

**AAP Update: Meeting the Moment While Reshaping the Future**  
 Sandy Chung, MD, FAAP, FACHE  
 AAP President

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**2023 AAP Strategic Priorities**

- COVID Recovery and Disaster Readiness
- Equity, Diversity and Inclusion
- Healthy Mental and Emotional Development
- Safety and Wellbeing within the Pediatric Profession

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## End of an Era

April 16, 2020 – May 11, 2023

- 15,594,079 total child COVID-19 cases reported; children represented 17.9% (15,594,079/86,881,822) of all cases
- Overall rate: 20,718 cases per 100,000 children in the population

United States, Number of Child COVID-19 Cases Added in Past Week

4/16/20 to 5/11/23

Executive Summary – Children and COVID-19:  
Final Weekly State Data Report

A joint report from the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Children's Hospital Association

Summary of publicly reported data from 49 states, NYC, DC, PR, and GU 4/16/20 to 5/11/23

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## Medicaid/CHIP Child Enrollment Trend, June 2019 – January 2023

Number and Percent of US Children Enrolled in Medicaid/CHIP Before and Since the COVID-19 Pandemic

Number of Children (Million)

Percent of Child Population

January 31, 2020: US declared public health emergency\*

41.6M

55.0%

46.0%

35.5M

\*The Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) enacted in March 2020 required continuous enrollment and made available a temporary 6.2 percentage point increase to each state or territory's federal medical assistance percentage (FMAP) during the national Public Health Emergency. **Notes:** Arizona did not submit any child data throughout the reporting period and is not included in this report. January 2023 data is preliminary. Numbers may not sum up precisely due to rounding. **Source:** AAP analysis of data submitted by states to CMS through the Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Performance Indicator Projects.

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## Medicaid Unwinding Underway

Millions on Medicaid May Soon Lose Coverage as Pandemic Protections Expire

A requirement that states keep people on Medicaid during the coronavirus pandemic has come to an end, and 15 million people could lose their coverage as a result.

Millions poised to lose Medicaid as pandemic coverage protections end

These 5 states will be the first to kick residents off Medicaid starting in April

States begin kicking people off Medicaid

**'A tsunami is coming': Wait times a problem heading into RI Medicaid recertification**

HHS Reminds States of Legal Obligations to Federal Civil Rights Protections as States Transition from Medicaid Continuous Coverage Changes as the Public Health Emergency Ends

Letter underscores need for meaningful language access for individuals with limited English proficiency and effective communication for individuals with disabilities during states' unwinding of Medicaid Continuous Enrollment Condition

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### On the Horizon ...

- Two NASEM Reports in 2023
- New AAP policy examining Medicaid program with recommendations
  - Access, Benefits, Coverage, State Variation
- Robust administrative and regulatory improvement possible at CMS
  - Access proposed regulation
  - Essential Health Benefits RFI

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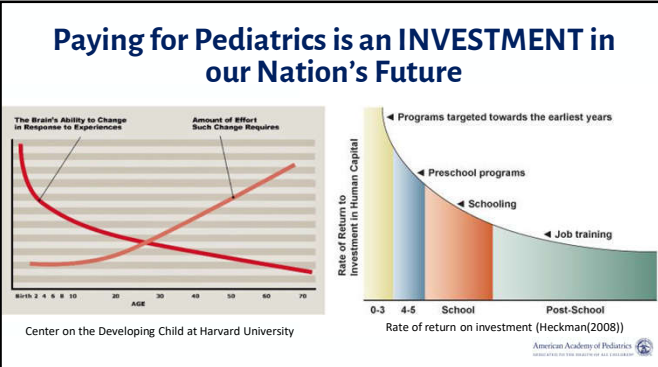
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### Paying for Pediatrics is an INVESTMENT in our Nation's Future



