

Member Briefs



Nov. 13, 2013



THE ASSOCIATION OF MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH PROGRAMS



LEGISLATIVE & POLICY CORNER



AMCHP Advocating to End Sequester

Over the past two weeks, AMCHP staff have joined a maternal and child health (MCH) coalition consisting of representatives of the American Academy of Pediatrics, American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, the March of Dimes, and National WIC Directors Association to urge the 29 members of Congress on the Budget Conference Committee to find a way to end sequestration and stop cuts to the MCH system. The Conference Committee has until Dec. 13 to come to an agreement and deliver a conference report that would lay out top-line budget numbers for Appropriations Committee to finalize FY 2014 program funding levels. As a reminder the current continuing resolution expires Jan. 15.

Start Planning for AMCHP Hill Day

Members and partners planning to attend the AMCHP Annual Conference in January are reminded, for those are able, we are encouraging you to start planning now to visit your elected officials while in town. AMCHP will be conducting online advocacy training in advance of the conference and on-site to provide you with key advocacy messages and materials, and answer any questions you might have. Stay tuned for the training announcement.

Campaign for Public Health Soliciting Unsung Hero Award Nominations

Nominations for the fourth-annual Campaign for Public Health *Unsung Heroes of Public Health Awards* are open through "Public Health Thank-you Day," which falls on Monday, Nov. 25. They extended the original deadline to accommodate those impacted by the recent government shutdown. More information on the awards and nomination process are available [here](#).

Congratulations Dr. Lu!

AMCHP congratulates MCHB Associate Administrator Dr. Michael Lu on being awarded the Hubert H. Humphrey Award for Service to America by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, for his strong commitment to advancing the health and well-being of our nation's citizens. Since joining HRSA in January 2012, Dr. Lu and his team have launched the Collaborative Improvement and Innovation Network (CollIN) in the 13 southern states that make up regions IV and VI to reduce infant mortality and improve birth outcomes. This award recognizes Dr. Lu's leadership on this innovative collaboration. Congratulations again and thank you for your commitment to our nation's mothers and children.

Health Reform Implementation

Health Reform and Insurance Coverage for Pregnant Women, Webinar Series: Part 2

Open enrollment is underway, and with it come new opportunities to significantly impact public and private health insurance coverage options for lower- and moderate-income pregnant women. In our second webinar addressing this issue, the National Health Law Program, the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, AMCHP, the March of Dimes, the National Partnership for Women & Families and the National Women's Law Center will take a closer look at

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eligibility requirements, benefits and costs associated with Medicaid and Marketplace coverage options. Tune in on **Nov. 19 at 4 p.m. EST** to have your questions answered and to learn more about the obstacles to and opportunities for maintaining continuity of care and coverage for pregnant women and their families. To register, [click here](#). For questions, contact [Dipti Singh](#), staff attorney, National Health Law Program.

Update on Federal Enrollment

At a recent meeting in Washington, D.C., Anton Gunn, director of external affairs in the Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs (IEA) at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) spoke to the group about the recent bumpy start for the federal marketplace website, [healthcare.gov](#) during the first month of open enrollment. His message was the following:

- People are getting through the [healthcare.gov](#) website and HHS is gathering stories
- Nov. 30 is the deadline for the “re-launch” of [healthcare.gov](#); they are working on both capacity and functionality issues
- HHS will have a host of activities that will be released within the next week or so around on efforts to get people enrolled in that period between Nov. 30 and Dec. 15 so their plans can start on Jan. 1
- HHS has an updated plan for the entire open enrollment period, which lasts through Mar. 31, 2014
- The Spanish language website will also be launched on Nov. 30
- The call center is still up and running, available in 150 languages (1-800-318-2596, TTY: 1-855-889-4325)
- There are 20,000 trained assisters and counting
- HHS still wants people/organizations to become certified application counselor, it’s not too late

As a reminder, AMCHP has these helpful fact sheets for state MCH programs to engage in outreach and enrollment activities:

- [The Affordable Care Act Navigator Program](#)
- [Coordinating Toll-Free Services](#)

HHS Awards \$150 million to 236 Health Centers

As part of the Affordable Care Act, HHS awarded \$150 million to fund the establishment of 236 new full-time

service delivery sites across the country. Community health centers play an important role not only in providing high quality health care services to the uninsured, but also in activities to enroll community members in health insurance through the health insurance marketplace. For a map of states that received funds and the HHS press release, please [click here](#).

