Medical Students, Residents, and Fellowship Trainees:

June was another busy month for firearm injury prevention advocacy, and members of the SOMSRFT continued to actively participate in conversations to help keep children safe. As the summer continues, remember the important role pediatricians in training play to prevent firearm injuries either through education, contacting legislators, writing op-eds, or among other ways engaging on social media.

STATE GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS UPDATE

The Asking Saves Kids (ASK) Campaign, the Brady Campaign National Summit, and involvement in the release of an Everytown for Gun Safety report on safe storage highlighted a busy month of June for pediatric gun violence prevention efforts. Once again, SoMSRFT members contributed to these efforts. A guest blog posting on Philly.com by pediatric residents Mario Cruz, MD and Emmanuelle Topiol, MD highlighted the importance of asking about guns in the home, and cited examples that uncomfortable parents could use to ask questions about guns to other parents.

Brady Campaign “Bring It Home National Summit”

In June, more than 200 local and state gun violence prevention advocates, including staff from the AAP Division of State Government Affairs participated in the Brady Campaign 2014 National Summit in Washington, DC. The conference’s “Bring It Home” theme stressed the ASK Campaign message, advocating for stronger gun violence prevention laws with elected officials, and identifying “bad apple” gun dealers that knowingly put guns in the hands of criminals.

Plenary speakers include Congressional Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi, Actress Julianna Margulies, gun violence victims and their families, and representatives from Coalition to Stop Gun Violence, Violence Prevention Center, Everytown for Gun Safety, Newtown Action Alliance, Sandy Hook Promise, and Americans for Responsible Solutions. Former Assistant Surgeon General and AAP Fellow Samuel “Woodie” Kessel, MD, FAAP also participated in the summit as an attendee and discussed the work by the AAP Maryland chapter on gun violence prevention.

Staff from the AAP Division of State Government Affairs presented a breakout session on the value of including AAP chapters and pediatricians in state and local coalition efforts to reduce gun injury and violence. Division staff also featured the work of SoMRSFT through the PAVE campaign and encouraged gun violence prevention advocates to work with pediatric trainees on gun violence prevention efforts in their states. Through discussions that grew out of this
session, it was clear that gun violence prevention coalitions are more interested than ever to include practicing pediatricians, residents, and fellowship trainees in their coalitions to reduce gun violence. For more information on how to connect with these advocates, please contact Katie Crumley at kcrumley@aap.org.

Everytown for Gun Safety Report Stresses the Importance of Safe Storage Laws
The AAP is also working closely with Everytown for Gun Safety, the organization, funded through a $50 million grant from former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg, which merged Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in American and Mayors Against Illegal Guns (MAIG) earlier this year.

On June 25th, Everytown for Gun Safety released Innocents Lost: A Year of Unintentional Child Gun Deaths, a first-of-its-kind analysis that found at that least 100 children were killed in “gun accidents”, due to unintentional injuries over a 12-month period. This total—almost 2 each week—is 61% higher than federal data reflect. This original research report reveals that the number of unintentional child gun deaths in the US are underreported and stresses the need for stronger safe storage laws to reduce gun deaths and injuries among children. The report also highlights the need to oppose efforts to restrict physician counseling on firearm safety. Everytown for Gun Safety and Moms Demand Action also released new polling data that shows the majority of likely November 2014 voters believe that physicians should educate parents about the importance of safely storing firearms in their homes.

AAP Past President Thomas McInerny, MD, FAAP stated, “The AAP urges local, state, and federal lawmakers to enact the strongest possible laws to prevent firearm injuries and deaths.”

To complement the report, Everytown for Gun Safety and Moms Demand Action released family-friendly tip-sheets for firearm safe storage.

The AAP Division of State Government Affairs can help AAP chapters advocate for effective state public policy to reduce gun-related injury and violence. See our State AdvocacyFOCUS resources on Assault Weapon Bans, Safe Storage Laws, and Universal Background Checks for more information. Please contact Katie Crumley in the AAP Division of State Government Affairs at kcrumley@aap.org or 847/434-7399 for more information or consultation.

ADVOCATE FOR FIREARM VIOLENCE PREVENTION IN MINUTES

For the July edition of ADVOCATE FOR FIREARM VIOLENCE PREVENTION IN MINUTES, we ask you to encourage those who care for children to ask about firearm storage:

1. Primary prevention is the key to preventing injury from firearms; thus, it is very important to ask if there are guns were children play or visit. The safest home is one
without a firearm. For those who do keep firearms in the home, it is important to confirm safe storage- unloaded, locked, with ammunition locked and stored separately. Use this family-friendly tip-sheet from Everytown for Gun Safety and Moms Demand Action to help parents initiate the discussion about firearm safe storage with their friends and relatives.