Center on the Developing Child at Harvard University

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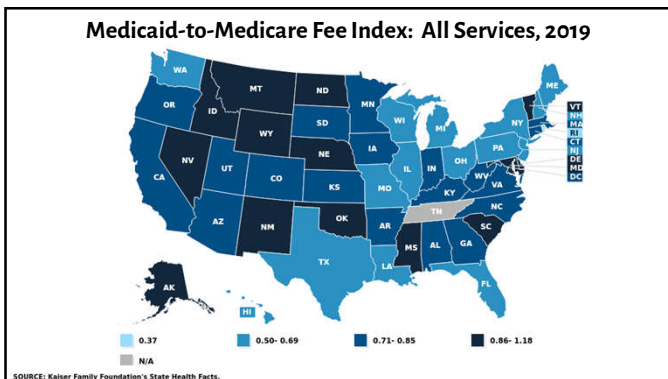
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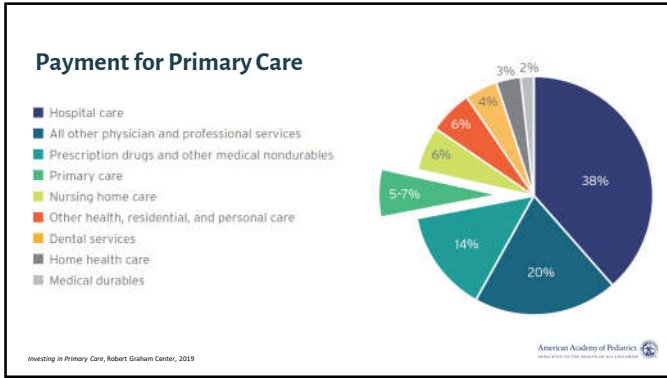
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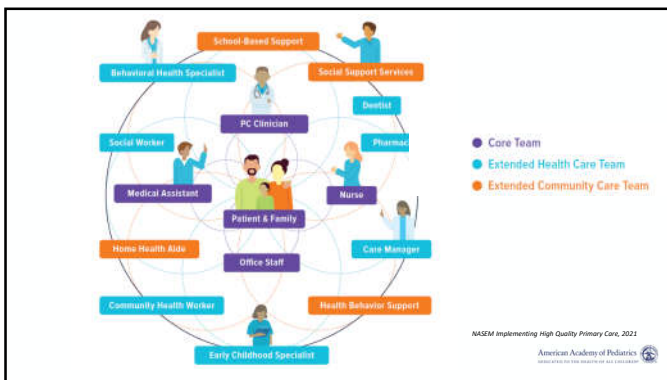
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### COVID-19 Vaccine Commercialization

- Commercial insurance mandate to cover vaccines will continue
- Medicaid and CHIP will continue to cover vaccine administration without cost sharing; anticipated Fall 2023 transition to commercial and VFC purchase and distribution of vaccine
- AAP continuing to connect with federal agencies and manufacturers around commercialization

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### Reframing the Conversation About Child and Adolescent Vaccinations

**Recommendations:**

1. Talk about the benefits of vaccination for the common good.
2. Talk about improving vaccination access as a preventive public health measure.
3. Focus on how vaccines are beneficial to childrens and adolescents' long-term health and wellbeing.
4. Use a computer updates metaphor to explain how the immune system improves its performance through vaccination.
5. Use a literacy metaphor to explain how the immune system learns how to respond to viruses through vaccination.



- Recommendations published in January
- AAP and Frameworks hosted two webinars
  - One for AAP members
  - One for partner organizations
- Toolkit of communications materials
- Incorporating new recommendations into existing content



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### 2023 AAP Strategic Priorities

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- **Equity, Diversity and Inclusion**
- Healthy Mental and Emotional Development
- Safety and Wellbeing within the Pediatric Profession

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### Joseph Wright, MD, MPH, FAAP, to Lead AAP's Equity Agenda as Chief Health Equity Officer



- Oversee national strategy to promote and achieve health equity for all children
- Advance AAP Equity Agenda and make AAP a more equitable, diverse and inclusive organization.
- Integrate clinical, public health and societal perspectives and approaches to improve health and health care disparities
- Ensure children and families attain their highest level of health



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**Establishing a Race-Conscious Approach to Clinical Guidance in Pediatric Care**

- \$2 Million grant From Doris Duke Foundation
- Create process for identifying and correcting race-normed clinical algorithms and test a revised algorithm in an ED setting

**DD**  
DORIS DUKE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

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**AAP National Rural Adolescent and Child Health Training Center**

- AAP leading HRSA-funded grant to implement Center to help pediatricians and PCPs in rural communities address mental and adolescent health issues
- Launched *Rural Pediatrics Anxiety and Depression ECHO* and *Rural Pediatrics Obesity ECHO* learning collaboratives
- Engaging diverse cohorts of primary care providers