GET INVOLVED



Applications Now Open for the New Director Mentor Program!

The AMCHP New Director/Mentor Program is accepting applications – if you know of a new MCH, CYSHCN or Title V director (someone who has been in their role for three years or less) encourage them to apply! And, we’re always looking for great mentors as well – so if you’re a seasoned MCH professional, we strongly encourage you to share your knowledge and information with the new folks. All application materials can be located [here](#) on the workforce development pages or contact AMCHP staff [Jessica Teel](#).

AMCHP Grant Opportunity to be Announced

Through funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) National Center for Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities (NCBDDD), AMCHP will facilitate a competitive award process for up to seven states to receive up to \$20,000 over two years to state teams, led by either the Title V program or a member of the Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) network, to support the collaboration of Act Early Regional Summit Project teams and to further activities

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initiated by state teams during the Summits. These funds are designed to be a catalyst for collaboration with stakeholders, as well as for implementing specific activities outlined in Act Early State Plans. AMCHP will provide ongoing technical assistance, disseminate resource materials and link grantees to other states and experts in autism spectrum disorders (ASD).

The funding announcement is anticipated in the next couple weeks and will be posted on the AMCHP and AUCD websites and will be distributed through relevant listservs. For more information, please contact [Michelle Jarvis](#) or [Alma Reyes](#).

AMCHP Partnering with University of North Carolina on New MCH Workforce Development Center

The Human Resources and Services Administration, Maternal and Child Health Bureau, Division of Workforce Development awarded the University of North Carolina (UNC) Gillings School of Public Health \$5.5 million to start a national MCH Workforce Development Center. The UNC MCH Workforce Center will serve as a consolidated national hub for the program, engaging with key academic, policy and public health practice partners and providing workforce development to state Title V agencies in four core areas related to health reform: access to care, quality improvement, systems integration and population health management. AMCHP will play a critical role in coordinating and disseminating training and technical assistance offered by the “cores” with state-

level Title V staff and also housing virtual training and technical assistance opportunities on the AMCHP website via a new “MCH Transformation Station” portal. Additionally, AMCHP is the lead organization on the ‘access to care’ core. In addition to AMCHP, the UNC MCH Workforce Center will be working in collaboration with the Center for Public Health Quality, Boston University’s Catalyst Center, the College of Public Health at the University of Kentucky in Lexington, the School of Public Health at the University of Illinois at Chicago, Howard University, the National Academy of State Health Policy, and The Catalyst Center. Please save the date for the UNC MCH Workforce Development Center launching at the AMCHP 2014 Annual Conference on Wednesday, Jan. 29, 2014. Details coming soon!

Improving Reproductive Health of Women and Families: Integrating Title V and Title X Programs

Title V and Title X serve the same population, however, the collaboration of these programs varies from state to state. On **Nov. 13, 2-3 p.m. EST**, AMCHP will host a webinar on lessons learned for integrating state Title V and Title X programs. Participants will hear from AMCHP staff Andria Cornell, Program Manager of Women & Infant Health, who will provide an overview of what states are doing to ensure a successful collaboration. This discussion will be followed by two state examples from Iowa and Virginia, sharing what led them to a successful integration, how they measure their success and how they foresee the Affordable Care Act impacting Title V and Title X. [Click here](#) to register.

