

American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®



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Your Donor Impact

Because you give for child health

Young people benefit from your donations – supporting meaningful solutions for the youth suicide crisis.

In response to the mental health emergency among children and adolescents, the American Academy of Pediatrics continues to pursue initiatives that address this crisis. Powered by donations, the AAP launched a strategic program, titled “Advancing the AAP Response to the Youth Suicide Crisis: A Multimodal Approach.”

This program consists of several resources to help support suicide prevention activities. The Academy has developed and implemented learning collaboratives for our members through Project ECHO that tackle this urgent issue. Project ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes) is an innovative program that brings together members to learn from each other and experts while implementing suicide prevention measures. The Suicide Prevention Clinical ECHO supports primary care and school-based health participants.

We also support an ECHO focused on pediatric emergency medicine physicians. After just the first session, participants shared comments on the impact:

“Opened my eyes to the problem of adolescent suicide.”

“I wasn’t aware of the statistics...staggering.”

On the resource end, we are creating a Suicide Prevention Resource Kit for AAP Chapters, working diligently to pinpoint the most helpful pieces for inclusion. Advocacy efforts got a boost from another element of the program – a competitive grant program that works on a state level to prevent child and adolescent suicide. We awarded funding to five AAP Chapters who will conclude work by June. This program trains pediatricians to advocate for evidence-based suicide prevention policies at the state level, create partnerships to educate policymakers to prioritize funding for suicide prevention initiatives, and create public education campaigns around the importance of reducing access to lethal means to prevent youth suicide.

We’re meeting this crucial child health issue head on. Thank you for giving us the ability to reach and help more children. See you next time for another peek into how much your gifts mean for the health and well-being of young people.

Warmly,

Benjamin D. Hoffman, MD, FAAP
President