



Family Engagement Chapter Grant Announcement

The [Family Partnerships Network](#) is thrilled to announce 5 Family Engagement Chapter Grant award winners. Each awarded chapter will receive \$4,000 (funded by AAP Friends of Children Fund) to engage youth/families in a diverse set of activities. Below is a list of the chapters that were awarded, along with the title and description of their respective projects.

Florida – International Children’s Advisory Network (iCAN)

One core activity of the Florida Chapter of the AAP (FCAAP) is to educate Florida’s legislators about child health and welfare issues. FCAAP also educates pediatric practitioners, including pediatric residents, about the legislative process and how to effectively communicate with legislators. This program will engage families and youth in this process by teaching residents how to partner with those for whom they are advocating, and by teaching families and youth about the legislative process and how to work with their healthcare providers to ensure the implementation of fair healthcare laws. Families and youth involved in the iCAN KIDS Florida chapter (and any new FL chapters to start) would meet with FCAAP’s lobbyists, FCAAP officers, and with Florida pediatric residents participating in FCAAP’s Resident Legislative Training to learn about the legislative process and to discuss current legislative issues facing families and children in the state. Participants will travel to Tallahassee for the annual Children’s Capitol for a Day event to participate in the public event, meet other child advocate groups, and observe legislative committee meetings to see the legislative process first-hand. The participants will then work with the residents at the end of the program to write an article describing what they learned and the benefit of families and youth working with their pediatric healthcare providers to positively impact Florida’s laws.

Maryland – Patient Engagement Using a Youth Advisory Board

While the last decade has seen a broad and deliberate push towards patient-centered health care, youth and adolescents have been largely excluded from the planning and implementation of these developments. In an effort to address this issue, the MD AAP Chapter aims to implement a Youth Advisory Board (YAB) to better address the specific needs and diverse life experiences of youth patients at the Children’s Medical Practice (CMP) at the Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center. The primary function of the YAB will be to empower youth patients by integrating their opinions and experiences into the development of both local and national health care initiatives. The board will consist of ten members between the ages of 13 and 19 who are currently patients at the CMP, along with physicians and staff from the CMP. Locally, the YAB will serve to improve trust and communication between youth patients and providers at the CMP by fostering a more collaborative and understanding environment. More broadly, the YAB will establish an active partnership with the MD AAP Chapter and other local organizations to advocate for increased youth engagement in the development of clinical guidelines and health care policy.



Family Partnerships Network

A program of the American Academy of Pediatrics

Montana – Partnership for Family Engagement to Support Transgender Youth

Montana AAP has two primary goals: supporting the health and well-being of all children and families in Montana, and providing high quality professional development and education for pediatric healthcare providers. Each year the Chapter organizes a Pediatric Roundup Conference for pediatric health care providers in Montana, a well-attended and highly anticipated event. Recently, many Montana members have expressed a desire to learn more about issues related to transgender youth so that they can continue to provide the best possible care for all families. Emerging national knowledge and discussion on this topic have solidified the Chapter's desire to provide a forum for learning in this area. The first goal of bringing family advisors into the Chapter's work of hosting a family panel at this year's conference is to provide local personal stories related to transgender youth and learn from their experiences. Secondly, this program is an opportunity to bring family advisors and Chapter leaders together in an ongoing partnership to help shape future learning, and identify areas where we can sustain and improve family engagement and support.

New Hampshire – Putting NH Families Front and Center

A major strategic goal of the NH Pediatric Society (NHPS) is to engage and amplify the voices of parents, particularly those of children with special health care needs. This program will forge a partnership between NH Family Voices, New Hampshire's family to family information and advocacy center, and the NH Chapter. This relationship will be strengthened through NH Family Voices participation in NH AAP Executive Committee meetings, which will allow for family involvement in shaping the strategic direction of the NH AAP Chapter. The grant will also develop and support Parent Representative Chapter liaisons to pediatric practices throughout NH; where parents will serve as active ambassadors to pediatric practices, representing the goals of the NH AAP Chapter by speaking for and articulating the perspective of parents. These activities will involve the promotion of practice-level family advisors, engagement of Parent Representatives in a chapter activity on the opioid epidemic, and the development of a regular column in the NHPS newsletter, "The Granite State Pediatrician".

Puerto Rico – Promoting Youths' Preventive Health Care

Because the rate of adolescents receiving preventive health visits was 3.1% in 2014 and 2.4% in 2015 (based on office billing data), the Puerto Rico (PR) AAP Chapter proposes to build collaborative efforts with the PR Department of Health's Youth Advisory Council in developing and implementing strategies to promote and increase these rates. The Youth Advisory Council consists of 25 active participants (14 to 22 years old) from all over the island, including youth from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds and interests. The PR AAP Chapter will develop an interactive workshop for this group and obtain youth input on potential strategies to promote preventive health care visits to the youth audience, as well as to initiate and facilitate youth involvement at the PR AAP Chapter and build a collaborative bridge for future projects.

Projects will begin on July 1, 2017 and will run through June 30, 2018. Lessons learned from each of project will be shared once the projects are complete. Please contact Sunnah Kim at skim@aap.org if you have any questions.