Measuring a Life Course Approach to MCH: The AMCHP Life Course Metrics Project and Final Set of Indicators

This month, AMCHP released a final set of life course indicators as the culminating product of a year-long effort to identify and promote standardized indicators to measure progress using the life course approach to improve MCH. Guided by a national expert panel, the selection of the final set took place through a collaborative process with seven state teams: Florida, Iowa, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Nebraska and North Carolina. Join AMCHP **Nov. 19 from 2-3 p.m. EST** for a webinar that will provide an overview of the Life Course Metrics Project and its process, sharing key



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decision points and methods for engaging the MCH community. Representatives from state MCH programs, including MCH epidemiology, will share their perspectives on participating in the project, the challenges and lessons they learned and how the life course indicators will influence their work and future efforts. The webinar will conclude with a discussion with the national expert panel members on the implications of the life course indicators for the field of MCH and beyond. Join us and share your questions, reactions and experiences in measuring a life course approach to MCH. To register, [click here](#).

The final set of life course indicators and supporting resources are available online [here](#).

The AcademyHealth Presidential Scholarship for Child Health Policy

AcademyHealth is offering the Presidential Scholarship for Child Health Policy, which provides complimentary registration and up to \$1,000 toward the cost of travel to attend the 2014 National Child Health Policy Conference (NCHPC) for each of three scholarship recipients. The scholarship will allow individuals relatively new to the field to interact with AcademyHealth leadership and staff, gain an in-depth understanding of the role of health services research in child health policy, learn ways to inform child health policy on a state or federal level, and network with child health experts. Application are due by Wednesday, Nov. 20. For more information, [click here](#).

Are You “Branding” Your Title V-Funded Programs, Services, Events and Resources?

As a Title V professional you understand that Title V programs have a large reach supporting women, children, children and youth with special health care needs, and families. Do others, such as the general public, program consumers or even state legislatures, have this same understanding? Increasing the brand awareness of Title V-funded events, programs and resources can make it easier for state legislatures, the general public and the population Title V programs serve to understand Title V reach. AMCHP is interested in gaining a better understanding of if/how state Title V programs are branding Title V-funded programs, services, events and resources. Please [click here](#) and take a few minutes to share your thoughts.

Contextualizing Health Outcomes: A How-to for Spatial Data Analysis Webinar

Join the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists on **Nov. 21** from **1-2:30 p.m. EST** for a webinar to introduce the geospatial data analysis tools available in ArcGIS 10.1, with a focus on building spatial models for health outcomes. The presentation will start with ordinary least squares (OLS) and cover a number of methods for modeling spatial data. Participants will learn to diagnose problems due to spatial autocorrelation, identify and understand the spatial structure of health and social data, use geographically weighted regression to explore how the relationship between variables changes across space and use ArcMap to build both basic OLS and spatially informed regression models. **This webinar requires preregistration, which will close on Nov. 20.** To register, [click here](#).

One week prior to the webinar, participants must have access to the ArcGIS desktop v10.1 or later as well as the following extensions from their computer: Geostatistical Analyst and Spatial Analyst. A trial version and the necessary extensions are available [here](#).

MCHB Now Accepting Summer 2014 GSEP Proposals

The Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB) is accepting summer project proposals for the upcoming 2014 Graduate Student Epidemiology Program (GSEP). The GSEP offers graduate students a unique opportunity

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to apply their classroom skills to real-world data projects, offering state and local agencies valuable technical assistance as they work to enhance their information systems capacity. Similar to last year, projects will be grounded in the following three critical areas of MCH epidemiology:

- **Data Analysis and Monitoring:** Monitoring of diseases, injuries, and health conditions for their frequency, risk factors, consequences, and health service requirements, and analysis of epidemiological data sets are some of the projects included in this area.
- **Needs Assessment:** Projects in this area include the systematic analysis, assessment, and projection of health needs and resources in a given population or community.
- **Program Evaluation:** This area includes the monitoring, collection, and analysis of data to determine the effectiveness or outcomes of a particular program or project.

If your agency believes they have a project for a qualified graduate student for the upcoming year, please [click here](#) to submit a proposal. Submissions are due Nov. 22, 2013.

