

Resident Section District 1 Winter Newsletter

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

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Program Highlights

Scott Welak, from Connecticut Children's Medical Center, was selected as the District 1 Resident CATCH grant liaison. CATCH is short for Community Access to Child Health, a grant program sponsored by the AAP to ensure children have a medical home. More information can be found below, online at <http://www.aap.org/catch/index.html> or by emailing Scott directly at swelak@ccmckids.org.

Brown University held a Resident Advocacy Workshop at the Rhode Island State House on Jan 22nd. "About 20 residents met with state legislators and politically-active local pediatricians to learn how to go about making legislative advocacy a part of their careers. It was very well received and is a nice stepping stone for expansion of

topics for next year and building new relationships with legislators in Rhode Island. After the session, many residents expressed interest in getting involved in the myriad of issues that the local Rhode Island AAP chapter is working on in the legislative arena." - writes **Kristin Burns**, who serves as Brown's Program Delegate.

Wil Yeung, a resident from Brown was awarded a CATCH grant this year to explore the barriers that children with chronic illness face at school.

Aware of something happening in your program; either an advocacy project, a new way of doing residency training or just a concern that you would like ad-

ressed? Feel free to email us or your program delegate. On the last page you will find our most recent program delegate list. The list is constantly changing, so if you are not on it and should be, please let us know. If you are a program delegate and want to know more about your position, go to http://www.aap.org/sections/ypn/r/resident/delegate_info.html.

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Advocacy

Within the AAP Resident Section there is an advocacy subcommittee. Each year we pick an advocacy issue to focus on. In 2006, our project was to provide residents a tool kit on how to become an **effective advocate** along with a presentation on the **Deficit Reduction Act**. In 2005, the advocacy project was a Soft Drink Letter Campaign, and this May, the American Beverage Association announced all major beverage manufacturers would begin to remove soda from public schools. If you want to get involved, talk to your program

delegate.

If you have a great idea and want to start your own **advocacy project** the AAP can help. Please visit http://www.aap.org/sections/ypn/r/advocacy/advocacy_project.html to get started. Or you can talk to your program delegate.

Each year at the National Conference the Resident Section creates resolutions. Resolutions are initiatives which the resident section presents to the Academy as possible advocacy projects, such as seat belts on school buses or evaluation of

RRC requirements. If you have any ideas you can always bring them to the National Conference in the Fall or use your Program Delegate to represent your ideas. This year, two of the six resolutions being carried forward by the Resident Section were from residents in District 1.

In addition to the resident section, your State and Chapter will have current advocacy projects. If you are interested in getting involved, please go to <http://www.aap.org/advocacy/stgov.htm>

Grants and Scholarships

The AAP loves to support residents and their initiatives toward the improvement of health care for children. The following is a list of great opportunities to obtain money from the AAP to support your ideas and goals.

Do you have a great research idea? **Research Grants** - In an effort to enhance the development of research skills among physicians in training, the American Academy of Pediatrics administers the Resident Research Grant Program. Grant applications require a statement of purpose, a research plan, and a proposed budget. Applicants must identify a project advisor who has an appropriate research background. Grants of up to \$2,000 will be available. *The application deadline is February 28, 2007.* Please go to <https://www.aap.org/sections/ypn/r/research2007-view.htm> for more information.

Have an idea about how to support the children in your community? Consider the **CATCH Grants** - Community Access To Child Health (CATCH) Planning Funds program provides grants up to \$3,000 for residents to develop innovative, community-based initiatives that increase children's access to medical homes or to specific health

services not otherwise available. Planning project activities must lead to sustainable, community-based child health initiatives that increase access to care, especially for underserved children, and address health disparities among children. The deadline was January 31, 2007, but the next grant cycle will be opening this summer. If you are interested please go to: <http://www.aap.org/catch/index.html>. The website has a detailed explanation of how to submit a grant and offers assistance for grant writing.

Want to attend this year's National Conference for free? The resident section has a successful new tradition at the National Conference & Exhibition (NCE) - **Clinical Case Presentations**. Residents submit abstracts of interesting cases they have come across in their training through the Academy's online abstract submission process. The abstracts are judged by a committee of resident leaders, and the top ten authors are awarded free registration for the conference. The abstracts are presented at a poster session along with the winners of the Resident Research Grant

Program during the NCE Resident Section reception. Applications are due in April, more information can be found on http://www.aap.org/sections/ypn/r/funding_awards/clinical_case_pres.html.

Want to experience international medicine, but worried you cannot afford it? Look in to the **International Travel Grants**. The AAP has set aside ten (10) five-hundred dollar (\$500.00) grants to be awarded to categorical pediatric or combined-training pediatric residents who wish to complete a clinical pediatric elective in the developing world during residency. The deadlines for this application are usually in September, so stay tuned.

Need assistance paying of loans from medical school? Consider the **Resident Scholarship Program** - The American Academy of Pediatrics Resident Scholarship Program is specifically designed to help allay financial difficulties for residents in good academic standing. The Academy grants annually a number of scholarships varying from \$1,000 to \$5,000. Please go to <https://www.aap.org/sections/ypn/r/scholarship2007-view.htm> for more information.



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*Contemplating research?
Interested in
International Medicine?
Want to attend the
2007 National
Conference and Exhibit
in San Francisco?*



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Member Benefits

Ever wonder what you are entitled to as a member of the AAP? Check out www.aap.org/member/memben.htm. You might be familiar with the publications and career opportunities, but look at the **personal benefits and privileges**. Did you know you can save on Geico auto insurance? Or that you can get discounted travel through the Academy's travel office?

Planning to start a new job or fellowship soon? The AAP offers a **free aap.net email address** that you can link directly to your personal or academic email account. Emails sent to an aap.net address are automatically forwarded. If people use your AAP.net address, there is never a need to send out your new address with each email account change. Simply update it online. More information can be found at: <http://www.aap.org/moc/aapnet/faq.cfm>.

Leadership Opportunities

The AAP provides residents with a forum for leadership roles. The leadership of the Resident Section consists of a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Secretary. The executive committee also consists of District Coordinators and Assistant District Coordinators from each of the ten districts. The section has over twenty liaisons to AAP Committees, other Sections, and outside organizations. A Program Delegate serves as the link between your residency program and the Resident Section leadership. Program delegates receive a stipend to attend the AAP National Conference each year in October. This year's conference is in San Francisco, CA. We are currently trying to ensure every program has a program delegate. If you are not sure if your program has a delegate and are interested, please email us.

Academics

Trying to **study for the Boards**? Visit www.pedialink.org. Pedialink serves as your online portal to annual PREP questions, content outlines, and free CME modules. You also have the option of completing your individual learning plan online.

AAP **policy and guidelines** can easily be accessed by <http://aappolicy.aappublications.org/>.

Career Planning

Looking for a job after graduation? Check out the listings at www.pedjobs.org. It is the official job-posting site of the AAP. The additional resources in the career resource center are helpful. They include articles on how to write a CV and tips to find that perfect job.

Program Delegates

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For up-to-date information on any of the items you just read, please visit us at the new Medical Student, Resident and Young Physician portal:

<http://www.aap.org/ypn/>