The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Disaster Preparedness Advisory Council (DPAC) is pleased to provide you with information on its activities. For more information on the DPAC, including a list of members and liaisons, see the AAP Disaster Preparedness Advisory Council. Also see the AAP DPAC Strategic Plan for Disaster Preparedness 2016–2020.

Announcements

Updated ASPR Pediatric Topic Collection

The US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) Technical Resources, Assistance Center, and Information Exchange (TRACIE) aims to meet the information and technical assistance needs of regional ASPR staff, health care coalitions, health care entities, health care providers, emergency managers, public health practitioners, and others working in disaster medicine, health care system preparedness, and public health emergency preparedness.

One of the key resources within the ASPR TRACIE Web site is a Pediatric Topic Collection. The resources in this Topic Collection offer information for health care facilities, health care coalitions, and other health and medical providers about the special care and resources needed for children prior to, during, and after a disaster. The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) staff assisted with an update of the Pediatric Topic Collection in 2019. Articles within the Topic Collection are organized by the following categories listed below.

- Must Reads
- CBRNE and Terrorism
- Education and Training
- Guidelines and Protocols
- Lessons Learned
- Mental and Behavioral Health
- Natural Disasters
- Pediatric Surge Capacity
- Plans, Tools, and Templates
- Trauma Care and Triage
- Agencies and Organizations

If you are aware of a resource that is new or currently not included within the Pediatric Topic Collection, please email DisasterReady@aap.org with the title and a link to the resource for posting consideration.
**Healthcare Coalition Pediatric Surge Annex Template**

The ASPR TRACIE and the ASPR Hospital Preparedness Program collaborated to develop a Healthcare Coalition Pediatric Surge Annex Template. This template is intended to be a high-level response plan that identifies the experts and specialized resources that exist within health care coalitions and the processes that will be used to determine which patients go to which facilities. This pediatric-focused annex is meant to be an annex to a health care coalition’s response plan. The template includes general headers, descriptions, and sample resources/plans that may provide guidance or a template for health care coalitions to assist in their planning efforts.

**Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness and Advancing Innovation (PAHPAI) Act**

On June 24, 2019, President Trump signed the Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness and Advancing Innovation (PAHPAI) Act of 2019 into law. PAHPAI is responsible for many important provisions related to preparedness and response for children, including the Hospital Preparedness Program, the Public Health Emergency Preparedness program, the National Advisory Committee on Children and Disasters, the National Preparedness and Response Science Board (now known as the National Biodefense Science Board), and measures related to medical countermeasures. Importantly, the legislation includes AAP’s two priorities for PAHPAI—reauthorization of the National Advisory Committee on Children and Disasters (NACCD) and authorization of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Children’s Preparedness Unit (CPU).

The NACCD has provided HHS with several thoughtful reports with recommendations for healthcare preparedness for children, surge capacity, and strategies for human services and child-serving institutions. AAP also strongly advocated for the authorization of the CDC’s CPU. AAP also strongly advocated for the authorization of the CDC’s CPU. The CPU is an internal team of experts within CDC with a background in pediatrics, behavioral science, child psychology, epidemiology, biostatistics, health communications, and more that is providing leadership and technical assistance, training, and consultation with the CDC and to federal, state, and local public health entities to improve preparedness and response for children.

**Funding Opportunity Announcement: Pediatric Disaster Care Centers of Excellence**

The ASPR released the Pediatric Disaster Care Centers of Excellence Funding Opportunity Announcement to support the creation of up to 2 Pediatric Disaster Care Centers of Excellence that will serve as pilot sites. These pilot projects are intended to define the delivery of pediatric clinical care when existing systems are stressed or overwhelmed by enhancing rapid sharing of expertise and assets throughout the state or region. Recipients must ensure that the needs of all pediatric patient populations, including children with special health care needs, and their parents and caregivers are considered and integrated. Applications are due August 27, 2019. For questions, please email ASPRStakeholder@hhs.gov.

**Community Access to Child Health (CATCH) Program Important Changes**

The CATCH program is a national initiative of the AAP that supports pediatricians to collaborate within their communities to implement projects that advance the health of all children. The CATCH program typically issues a Call for Proposals (CFP) twice per year. However, due to reduced funding and administrative capacity, the program is moving to one CFP per year beginning in November. This is a wonderful opportunity to apply for funding to address various aspects of pediatric disaster preparedness! Please see below for the new timeline and key updates.