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**New Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Resources**

- Bright Futures: Health Equity Resources for Health Care Professionals
- National Rural Adolescent and Child Health (NRACH) Training Center Needs Assessment Launch
- Addressing Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in Disaster Preparedness Six-part AAP ECHO series
- Equitable Access to Sexual and Reproductive Health Care for all Youth
- Advocacy resources to combat legislative measures to ban gender-affirming care



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## Adolescent Reproductive Health in a Post-Roe America

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**Equitable Access to Sexual and Reproductive Health Care for all Youth**

*Issue: "Restrictive" Medicaid Reimbursement "Limits" Coverage of Adolescent Reproductive Health*

**Introduction**

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) is pleased to announce the release of a new policy statement, "Equitable Access to Sexual and Reproductive Health Care for all Youth," which addresses the impact of restrictive Medicaid reimbursement policies on adolescent reproductive health care. The policy statement calls for equitable access to sexual and reproductive health care for all youth, including comprehensive sex education, contraception, and abortion, as a critical component of adolescent health. Pediatric health clinicians play an important role in supporting and equipping youth to sexual and reproductive health care for all adolescents and young adults.

**Background**

The AAP is concerned about the impact of restrictive Medicaid reimbursement policies on adolescent reproductive health care. These policies limit the number of visits, the types of services, and the providers who can bill for these services. This results in limited access to care, particularly for youth in underserved communities. The AAP is committed to ensuring that all youth have equitable access to the care they need to thrive.

**Policy Statement**

The AAP supports equitable access to sexual and reproductive health care for all youth. This includes comprehensive sex education, contraception, and abortion. Pediatric health clinicians play an important role in supporting and equipping youth to sexual and reproductive health care for all adolescents and young adults. The AAP is committed to ensuring that all youth have equitable access to the care they need to thrive.

**Recommendations**

The AAP recommends that Medicaid reimbursement policies be updated to ensure equitable access to sexual and reproductive health care for all youth. This includes comprehensive sex education, contraception, and abortion. Pediatric health clinicians play an important role in supporting and equipping youth to sexual and reproductive health care for all adolescents and young adults. The AAP is committed to ensuring that all youth have equitable access to the care they need to thrive.



Equitable access to sexual and reproductive health care, including comprehensive sex education, contraception, and abortion, is a critical component of adolescent health. Pediatric health clinicians play an important role in supporting and equipping youth to sexual and reproductive health care for all adolescents and young adults.

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## Gender-Affirming Care Bans

HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN

### Gender-Affirming Care Bans Impacting Youth



To date, **19 states** have banned gender-affirming care for transgender and gender-diverse youth.

**Legend:**

- LAW OR POLICY BANNING GENDER-AFFIRMING CARE HAS PASSED OR IS IN EFFECT
- LAW OR POLICY BANNING GENDER-AFFIRMING CARE IS UNDER CONSIDERATION

Source: <https://www.hrc.org/resources/attacks-on-gender-affirming-care-by-state-map>

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FLORIDA

## Federal judge knocks down Florida's Medicaid ban on gender-affirming treatment

"Gender identity is real. The record makes this clear," U.S. District Judge Robert Hinkle said.



**POLITICO**

By **GARY FINEOUT**  
06/21/2023 09:23 PM EDT

**TALLAHASSEE, Fla. —** A federal judge struck down Florida's prohibition on Medicaid coverage for gender-affirming care, the second decision to upend restrictions put into place at the urging of Gov. Ron DeSantis.

