental Health, Obesity, and Immunizations).

The Resident Initiative Fund will offer twenty-five grants of up to \$1000 each per resident project

Visit http://www.aap.org/sections/ypn/r/funding_awards/res_initiative.html for more information.

Need Based Scholarships Available!

Are you a pediatric resident with financial need?

The American Academy of Pediatrics offers financial need-based scholarships designed to help allay financial difficulties for residents in good academic standing.

Each application will be reviewed carefully, and a moderate number of scholarships varying from \$1,000 to \$5,000 will be granted to the most deserving interns and residents. This past year, the Academy received 157 applications from residents, 58 of who were awarded scholarships.

Qualifications: the applicant must be a pediatric resident in

a training program (categorical or combined) and have a definite commitment for another year of residency or chief residency (not fellowship) in a pediatric program accredited by the Residency Review Committee. Please see application below for a complete list of accredited programs.

The applicant must also have a substantial need for financial assistance.

All completed applications, which include the Resident Scholarship Application Form and the Program Director's Recommendation Form, must be submitted by February 29, 2008.

Learn the latest AAP news of interest to the residents!
(Including where to find info on opportunities for funding— travel, research, scholarships)

www.aap.org/ypn/r/whats_new



Guilty Pleasures

The following are just some of the TV shows the program delegates of District VII consider their "Guilty Pleasures"

What are yours?



MUSIC FROM AND INSPIRED BY
DESPERATE HOUSEWIVES





Questions? Comments? Concerns? Contact Us



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Life on the Web gets a little easier...

The AAP is proud to announce the launch of a new database management system, netFORUM. This new system brings many benefits to our members and customers, including easier access to account information and simplified navigation between AAP Web sites. For example, log in once and you will be able to jump between sites such as the newly redesigned AAP Bookstore, AAP Member Center, PediaLink®, and dues payment without having to reenter your password.

**Call for Proposals
 November 1, 2007—January 31, 2008**

CATCH Vision

The vision of CATCH is that every child in every community has a medical home and other needed services to reach optimal health and well-being.

Resident CATCH Liaisons

Tara Lemoine, DO	National Liaisons
Dipesh Navsaria, MD, MPH	
Scott Welak, MD	District I
Abigail Watson, MD	District II
Katie Flecker, MD	District III
Arthi Krishnan, MD	District IV
Emily Willen, MD	District V
Shelby Joseph, MD	District VI
Eunice Blackmon, MD	District VII
Open	District VIII
Christine Yeh, MD	District IX
Sonia Rosario, MD	District X

CATCH Program

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 E-mail: catch@aap.org

The American Academy of Pediatrics is announcing a new cycle of the CATCH Resident Funds program. The program supports pediatric residents in the planning of community-based child health initiatives. Grants of up to \$3,000 are awarded twice each year on a competitive basis for pediatric residents to address the needs of children in their communities. CATCH Resident Funds grant projects must include planning activities and allows for minimal implementation activities. Priority will be given to projects serving communities with the greatest demonstrated health care access needs and health disparities. Strong collaborative community partnerships and future sustainability of the project are encouraged.

Apply Now!

The grant cycle starts November 1, 2007, with an application deadline of January 31, 2008. To begin an application go to <http://www.aap.org/catch/funds/> and enter your AAP ID number and password. *Only applications submitted online will be considered for funding.*

Please visit <http://www.aap.org/catch/residentgrants.htm> for more information on the cycle or visit the Grants/Project Database at <http://www.aap.org/commpeds/grantsdatabase/grantsdb.cfm> for information on past CATCH resident funded projects.

For additional information and technical assistance, contact your District Resident Liaison, AAP Chapter CATCH Facilitator or Holly Noteboom Griffin, CATCH Program Coordinator, by e-mail at hnoteboom@aap.org, or phone at 800/433-9016, ext 4916.

