

AAP RESIDENT SECTION DISTRICT VIII NEWSLETTER

Winter 2005-2006

Hello District VIII!

I'm Kristina Toncray, your newly elected District VIII Resident Coordinator. I'll be serving as the "DC" until the national meeting (NCE) in Atlanta in October of 2006, along with Maggie Keane, the new Assistant District Coordinator. I'm new to the AAP as I'm currently an R1, but I'm excited to serve and am always happy to help. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions. I met many of you in DC at the 2005 NCE, and I look forward to meeting many more of you soon!

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Are you new to the AAP?

Do you need help with your CV? Funding for an international rotation? Info on how to lobby effectively? We can help!

The AAP resident section was formed in 1989 and includes medical students, residents, fellows. All are invited to attend resident sessions at the annual AAP National Conference and Exhibition, to be held this year on Atlanta (see below). We spend these sessions discussing issues pertaining to resident life as well as general pediatric health/wellness and advocacy.

There is a District Coordinator and a Assistant District Coordinator ("DC and ADC") for each of the AAP districts. The DC and ADC represent the residents at the District Meeting as well as are your primary resources for any questions you may have. District VIII is a large and diverse district that includes Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Uniformed Services West, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

AAP benefits

Where should you look???

ALWAYS START WITH OUR GREAT WEBPAGE! The AAP website itself can be hard to navigate, but the resident page is great. Look first for the powerpoint presentations with information about AAP structure and benefits. Go to www.aap.org/residents --> "About Us". These include wonderful information about benefits such as print/online access to publications (Pediatrics, AAP News, AAP Grand Rounds, the Red Book, and Pediatrics in Review) and information on participation in the resident section and AAP national committees, as well as a general overview of the AAP and resident section.

Pedialink update!

Pedialink has been upgraded! The new Resident Center, designed by residents and program directors, is an invaluable source of resources for residents. This year Pedialink is free for everyone, though next year AAP membership will increase in price from \$55 to \$85 annually in order to cover the costs of the new and improved site.

Go to www.pedialink.org to find info such as
-PREP questions to help prepare for the boards

- PDA medical resources
- info on how to create your "Individualized Learning Plan," or ILP, to which your program director/coordinator can be given access,

2005 NCE in Washington, DC

Thanks to those of you who were able to make it to the meeting at the 2005 NCE! We had a very productive district meeting, during which much of our discussion was about the concept of advocacy training during residency. If you have any thoughts on how to improve advocacy training for residents, such as something great that your program does, please let me know! I'll be working on putting together some resources for those of you that are interested.

By now you should have all received the **Program Delegate Orientation CD**—please let me know if you were a recipient of the travel grant (and thus an official delegate) and did not receive this, or if you'd like an additional copy.

And now we're all looking forward to the...

2006 NCE in Atlanta, Georgia!!

The 2006 AAP national conference (NCE, or National Conference and Exhibition), will be in Atlanta, Georgia October 7-10. Start asking for time off, and look for more info soon! Atlanta is a great city with wonderful restaurants, exciting nightlife, a unique history, and outstanding cultural opportunities. Look forward to over 350 educational events, as well as a career fair and fun tours.

Don't forget: Section/Council programs provide a great opportunity for discussion of clinical and/or research topics. Through April 14, you can submit your abstract online at <http://www.aap.org/profed/cfa.htm>

Opportunities

CATCH grants

CATCH, or Community Access To Child Health, grants fund pediatric residents working on community-based child health initiatives with up to \$3000. Go to <http://www.aap.org/catch/residentgrants.htm> for more information such as previous award winners, contact info for resident CATCH Liaisons, and the application. The deadline for this cycle (2 cycles per year) is **January 31, 2006**.

Resident research grants

There are 15 \$2000 grants available from the AAP Committee on Pediatric Research. Applications are available NOW and due **February 3, 2006**. If you do receive a grant, you're invited to present at the 2006 NCE poster session in Atlanta. Find the application online at <http://www.aap.org/sections/resident/resresearchgrant.htm>.

Scholarships

The AAP Resident Sections offers scholarships for residents in financial need. The scholarships range from \$1000 to \$5000 awards. This past year, 69 scholarships were awarded from among 166 applications. The deadline is **February 3, 2006**. Find info at <http://www.aap.org/sections/resident/resscholarship.htm>.

AAP Advocacy Training session for residents, February 2, 2006, Washington, DC.

The day includes a morning of advocacy training (including learning basic skills and discussing in-depth one child health legislative issue) and an afternoon of meeting with congressional offices to present an issue and put newly acquired advocacy skills to use. Contact me if interested for more info and further contacts.

2006 Legislative Conference, April 2-4, Washington, DC.

More than 1600 pediatricians have participated in the last 10 years in order to learn the techniques it takes to successfully work with federal and state legislatures. The conference is hosted by the AAP Committee on Federal Government Affairs and the Committee on State Government Affairs. You will get a chance to visit with members of Congress and/or their staff at the end of the the conference. Early registration is \$500 before February 3 (\$550 after February 3). Airfare, hotel, and outside meals are the responsibility of the attendee. If interested, contact Katy Matthews, AAP Department of Federal Affairs, at kmatthews@aap.org or 800-336-5475 ext 3014.

Other opportunities

AMA-RFS Legislative Awareness Intern Program, deadline **February 7, 2006**

<http://www.ama-assn.org/ama1/pub/upload/mm/16/internapp2.pdf>

Other AMA grants

<http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/category/5754.html>

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The AAP Resident Section, along with a grant from the Dyson Foundation, supports the Anne E. Dyson Child Advocacy Award to recognize pediatric residents who work to improve the health of children in their communities. The 2005 award winners were Dr. Jonathan Lee-Melk (The Rosa Vera Fund providing medical/social support to the children of Montero, Bolivia) and Dr. Paul Mullan (Camp Phoenix for pediatric burn survivors). Congratulations to both of them; thank you for your outstanding work and for inspiring the rest of us!

The CPTI (Community Pediatrics Training Initiative) is looking for stories about residents working with community partners. If interested in contributing information that will be shared in their newsletter and on the AAP website, please e-mail cpti@aap.org.