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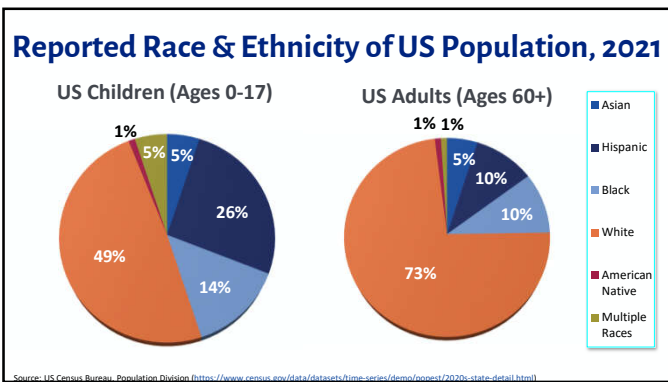
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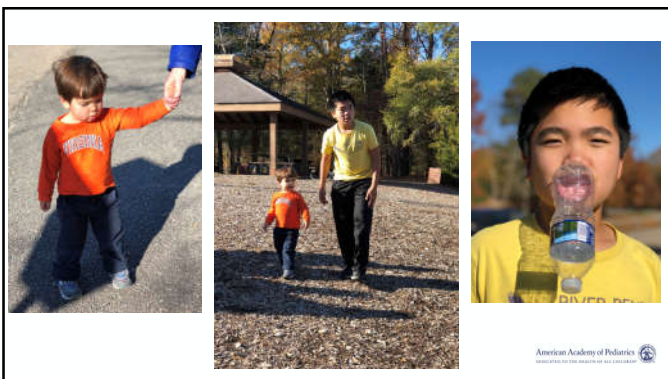
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**The New York Times**

**Alone and Exploited, Migrant Children Work Brutal Jobs Across the U.S.**

Arriving in record numbers, they're ending up in dangerous jobs that violate child labor laws — including in factories that make products for well-known brands like Chevrolet and Fruit of the Loom.

**REUTERS' PHOTOGRAPHS** Undocumented and Underage

**Child workers found throughout Hyundai-Kia supply chain in Alabama**

**HHS.gov**

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES  
 OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS  
 February 27, 2023

**Departments of Labor and Health and Human Services Announce New Efforts to Combat Exploitative Child Labor**

WASHINGTON, DC — The Department of Labor (DOL) and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced today that they will be working together to combat exploitative child labor. The two agencies will be launching a new initiative to identify and address child labor violations in the United States. This effort will focus on identifying and addressing child labor violations in the United States. The two agencies will be launching a new initiative to identify and address child labor violations in the United States. This effort will focus on identifying and addressing child labor violations in the United States.

**Young workers exit an overnight cleaning shift at a JBS pork plant in Worthington, Minnesota**

Credit: Kristin Luce NYT

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**Los Angeles Times**

8-year-old girl dies in Border Patrol custody

**Latest in Immigration Advocacy**

**BORDER CROSSINGS DECLINE**

Month	Crossings
May 12	11,000
May 13	11,000
May 14	10,000
May 15	6,300
May 16	4,600
May 17	4,300

**Unaccompanied migrant child dies in U.S. custody, the second death in 2 months**

**A Path to Meeting the Medical and Mental Health Needs of Unaccompanied Children in U.S. Communities**

**STATEMENT OF ADMINISTRATION POLICY**

May 11, 2023

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**An 8-year-old died in Customs and Border Protection custody. CBP must stop failing kids.**

*This tragedy can and will occur again unless DHS and CBP take immediate and comprehensive actions to address the many systemic weaknesses that allowed Ana to die.*

**Dr. Sandy Chung** Opinion contributor  
Published 5:01 a.m. ET June 26, 2023



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**AAP-Migration Policy Institute (MPI) Report**

**Strengthening Medical and Mental Health Services for Unaccompanied Children in U.S. Communities**

**REPORT, APRIL 24, 2023**  
REPORT OF THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS AND THE MIGRATION POLICY INSTITUTE

**KEY TAKEAWAYS**

- Joint AAP-MPI report, *A Path to Meeting the Medical and Mental Health Needs of Unaccompanied Children in U.S.*
- Recommendations aimed at HHS's Office of Refugee Resettlement; federal, state, and local governments; health systems; schools; and communities



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**2023 AAP Strategic Priorities**

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- Safety & Wellbeing within the Pediatric Profession

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## Declaring a National Emergency in Child and Adolescent Mental Health

**Health Organizations Urge the Biden Administration to Declare a Federal National Emergency in Children's Mental Health**

**Roll Call**

**YOUTH mental health advocates renew calls for action**

More than 130 national and state children's groups call for the Biden administration to declare youth mental health an emergency

**POLITICO PRO**

**YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH EMERGENCY?** – A group of more than 130 national and state youth health groups asked the White House to issue a national emergency declaration over the poor mental health of children and teens throughout the country.

The groups, including the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, the American Academy of Pediatrics and Children's Hospital Association, said an emergency declaration would protect current access and help expand access in the future.