Call for Applications: National Leadership Academy for the Public's Health

The CDC Office for State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Support (OSTLTS), in partnership with the Office for Public Health Preparedness (OPHPR) and the Office of Noncommunicable Diseases, Injury and Environmental Health, announced the 2014 Call for Applications for the National Leadership Academy for the Public's Health (NLAPH). OSTLTS needs your help in sharing this exceptional opportunity with your respective grantees and state, tribal, local, and territorial health departments. NLAPH is an applied leadership training program that enables multi-sector jurisdictional teams address public health problems within their communities through team-identified health improvement projects.

The program develops participants' leadership skills through blended learning modalities including webinars, a national retreat, expert coaching support and peer networking, as well as an applied health leadership

project aimed at improving population health.

Participation is free for all selected teams, including the cost of round-trip transportation and lodging at the national retreat, access to all program material and archived webinars and enrollment in the Leadership Learning Network, an online leadership learning group, after the program year ends. **Applications are due by Nov. 26 at 5 p.m. PST.** The team selections will be announced by Dec. 20. For more information or to apply, [click here](#).

Making Lifelong Connections Meeting – Save the Date

Join current and former trainees from MCHB-funded training projects for Making Lifelong Connections: Leadership, Networking, and Career Development for MCH Trainees. It will be held in Denver, CO at the Renaissance Denver Downtown City Center Hotel from May 8-9, 2014. Applications will be accepted starting in January 2014, and will include an abstract/presentation proposal. The number of meeting participants is limited. For more information, [click here](#).



PUBLICATIONS & RESOURCES



General Maternal & Child Health

New ASTHO Role of State/Territorial Health Officials in Health Equity Resource

The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) Affiliate Health Equity Subcommittee developed a document to orient state and territorial health officials to their role in promoting health equity in their state or territory. The document includes practical approaches around organizational structures, qualitative and quantitative data, community engagement, leadership teams, and evaluation of health equity strategies. The document also includes the Colorado Health Equity Model, a visual framework for understanding the concepts in the health equity strategies. To view the document, [click here](#).



Best Practices: AMCHP is seeking submissions related to home visiting.

AMCHP is continuing to seek submissions of emerging, promising and best practices in maternal and child health from all states and territories. In November, we are seeking effective practices and programs related to home visiting.

You'll have a chance to:

- Share successes with your peers
- Enhance the MCH field
- Contribute to program replication
- Get expert feedback from the Review Panel
- Receive national recognition

The online submission process is simple and applications are accepted on a rolling basis. For more information, contact [Kate Taft](#) at (202) 266-3056 or visit amchp.org/bestpractices.

You can also [click here](#) to refer an innovative MCH program that we should know about!

The October MCH Training & Research Alert is Now Available

Access this resource for educational, funding and fellowship opportunities, as well as toolkits, guidelines and links to other information resources. Topics covered include childhood obesity prevention, early growth and development, scientific writing, pregnancy guidelines and more. To access this resource, [click here](#).

New Publication from the National Evaluation of the CHIPRA Quality Demonstration Grant Program

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality has published the fifth *Evaluation Highlight* from the CHIPRA Quality Demonstration Grant Program. This highlight compares and contrasts two projects that have used quality measures to drive quality improvement. Featuring a pay-for-performance program in Pennsylvania that encourages use of electronic health records and a state-led learning collaborative in South Carolina, the highlight also identifies considerations for states as they encourage providers to utilize quality measures. To access this resource, [click here](#).

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

AMCHP Accepting CEO Applications

AMCHP is seeking a dynamic chief executive officer (CEO) to build on and preserve our mission of being a national resource, partner, and advocate for state public health leaders and others working to improve the health of women, children, youth, and families, including those with special health care needs. Reporting to the board of

AMCHP CAREER CENTER

The Career Center is the premiere online job board for individuals seeking employment in Maternal and Child Health programs. Whether you are looking for an entry-level position or are a more seasoned professional looking for new opportunities, AMCHP's Career Center has great openings for great people! Searching our database is free and open to all job-seekers. AMCHP members receive a discount on job-postings - so [sign up](#) today!

