



# American Academy of Pediatrics Resident Section- District I

Spring 2006 Newsletter

CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, Military East, VT, NB- Atlantic Provinces, Quebec

## In This Issue

- Feature Article: Resident Unions in Canada
- Advocacy Opportunities
- Grant Opportunities
- Leadership Opportunities
- Survey Says...
- Attention all Chiefs



## Resident Unions, A Canadian Perspective

District I is one of the few AAP districts with the benefit of an international perspective. Each year, Canadian and American interns and residents link interests and share ideas at the NCE. This year, at the District I lunch, unionization was the topic of interest spurred by many proposed resolutions addressing resident rights. Here is what Dr. Herbert Brill, of the Canadian Pediatric Resident Section, attending the District I forum had to say:

In Canada, all residents are members of provincial housestaff organizations (PHO's). The PHO's may be small (e.g. PARIM--Professional Association of Residents and Interns of Manitoba with 350 members) or large (e.g. PAIRO--Professional Association of Interns and Residents of Ontario with 3000 members at 7 academic sites). This brief synopsis summarizes the rise of PHO's in Canada and what they do for residents.

Most PHO's were formed in the 1970's. For the most part, the PHO's were created to provide residents with representation in negotiations with employers. In most of Canada, the hospitals are the employers. In Quebec, the government employs residents directly. Before the PHO's, residents had no formal contract or rights and were at the mercy of their programs. The PHO's were all created by intrepid residents who saw a need for formal representation.

PHO's function like unions in some ways, and associations in others. As unions, they negotiate contracts on behalf of residents (with the exception of Manitoba, Newfoundland, and Saskatchewan, who outsource this activity to their provincial medical associations), enforce contracts, grieve violations, and collect dues from members. Dues range from 1.25-2% of salary depending on the province, compared to an average 3-4% for other Canadian unions. As associations, the PHO's focus on social functions and services for their members. For example, PAIRO has created a 24-hour help line for residents and family members in distress. They recently picked the Canadian Cancer Society as their charity and encourage residents to plan activities to raise money for them. They also have a social budget for each academic center where local residents spend the funds as they see fit.

## Links

AAP: [www.aap.org](http://www.aap.org)

AAP Resident Section:  
[www.aap.org/sections/resident/](http://www.aap.org/sections/resident/)

Pedialink: [www.pedialink.org](http://www.pedialink.org)

The contracts that the PHO's sign regulate wages, benefits, call responsibilities, meal allowances, and deal with issues important to residents such as intimidation, abuse, and call room requirements. All residents in Canada now have call responsibilities limited to a maximum of 1 in 4 in-house and 1 in 3 home call. Residents are to be excused post call by 12 and even earlier for intensive care call. Emergency shifts are limited to 60 hours per week. All residents are paid equally. Most contracts include drug and dental benefits, along with disability and life insurance plans.

The larger PHO's have also been involved in policy creation and political lobbying. On the provincial level, PHO's are recognized for their leadership in dealing with the physician shortage, primary care reform, and the encroachment of private health care. The PHO's have a better relationship and standing with government and other community organizations compared to Provincial Medical Associations, as they are seen as being more interested in common welfare than restricted to physicians' contractual objectives. Nationally, the PHO's (with the exception of Quebec) are members of the Canadian Association of Interns and Residents (CAIR), which is primarily concerned with policy issues and resident well-being.

If you would like more information about Canadian Residency Organizations, check out the CAIR website at [www.cair.ca](http://www.cair.ca). There are links to all PHO's, including PAIRO at [www.pairo.org](http://www.pairo.org). The PAIRO website contains a copy of the latest contract with the hospital association, along with a description of services and activities. Please contact Dr. Herbert Brill or myself for further discussion opportunities.

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## Advocacy Opportunities

- The 2006 **Child Abuse Prevention** Web site contains resources for communities to help parents understand and meet their children's needs and protect them from harm. The site features a database titled "What Works to Promote Safe Children and Healthy Families", which contains information on promising practices and innovative approaches to promote safe and healthy families. The Web site also includes the 2006 Community Resource Packet in both English and Spanish. The packet provides practical information on how individuals, organizations, and communities can support and strengthen families. A corresponding poster is included in each packet.  
<http://nccanch.acf.hhs.gov/topics/prevention/index.cfm>



## Dates

*Infectious Disease,  
NCE Travel Grant application*  
**June 30, 2006**

*CATCH grant application*  
**July 14, 2006**

*Anne E. Dyson Child Advocacy*  
**August 4, 2006**

AAP National Conference and  
Exhibition  
Atlanta, Georgia  
**Oct 7-10 2006**

Resident Section Annual  
Assembly "Meeting the Needs  
of Children and Adolescents"  
**Saturday, Oct 7 2006**  
**07:30-4:00 p.m.**

- The new edition of "**Knowledge Path: Oral Health and Children and Adolescents**" is an electronic guide to recent, high-quality resources that analyze data, describe effective programs, and report on policy and research aimed at improving access to and the quality of oral health for children and adolescents. The knowledge path includes information on (and links to) web sites and electronic publications; journal articles; books, reports, and other print publications; databases; and discussion groups and electronic newsletters. It is intended for use by health professionals, program administrators, educators, policymakers, and others who are interested in obtaining timely information on oral health. A separate section contains links to resources for families.  
[http://www.mchlibrary.info/KnowledgePaths/kp\\_oralhealth.html](http://www.mchlibrary.info/KnowledgePaths/kp_oralhealth.html).
- Great news! The American Beverage Association has agreed to follow guidelines from the Alliance for a Healthier Generation to cap the number of calories available in beverages in schools at 100 calories per container in 74% of schools in 2008-2009. Great news for the AAP Soft Drink Campaign! Contact us to continue grass roots efforts in your area.