"Suicide is increasing for children and teens at alarming rates – especially for Black boys and girls under age 12 – and is now the leading cause of death for Asian American youth and the second leading cause of death for young people nationwide," the groups said, adding they were thankful the administration and Congress had taken some action. "Emergency department visits for suspected youth suicide attempts have increased dramatically and those for eating disorders have doubled during the pandemic."

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The Percentage of High School Students Who:*	2011 Total	2013 Total	2015 Total	2017 Total	2019 Total	2021 Total	Trend
Experienced persistent feelings of sadness or hopelessness	28	30	30	31	37	42	
Experienced poor mental health†	–	–	–	–	–	29	–
Seriously considered attempting suicide	16	17	18	17	19	22	
Made a suicide plan	13	14	15	14	16	18	
Attempted suicide	8	8	9	7	9	10	
Were injured in a suicide attempt that had to be treated by a doctor or nurse	2	3	3	2	3	3	

Source: CDC

In wrong direction    No change    In right direction

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## Suicide is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Leading Cause of Death for Ages 10 – 24

**Between March and October 2020....**

ED visits for children with mental health emergencies rose

24% for children ages 5-11

31% for children ages 12-17

*(National Institute of Mental Health, 2021)*

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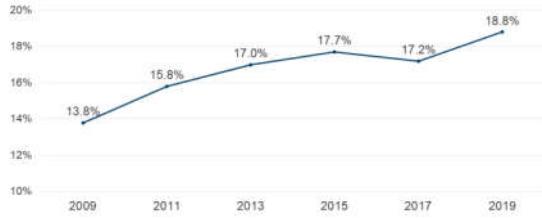
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### Percent of High School Students Who Seriously Considered Attempting Suicide in the Past Year, 2009–2019



SOURCE: Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2009-2019



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### Suicide: Blueprint for Youth Suicide Prevention

Plan | Implement | Evaluate | Monitor | Youth Suicide Prevention



[www.aap.org/suicideprevention](http://www.aap.org/suicideprevention)

### Blueprint for Youth Suicide Prevention

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF CHILD & ADOLESCENT PSYCHIATRY



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### Upraising Healthy Children Initiative

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## AAP Council on Healthy Mental & Emotional Development

- Member-led group with diverse perspectives
- Help develop and implement innovative models of care to address the needs of our children and youth, their families, communities, and our pediatric colleagues
- Membership opportunity



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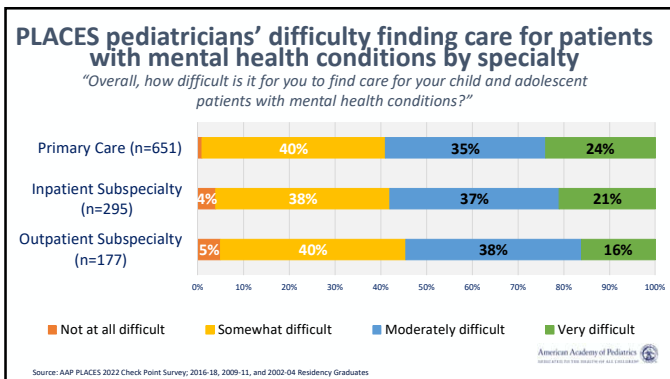
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## Addressing the Pediatric Mental Health Crisis Virginia Mental Health Access Program (VMAP)



**HELPING YOU support your pediatric patients' mental health needs**

**What is VMAP?**

The Virginia Mental Health Access Program (VMAP) is a statewide initiative that helps health care providers better care for children and adolescents who may need mental health services through prevention, identification, early diagnosis, and treatment, including medication, therapy, and other programs.

**What VMAP Does**

VMAP resources that health care providers have access to include:

- 24-hour crisis line
- Telehealth services
- Referrals to community mental health centers
- Medication management
- Therapy services
- Support groups
- Case management
- Care coordination
- Care transitions
- Care coordination
- Care transitions
- Care coordination
- Care transitions

Checking in on her emotions is just as important as checking her heartbeat.