Please write to us (Christian.pulcini@gmail.com) so we can highlight your efforts in the next advocacy email, or if you have any questions and/or suggestions! Thank you for all you do for kids!

PAVE PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

The success of any advocacy campaign comes from grassroots support and efforts. The work happening in clinics, communities, residency programs, and medical schools across the country is impressive and appreciated. We want to know what is going on at your school and program! In an effort to share ideas, we will be placing the “spotlight” on a different project each month.

July’s spotlight comes to us from District III’s Dr. Ankoor Shah, an AAP program delegate at Children’s National Medical Center in Washington D.C.

As a part of the PAVE advocacy campaign, Dr. Shah developed a gun violence prevention pocketcard. This card can serve as a tool to trainees and pediatricians regarding questions to ask, gun violence facts, and local resources. Below is a picture of the card. The Children's National Child Health Advocacy Institute provided the funding support for printing and distributing. The cards have been given to all the pediatric residents at Children's National, our community clinics around the city, as well as other community pediatricians and other organizations (i.e. The DC chapter of Mom's Demand Action for Gun Sense).
**SOCIAL MEDIA ADVOCACY FOR FIREARM INJURY PREVENTION**

Use social media for advocacy by engaging with the AAP SOMSRTF on Twitter and Facebook. We continue to remember and honor those affected by gun violence, and raise awareness about the public health issue of firearm injury in social media.
We need your help: follow us, like us, tweet or post what is happening at your programs, and retweet or repost our social media advocacy efforts. Follow and use #PAVE #KeepKidsSafe #PutKids1st in messages about firearm injury. To raise awareness that approximately seven young people die each day from gun violence, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, change your profile pic to the PAVE logo on the 7th of each month.

POETRY FOR PREVENTION

We will continue to feature a poetry piece in each of our monthly PAVE advocacy updates, share pieces on SOMSRFT’s social media accounts, and among other platforms showcase submissions our website.

We are accepting submissions for poems written by you, pediatricians in training. The poem must have a firearm injury or gun violence prevention focus, but is otherwise open to your own creativity. Feel free to submit a poem in any format and creativity is encouraged: free verse, haiku, limerick (appropriate for pediatric advocate audiences of course), sonnet, etc. Please send your entries to PAVE Tri-Chair, Lisa Costello at costello.lisa@gmail.com

July Poetry for Prevention:
During the month of America’s Birthday
Pediatricians continue to PAVE the way
Working to keep kids safe from firearm injury
Saving lives remains the desired victory

WHAT WE’RE READING, TWEETING, & WATCHING

- A guest blog posting on Philly.com by pediatric residents Mario Cruz, MD and Emmanuelle Topiol, MD highlighting the importance of asking about guns in the home
- AAP SOMSRFT (@AAPSOMSRFT) 6/22/14, 4:47 PM #ASKingSavesKids everyday, commit to saving lives = have an important firearm injury prevention conversation: ow.ly/yfXWC #PAVE
- DC AAP (@DC_AAP) 6/30/14, 9:46 AM Why asking about gun storage and safety is such a crucial part of every well child check #putkids1st #PAVE: thehill.com/regulation/210...
- Benard Dreyer, MD (@BenardDreyer) 7/6/14, 6:00 AM Children at Gunplay nyti.ms/1mUM2Hu Terrible Toll for Children. Support @AAPSOMSRFT #PAVE Campaign! #tweetiatricians #putkids1st
- Watch Pediatrician Dr. Tanya Altmann, mother/activist Ann Marie Crowell and LAPD Sgt. Barry Montgomery discuss how and why to ask about guns when it comes to your kids in this LA Times video
In this AAP video, Julia Meade, MD, a pediatric resident in Aurora, Colorado, offers a personal perspective on why advocating to protect children from gun violence is so important.

As America just celebrated another birthday this month, we use this time to celebrate the advocacy victories happening across the country as part of the Pediatricians Against Violence Everywhere (PAVE) campaign. From op-eds, to health fairs, through pocket cards, and on social media and beyond, we thank you for all of the hard work to keep children safe. There is still work to do and it is never too late to get involved. If you haven’t already, join our efforts as we continue to work together to PAVE the way to firearm injury prevention.

#Forkids

Pediatricians Against Violence Everywhere Advocacy Team

Thanks:
Thank you Katie Crumley, MPP, State Government Affairs Analyst for the excellent State Government Update

Thank you Dr. Ankoor Shah for the update of the awesome work happening at Children's National Medical Center in D.C.