The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Disaster Preparedness Advisory Council (DPAC) is pleased to provide you with information on its activities. For more information on the DPAC, including a list of members and liaisons, see the [AAP Disaster Preparedness Advisory Council](https://www.aap.org/disaster-preparedness/advisory-council/). Also see the [AAP DPAC Strategic Plan for Disaster Preparedness 2016-2020](https://www.aap.org/disaster-preparedness/advisory-council/strategic-plan/).

### Project Announcements

#### Centers for Disease Control and Prevention—Children’s Preparedness Unit

Collaboration during times of emergency is crucial for keeping people safe. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Children’s Preparedness Unit (CPU) outlines how public health agencies can help **protect children during emergencies** in a recent Public Health Matters blog post titled, “**Pediatrics and Public Health: Working Together to Prepare for Emergencies**”. Also see the newly updated [CDC CPU Web site](https://www.cdc.gov/epo/childrens-preparedness-unit/).

#### What’s the Latest with the Flu

Flu activity remains low in the US, but it is increasing. With flu being unpredictable, it’s not possible to say when, where, or how quickly flu activity might increase, how severe it will be, or which viruses will predominate. On November 7, 2017, the AAP collaborated with the CDC to conduct a CDC Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity (COCA) webinar, “**What’s New for the 2017-2018 Flu Season: Recommendations for Children**”. Slides and an archived presentation are available. Also visit the AAP [What’s the Latest with the Flu](https://www.aap.org/epo/flu/for-professionals/what-s-the-latest-flu) Web page for clinicians and the [AAP Red Book Online Influenza resource page](https://www.aap.org/epo/flu/for-professionals/what-s-the-latest-flu). Also, see the [What’s the Latest With the Flu? A Message for Caregivers & Teachers](https://www.aap.org/epo/flu/for-parents/) Web page.

#### Hurricane Relief Efforts

The AAP continues to work with AAP chapters, federal disaster response agencies, and non-governmental organizations to coordinate its response to the 2017 hurricanes during the long-term recovery period to ensure that children’s needs are taken care of. Members of the Academy can make contributions for disaster recovery through the [AAP Friends of Children Fund online](https://www.aap.org/foundations/childrens-fund/) or by calling 888-700-5378. While gifts to a specific disaster are appreciated, please consider general support. Not limiting your contribution to one disaster gives the AAP the flexibility to respond to the most urgent needs as they occur. Recently, AAP leadership provided $10,000 to the Puerto Rico AAP Chapter to support a needs assessment and other efforts to meet children’s needs. The AAP Disaster Preparedness Advisory Council has connected the Puerto Rico AAP Chapter leaders with various partner organizations to address pediatric needs. Efforts to connect with other chapters (such as those in Florida, Louisiana, and Texas) are ongoing. Also see the Hurricane Recovery [resource page](https://www.aap.org/epo/november-15-2017/). The archived CDC webinar titled “**Primary Care Providers’ Role in Supporting Children, Families, and Professional Self-Care Following Hurricanes and Other Disasters**” can be found [here](https://www.cdc.gov/epo/november-15-2017/). Please also see the CDC guidance titled “**Advice for Providers Treating Patients in or Recently Returned from Hurricane-Affected Areas, Including Puerto Rico and US Virgin Islands**”.

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AAP Urges Leaders to Protect Communities from Gun Violence
The AAP offers its deepest condolences to the victims and families who lost loved ones in the recent mass shooting in Sutherland Springs, Texas, and to the entire community as they grieve. The press release on the AAP response to this mass shooting by AAP President Fernando Stein, MD, FAAP, can be found here. Also see the AAP Promoting Adjustment and Helping Children Cope resource page and the AAP Talking to Children About Tragedies & Other News Events page.

Save The Date
➢ Upcoming AAP/CDC Webinar: Zika Virus, Still a Threat - Updates and Implementation
Date: Wednesday, December 13, 2017
Time: 4:00pm ET/3:00pm CT
Registration Link: https://cc.readytalk.com/r/1518u166tmfj&eom (registration is required)
The AAP and the CDC are collaborating to conduct the next webinar in the AAP Webinar Series on Zika Virus Syndrome titled, “Zika Virus, Still a Threat - Updates and Implementation”. During this webinar, presenters will discuss the newest guidance, “Update: Interim Guidance for the Diagnosis, Evaluation, and Management of Infants with Possible Congenital Zika Virus Infection - United States, October 2017”.