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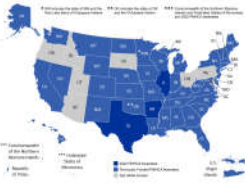
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## Funding AAP Chapters to Increase Access to PMHCA Programs as part of \$1.7M Award from HRSA



- AAP awarded small grants to 14 AAP Chapters and seven AAFP Chapters to strengthen partnerships with local PMHCA programs
- Funded workplans to increase awareness of and access to PMHCA programs and support sustainability
- Chapter workplans underway; will end in September

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What if instead of relying on children to be resilient, we create a world that is less traumatic.

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**Gun Violence Prevention Advocacy**  
*Adding new momentum into our agenda*

"Gun violence in America is now so common that it has become the number one cause of death for children and teens... As the headlines start to fade faster after each incident, and as the political will to act fails to meet the urgency of the moment, pediatricians are compelled to speak out."

AAP President Dr. Sandy Chung

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**Our Partners in Advocacy**

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### AAP Launches Gun Safety, Injury, and Violence Prevention (GSIVP) Community Grant Program



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#### Make a Difference for Child Health

Every donation supports improving the physical, mental, social and developmental health of children and adolescents. You can make that crucial impact.

- AAP launched GSIVP Community Grant Program with funding from **AAP Friends of Children Fund**
- From 130+ applications, 10 sites received \$15,000 to support ongoing efforts to address the effects of violence, firearm injury, and deaths on children, adolescents, young adults, and families
- Final report will summarize outcomes and identify actionable strategies

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### Protecting Children Online

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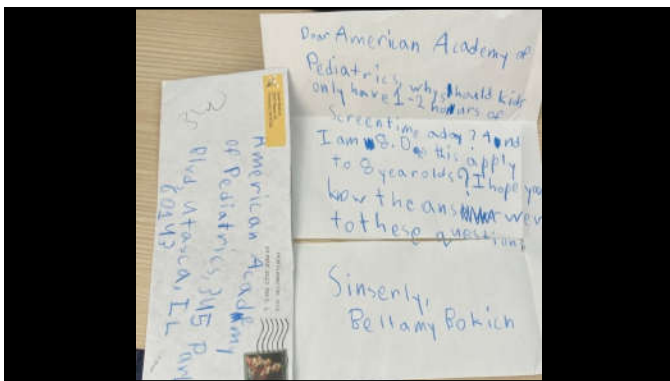
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**CENTER OF EXCELLENCE**  
Social Media and Youth Mental Health

## AAP Center of Excellence on Social Media and Youth Mental Health




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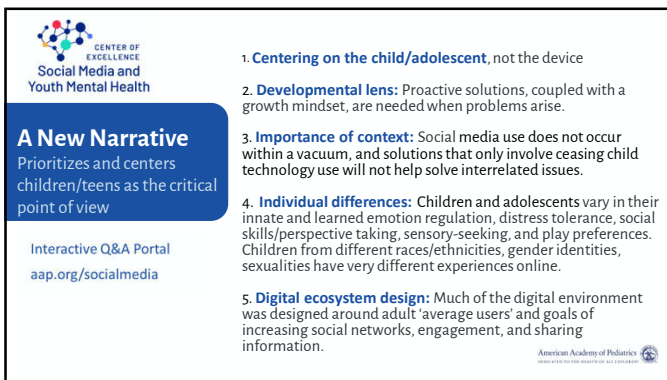
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**CENTER OF EXCELLENCE**  
Social Media and Youth Mental Health

### A New Narrative

Prioritizes and centers children/teens as the critical point of view

Interactive Q&A Portal  
[aap.org/socialmedia](http://aap.org/socialmedia)

- 1. Centering on the child/adolescent**, not the device
- 2. Developmental lens:** Proactive solutions, coupled with a growth mindset, are needed when problems arise.
- 3. Importance of context:** Social media use does not occur within a vacuum, and solutions that only involve ceasing child technology use will not help solve interrelated issues.
- 4. Individual differences:** Children and adolescents vary in their innate and learned emotion regulation, distress tolerance, social skills/perspective taking, sensory-seeking, and play preferences. Children from different races/ethnicities, gender identities, sexualities have very different experiences online.
- 5. Digital ecosystem design:** Much of the digital environment was designed around adult 'average users' and goals of increasing social networks, engagement, and sharing information.