CAREER CONT.

directors, the CEO provides direction and leadership for organization mission and vision, represents and speaks for the organization and its work, and manages the day to day operations. Specific responsibilities of the CEO include effectively representing and promoting the organization as the national voice for state and territorial maternal and child health programs; successfully managing day-to-day operations, including staff, programs, procedures, and technological resources; overseeing the organization's fiscal operations and fund raising strategies and plans; supporting the board in its governance role; and developing and maintaining relationships and partnerships with stakeholders, policymakers, organizations, and the public, among others. To learn more about the position and how to apply, [click here](#).

Oklahoma DOH Seeking MCH Director

The Oklahoma Department of Health (DOH) is now accepting applications for the Director of MCH Services. This position is responsible for ensuring positive health outcomes for the MCH population, as well as the management, planning, organization and coordination of the Perinatal and Reproductive Health Division, Child and Adolescent Health Division and MCH Assessment. The position is also responsible for providing guidance on state and national health care policy and procedures impacting Oklahoma's MCH population. For more information and to apply for this position, [click here](#).

ON YOUR BEHALF

AMCHP Staff Working on Your Behalf

- On Oct. 27-28, AMCHP staff Brent Ewig and Andria Cornell attended the fourth National Conference of the Centering Healthcare Institute (CHI). Brent presented in a breakout session entitled *National Initiatives to Improve Birth Outcomes: Where Does Centering Fit In?* where he described activities at the national, regional and state level to reduce infant mortality and improve birth outcomes and facilitated discussion of how centering sites can become involved in and leverage partnerships with these efforts. Andria shared resources and information as an exhibitor and connected with CHI staff, centering sites and national partners to learn more about opportunities to leverage CenteringPregnancy and

ON YOUR BEHALF CONT.

- CenteringParenting in an era of state health reform.
- On Oct.30, AMCHP staff Treeby Brown, Alma Reyes and Kate Taft visited with MCHB's Autism team to share upcoming AMCHP activities around autism and discuss shared priorities and opportunities for partnership.
- On Nov. 2-6, AMCHP staff Tegan Callahan, Piia Hanson, Andria Cornell, Lacy Fehrenbach, Brent Ewig and Karen Van Landeghem participated in sessions and connected with partners at the conference of the American Public Health Association. Tegan and Andria presented on separate panels sharing the final set of State MCH Life Course Indicators. The panels were entitled *Social Determinants in Maternal and Child Health and Today's Challenges, Tomorrow's Promise: Children with Special Healthcare Needs Worldwide* respectively. Piia presented lessons learned from states working on racism and infant mortality on a panel entitled, *SIDS, Infant Mortality and Preterm Birth*. Karen presented on a panel entitled, *Implementing the Affordable Care Act: The Changing Role of Public Health: Countdown*. Andria also presented a poster entitled, *Role of State Public Health MCH Programs in Maternal Mortality Review*.
- On Nov. 5, AMCHP staff Carolyn McCoy attended the Women and Health Care Coalition meeting in Washington, DC. It is a standing meeting where various stakeholder groups and nonprofits working toward improving health systems for women meet to discuss current policy topics that could impact the health of women. At this meeting, Anton Gunn, Director of External Affairs in the Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs at HHS spoke to the group about the recent bumpy start for the federal marketplace website and how HHS is working to improve it. Leni Preston from Maryland Women's Coalition also provided insight on how Maryland's outreach and enrollment efforts are going in Maryland.





Social and Behavioral Interventions to Increase Solid Organ Donation Grant

Deadline: Nov. 20

The purpose of this grant is to reduce the gap between the demand for organ transplants and the supply of organs from deceased donors by identifying successful strategies that can serve as model interventions to increase deceased organ donation registration or family consent. For more information on grant HRSA-14-014 and more, [click here](#).

Ryan White Part B HIV Care Grant Program

Deadline: Nov. 21

The purpose of this grant is to assist states and territories in developing and/or enhancing access to a comprehensive continuum of high quality HIV care and treatment for low-income people living with HIV. For more information, [click here](#).

Rural Health Network Development (RHND) Program Grant

Deadline: Nov. 22

The RHND Program supports established health oriented networks with a history of collaboration to develop and maintain collaborative relationships to integrate systems of care administratively, clinically and financially. This grant supports rural integrated health care networks that have combined the functions of the entities participating in the network. For more information, [click here](#).

