Your AAP donations are helping create role models for children in all communities.

Diversity in pediatric care is not only important for creating opportunity in the field. It is essential for giving children the chance to achieve optimal health. Each step towards transforming the face of pediatric medicine benefits everyone involved. These vital steps are happening because of you.

The AAP Committee on Pediatric Workforce (COPW) created the Pediatric Pipeline Innovation Pilot Program, with the goal of helping to build a workforce that reflects the diversity of children cared for by US pediatricians. The intent was to support existing or new pipeline programs that were interested in inspiring and preparing children and youth to become pediatricians. Activities involving STEM, advocacy, and more were funded for the benefit of underrepresented students in medical school, undergraduate, high school, and even primary school.
Donations to the Friends of Children Fund allowed for six mini grants to be awarded to medical schools or organizations that are working to improve the health careers pipeline through innovative, new or existing programs. Every program proposed a unique approach to improving the pipeline. From the development of a virtual outreach program for Black, Indigenous, people of color (BIPOC) youth in the Boston area that builds interest in the field of pediatrics and empowers youth to tackle current child health issues in their communities to a 3-day Virtual Application Boot Camp that assisted Black, Latinx, LGBTQ and limited income pre-medical students with their medical school applications, these mini grants support efforts that are making a significant positive impact.

Ultimately, this program has both helped to support programs that are working to improve the pediatric pipeline in local communities and exposed the AAP to ongoing efforts in this field. Charitable gifts make that happen. That is a positive impact that will yield dividends for many years to come.

I will see you again next month to share another story of your generous AAP donations and how much they mean for kids, their families and pediatricians.

With gratitude,

Lee Savio Beers, MD, FAAP
President