Joining the “Network”

The FPN is a virtual community of youth and families. Participation in the FPN provides the following:

- Virtual community of youth/families, with opportunities to share best practices and lessons learned about partnering with pediatricians
- Timely announcements and news about child health topics from the AAP
- Volunteer opportunities to add family perspectives to AAP programs and products, in partnership with pediatricians.

Network participation falls under 3 categories:

- AAP FAMILY ADVISOR: Family members, youth, and caregivers who are currently participating or have previously participated in a formal advisory capacity to an AAP national or chapter level effort.
- FAMILY PARTNER: Family members, youth, or caregivers who are currently or previously engaged with an AAP member or member practice on quality improvement, medical home, or local child health advancement activities, including members of family advisory committees within hospitals or practices; representatives from national, state, or regional family organizations; or those working on child health at the program/policy level.
- ADJUNCT PARTNER: Professionals who work with children, with special interest in family engagement.

To join, complete the brief application found at: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FPNApp

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee provides leadership and oversight to the FamilY Partnerships Network, and is made up of 8 family and youth/young adult representatives representing diverse interests and perspectives.

- Betsy Anderson, Co-chair
- Julie Beckett, Co-chair
- Hala Durrah
- Michael Hannon, PhD, LAC, NCC
- Tamela Milan, BA, MAPPA
- Greg Schell, M.Ed.
- Siddhant Srivastava
- Hadleigh Thompson

Pictured left to right: Tamela Milan, Julie Beckett, Dr Karen Remley, Hala Durrah, Betsy Anderson, Michael Hannon, Greg Schell, and Hadleigh Thompson

Contact Us

For additional information about the FamilY Partnerships Network (FPN) or to find out how to get involved, visit www.aap.org/fpn or contact AAP staff at dopp@aap.org.
The AAP has established the following core principles for family engagement, which help guide its work:

- The family is the principal caregiver and the center of strength and support for children.
- The AAP recognizes that perspectives and information provided by families, children, adolescents, and young adults are essential components of collaborative decision-making in the delivery of high-quality, safe, and compassionate care. Patients and their families are integral partners of the health care team.
- The AAP recognizes the value of diversity among patients, families, and pediatricians. The delivery of care within the context of appropriate physician knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of cultural and population distinctions take into account families’ experiences, beliefs, values, actions, customs, and unique health care needs.
- Recognizing, valuing, and building on the strengths of individual children and families and empowering them to discover and communicate their own strengths, build confidence, and partner in making choices and decisions about their health care is vital to optimal health and development.
- To promote improved patient, family, and physician experiences and outcomes, the AAP encourages and supports family engagement in its core competencies of education, practice, research, and advocacy.

The mission of the AAP Family Partnerships Network (FPN) is to represent family and youth perspectives, lead and facilitate youth and family engagement, and support ongoing youth and family involvement at the local, state and national level within the AAP and with other stakeholders. To accomplish this, the FPN will:

- **Facilitate and support** ongoing parent and youth involvement
- **Develop and promote** education on family-centered care and how to engage youth and family members in pediatric offices, hospitals, and national projects
- **Review and contribute** to policy and publications
- **Advocate** for the needs of patients and families in partnership with pediatricians
- **Serve** as a connecting point for family and youth-focused organizations and individuals working to improve child health

- Youth and families are actively involved in informing and leading education and advocacy efforts at the local, state and national level.
- Youth and families have the knowledge and resources they need to participate in and promote Academy efforts.
- The FPN continues to grow by engaging family-focused organizations, family members, and youth.
- Children, youth and families experience better health outcomes as a result of their partnership in pediatric health care.

- Development of AAP orientation materials for families
- Hosting the Family Partnerships Network Reception at the AAP Annual Conference
- Regular attendance at the AAP Board of Directors Meeting
- Offering educational opportunities for Family Partnerships Network members
- Review of targeted AAP policy statements and other AAP resources for pediatrician and consumer/family audiences
- Pilot project adding youth/family liaisons to 4 national AAP committees