USDA Center for Collaborative Research on WIC Nutrition Education Innovations Grant

Deadline: *Letters of Intent Due Dec. 18*

The USDA/ARS Children's Nutrition Research Center at Baylor College of Medicine (CNRC WIC Center) announces the second round of funding available for researcher-initiated projects to demonstrate creative approaches to nutrition education for the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC). University-based researchers, with state/local WIC collaborators, are eligible to respond. For more information, [click here](#).

WT Grant Foundation

Deadline: *Letters of Inquiry due Jan. 8, 2014*

The foundation is now accepting letters of inquiry from research projects on youth settings, youth development, youth policy and practices and evidence-based improvements. Investigator initiated grants usually range from \$100,000 to \$600,000 for two- to three-year projects. For more information, [click here](#).

Knight News Challenge

Deadline: *Jan. 15, 2014*

This \$100,000 prize is part of the Knight Foundation's latest *News Challenge*, which seeks innovative ideas to harness information and data for the health of communities. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) award is for those entrants who combine public health data with data from health care to improve the health of communities. For more information, [click here](#).

RWJF Executive Nurses Fellows

Deadline: *Jan. 15, 2014 at 3 p.m. EST*

RWJF Executive Nurse Fellows program is a three-year advanced leadership program for nurses who aspire to lead and shape health care locally and nationally. Fellows strengthen and improve their leadership abilities related to improving health and health care. Awards are open to registered nurses who hold senior leadership positions in health services, scientific and academic organizations, public health and community-based organizations or systems, or national professional, governmental and policy organizations. For more information, [click here](#).

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FUNDING CONT.

CMS Cooperative Agreement to Support Establishment of Health Insurance Exchanges

Deadline: *Oct. 15, 2014*

Through this cooperative agreement, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will provide states, the District of Columbia, and consortia of states, with financial assistance for the establishment of exchanges. These awards will provide funds for the state to complete activities for achieving approval in accordance with Section 1321 of the Affordable Care Act and the requirements as established through the rulemaking process. For more information on grant IE-HBE-12-001 and more, [click here](#).

NIH Initiative to Maximize Research Education in Genomics Diversity Action Plan

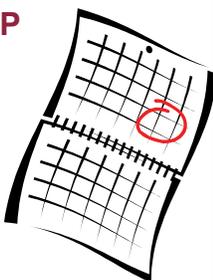
Deadline: *Sept. 6, 2016*

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) presents this funding opportunity to facilitate the training of individuals at all careers levels (the undergraduate, graduate, post baccalaureate, postdoctoral and faculty levels) from diverse backgrounds underrepresented in scientific disciplines relevant to genomics to enable them to pursue genomics research that spans all areas of interest to National Human Genome Research Institute later in their careers. For more information, [click here](#).

List Your Event on the AMCHP MCH Events Calendar

Do you want to include your listing on the AMCHP MCH Events Calendar? It's easy!

Just complete our easy [online submission form](#). You are welcome to submit MCH conferences, webinars, trainings, webcasts and meetings. Thanks for helping us to build our MCH Events Calendar! If you have any questions, please contact [Julio Arguello Jr.](#), Online Media & Information Technology Manager. Please note: All event listings are subject to AMCHP approval.



CALENDAR



AMCHP Events

[AMCHP 2014 – Register today!](#)

Jan. 25-28, 2014

Washington, DC

MCH Events

[National Healthcare Coalitions Conference](#)

Dec. 11-13

New Orleans, LA

[Family USA's Health Action 2014](#)

Jan. 23-25

Washington, DC

[National Summit on Quality Home Visiting](#)

Jan. 29-30, 2014

Washington, DC

[AcademyHealth 2014 National Child Health Policy Conference](#)

Feb. 5

Washington, DC

[15TH Annual NHSA Spring Conference](#)

Mar. 29-31, 2014

Washington, DC

[2014 Preparedness Summit](#)

Apr. 1-4, 2014

Atlanta, GA

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