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## Grant Opportunities

### International Elective Travel Grants for Pediatric Residents

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) has set aside several \$500 grants to be awarded in 2006 to categorical or combined-training pediatric residents who wish to complete a clinical pediatric elective in the developing world during residency. Grants are awarded solely on the basis of the application and the accompanying letter from the applicant's program director. The selection committee is composed of members from the AAP Section on International Child Health and the Resident Section. Applications will be available this summer on the Resident Section page of the AAP Web site. Please go to [www.aap.org/resident](http://www.aap.org/resident). **The deadline for applications is November 17, 2006.**

### CATCH Program of the American Academy of Pediatrics

Community Access to Child Health grants of up to \$3,000 are available for pediatric residents twice a year through the AAP. In the last cycle, 34 pediatric residents submitted proposals and 21 were awarded funding. Deadline for the next application cycle begins is **July 14, 2006**. This program is for pediatric residents who will work with local communities to ensure that all children have medical homes

## Contact Us

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and access to any needed health care services. To access the online application, guidelines, and technical assistance resources, or to find more information about the CATCH Resident Funds Program, please visit [www.aap.org/catch/residentgrants.htm](http://www.aap.org/catch/residentgrants.htm), contact your AAP resident CATCH liaison, e-mail [catch@aap.org](mailto:catch@aap.org), or call 800/433-9016, ext 7085.

### **Anne E. Dyson Child Advocacy Award**

Up to 3 projects will be selected to receive an Anne E. Dyson Child Advocacy Award at the 2006 Resident Section Assembly. To access the online application, please go to [www.aap.org/resident](http://www.aap.org/resident). Benefits of selection include: \$300 in funds to advance the winning projects' goals, travel and lodging expenses (2 nights) for up to 2 residents per project to the 2006 NCE, an opportunity to attend the Resident and Medical Student Reception and Poster Display, presentation of the advocacy award plaque during the Resident Section Annual Assembly, press release and recognition in *AAP News*, *Resident Report*, and state chapter Newsletters. Deadline is August 4, 2006.

### **AAP Section on Infectious Diseases Travel Grant**

Infectious Disease Fellows and interested Residents are encouraged to apply for travel grants to attend the Section on Infectious Diseases Section Program at the 2006 AAP NCE **October 8, 1:15 – 3:30pm**. Interested individuals may nominate themselves or be nominated by their program or fellowship director before **June 30, 2006**. Six travel grant recipients will be selected by lottery and will be notified by July 29, 2006. Recipients will receive \$1,200 to cover airfare, registration, and two days hotel, meals, and incidentals to attend the AAP National Convention and Exhibition. Contact Alison Siwek at 847/434-7939.

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## **National Conference and Exhibition 2006 Atlanta, Georgia October 7-10, 2006**

07:30 -4:00 p.m. Keynote speaker and discussion with the Vice Chair assuming Chair position. Meet with resident district members over lunch. Develop resolutions, vote for district resident leadership and breakout sessions in the afternoon.

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## **Leadership Opportunities**

State chapter liaisons have been added to the leadership of the Resident Section with the goal of increasing communication between chapters and residency programs. The chapter liaisons are responsible for updating the chapter on all resident happenings and update residents on all chapter activities and meetings. Congratulations to:

**Anna Hankins, MD** of NH (anna.c.hankins@hitchcock.org)

**Devon Kuehn, MD** of Military East

(devon.kuehn@na.amedd.army.mil)

**Gloria Oramasionwu, MD** of MA

(gloria.oramasionwu@childrens.harvard.edu)

**Katherine Zuckerman, MD** of MA (kzuckerman@partners.org)

**Jenny Hoelter, MD** of VT (jenny.hoelter@vtmednet.org)

**Tamara Todd, MD** of ME (toddt@mmc.org)

**Kristin Burns, MD** of RI (kristinburns@alum.wellesley.edu)

**Mary Brown, MD** of CT (mmbrown@ccmckids.org)

Also, Congratulations to AAP Resident Liaisons:

**Alex Holston, MD** SOAPM Liaison

**Herbert Bonifacio, MD** SOAH Liaison

**Herbert Brill, MD** Canadian Pediatric Society Resident Section

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## Survey Says....

AAP requests information from residents regarding barriers to NCE attendance. Please forward to your residents and reply to [jchanowell@aap.net](mailto:jchanowell@aap.net).

Name:

District:

Program:

- 1) Have you ever attended an AAP NCE meeting?
- 2) Have you ever attended an AAP district meeting?
- 3) Have you ever attended an AAP state chapter meeting?
- 4) Are you aware that the AAP provides \$300 travel grants to program delegates to attend the NCE?
- 5) If you did attend NCE, did you use your CME time, vacation time, or other time?
- 6) Did your program help provide the remainder of the funding?
- 7) If not, who provided the remainder of the funding (state chapter, district, your pocket, etc)?
- 8) What are the other barriers to your attendance at meetings (besides time and money)?

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## Attention Chief Residents....

Are you interested in joining an online community of pediatric chief residents to share ideas and experiences, solicit suggestions and solutions, and interact with colleagues from around the country? If so, please send e-mail to [peds\\_chiefs-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:peds_chiefs-subscribe@yahoogroups.com) with your name, position, and current training program. This list is open to pediatric chief residents, both current and future. Messages can be received individually, as daily digests, or read online at the Web site. Please contact [peds\\_chiefs-owner@yahoogroups.com](mailto:peds_chiefs-owner@yahoogroups.com) with any questions.

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## Contact Us:

Please contact us with any comments, questions or concerns you might have regarding the newsletter or any other resident issues!

### **District I Coordinator**

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