New CATCH grant cycle timeline:
- November 1, 2019  Call for Proposals Released
- December 31, 2019 Application Deadline
- March 2, 2020  New Grantees Announced
- April 1, 2020  Projects Begin

- Grantees will have 12 months to complete their projects.
- At least 1 formal “check-in” will occur during the course of the project period between grantees, CATCH facilitators, and AAP staff.
- Funding remains the same: $10,000 for Fellows and $2,000 for Pediatric Trainees/Residents.

If you have questions or concerns, please email Hope Barrett, MPH (hbarrett@aap.org) or visit the CATCH grants Web page here.
Advancing Pediatric Educators eXcellence Teaching Program: Faculty Recruitment for 2019-2020

Starting in 2020, the award-winning Advancing Pediatric Educator eXcellence (APEX) Teaching Program will be expanded to include not only pediatric hospitalists but also general pediatricians, pediatric subspecialists, and pediatric surgical specialists, who are interested in improving their skill set as clinical teachers. The APEX Teaching Program is co-sponsored by the AAP Section on Hospital Medicine and the Academic Pediatric Association.

With the expansion, the APEX Teaching Program now offers 2 cycles – The Steering Committee is recruiting for faculty to lead the cycle that will take place in conjunction with the 2020 Pediatric Academic Societies (PAS) Meeting.

The program will begin with workshops at PAS, span the year between 2 sequential PAS meetings with online module work and mentoring, and end with workshops at the following PAS meeting. This effort will provide a national cohort of pediatricians with evidence-based teaching strategies, exemplar faculty mentorship, and a forum to collaborate with peers around clinical teaching topics.

Faculty responsibilities include:

- Adapting the current APEX curriculum (originally designed for pediatric hospitalists) for pediatricians across practice settings.
- Teaching at sessions at PAS starting with PAS 2020 on Friday, May 1.
- Interacting with participants on a Web platform follow-up module during a 6-week block once per year.
- A minimum commitment of 3 years, with possible renewal.

Applicants should have experience in:

- Presenting on clinical teaching approaches, including teaching at the bedside and/or in various ambulatory clinic or hospital-based settings, teaching with limited time, and/or clinical reasoning.
- Delivering faculty development programming preferably on the national level.
- Local or regional leadership in faculty development.

If you are interested in joining the APEX Faculty Team, please complete the following faculty application form by Monday, July 15, 2019, at https://form.jotform.com/Subspecialty/APEXFaculty.

Supporting Immigrant Children – Resources for Pediatricians

There are many ways that AAP members can advocate for and care for immigrant children and families in their communities. Supporting Immigrant Children, under Resources for Pediatricians, includes information about caring for immigrant children and a list of things that pediatricians can do. These include connecting with local immigrant advocacy and service groups and connecting with legal groups to provide medical support for immigration procedures and other activities. For more information, contact cocp@aap.org.

New Releases

Natural Hazards Center: Children Count in Disasters

The Natural Hazards Center, in partnership with the CDC, is excited to announce a Research Counts special collection on children and disasters! For more information, visit the Research Counts Children and Disasters Special Collection or review the 3 articles below:

1. Who Needs Help Most? Focusing Child Mental Health Resources After Disaster
2. How Parent Mental Health Can Affect Children After Disaster
3. Thriving After Disaster: A New Way to Think About Support Programs for Kids
**Education/Training**

**NACCHO Annual Public Health Conference**

**Date:** July 9–11, 2019  
**Location:** Orlando, FL  

The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) Annual Conference is the premier public health conference that offers opportunities for local health department staff, partners, funders, and individuals invested in local public health to share the latest research, ideas, strategies and innovations. The theme, “Improving the Nation’s Health through Public and Private Partnerships,” will highlight the importance of cross-sector partnerships to improve health outcomes in communities throughout the country. Register now! The AAP and CDC will convene a session titled “Strengthening Pediatric Public Health Systems and Services through Partnerships”. This session will take place on **Thursday, July 11, 2019, from 9:15am–10:45am ET**. More details can be found [here](#).

**AAP 2019 National Conference & Exhibition**

The AAP National Conference takes place October 25-29, 2019, in New Orleans, LA. To secure the lowest rates, please remember to register before the early registration deadline on **September 13, 2019**. During this conference, several sessions and events will focus on disaster medicine. See the AAP [Upcoming Events Web page](#) for details.

For more information on AAP disaster preparedness and response initiatives, see [www.aap.org/disasters](http://www.aap.org/disasters) or e-mail DisasterReady@aap.org.