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## AAP Pediatricians Call on Lawmakers to Protect Young People Online

320 pediatricians from 46 states and DC met with their senators and US Reps to urge them to pass new online privacy, design, and safety protections to create a more developmentally appropriate digital ecosystem

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## Online Protections for Children and Teens

*Digital privacy, design, and safety legislation a top priority for Congress*

Jul 07 2022, 3:52 PM  
 Kids' Online Safeguards Set to Advance as Schumer Eyes June Vote

EXCLUSIONS

STATE OF THE UNION  
**Biden calls for ban of online ads targeting children**  
 The president's State of the Union address also called for legislation to stop tech companies from collecting data on kids and teenagers

05-02-2023  
**Blumenthal & Blackburn Introduce Bipartisan Kids Online Safety Act**

MAR 03 2023  
**SENATORS MARKEY AND CASSIDY REINTRODUCE COPPA 2.0, BIPARTISAN LEGISLATION TO PROTECT ONLINE PRIVACY OF CHILDREN AND TEENS**

Lawmakers show rare bipartisan unity in pursuing protections for kids online

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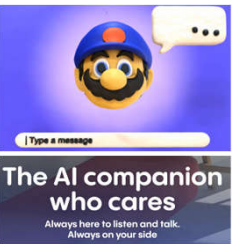
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## Artificial Intelligence and Children

**The AI companion who cares**  
 Always here to listen and talk. Always on your side.

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### 2023 AAP Strategic Priorities

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- Healthy Mental and Emotional Development
- **Safety and Wellbeing within the Pediatric Profession**

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The U.S. Surgeon General's Framework for *Workplace Mental Health & Well-Being*

**Five Essentials for Workplace Mental Health & Well-Being**

Centered on the worker voice and equity, these five Essentials support workplaces as engines of well-being. Each Essential is grounded in two human needs, shared across industries and roles.

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### What Institutions and Health Care Leaders Can Do

- Treat wellness as an organizational quality metric
- Reduce tasks that do not improve patient care
  - Use scribes to support EHR documentation
  - Solve workflow and communication deficiencies,
  - Ensure clinical staff involved in setting priorities and solving problems
- Develop and track indicators of physician wellness
- Remove stigma around well-being
- Rejecting the "hero model"
- Eliminate "blame culture"

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**Eliminate Blame as a Cultural Mindset**

- Use a systems approach to problem solving
- Instead of asking, "Why did you do this?" ask, "Where did the process break down?" or "How can we make this better next time?"
- Discuss adverse events in a way that promotes trust as opposed to fear or contempt

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**We are givers...**

- Pediatricians care about others
- Pediatricians spend their lives helping others
- Pediatricians have multiple hats to wear
- Pediatrician families – at home and at work – need us
- Pediatricians have needs, too

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**The expectation that we can be immersed in suffering and loss daily and not be touched by it is as unrealistic as expecting to be able to walk through water without getting wet.”**  
*(Remen, 1996)*



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**Compassion Fatigue**

“A combination of physical, emotional, and spiritual depletion associated with caring for patients in significant emotional pain and physical distress.”



(Anonous, 2009; Fogley, 1995)

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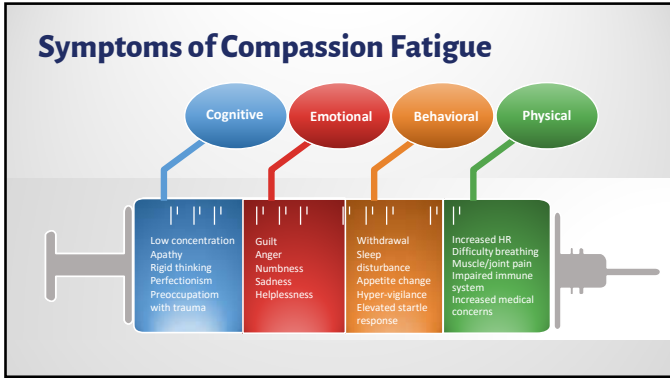
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### What Can I Do Quickly?

- **Gratitude** – brief expressions of gratitude for 5-7 minutes daily resulted in decrease burnout and increased feelings of well being 1 month later. Results even better if you share your feelings with the person to whom you are grateful
- **Three Good Things** – write down 3 good things that happened today. Repeat for 15 days
- **Today Will Be a Good Day** – when you wake up, say to yourself, that "Today will be a good day!"

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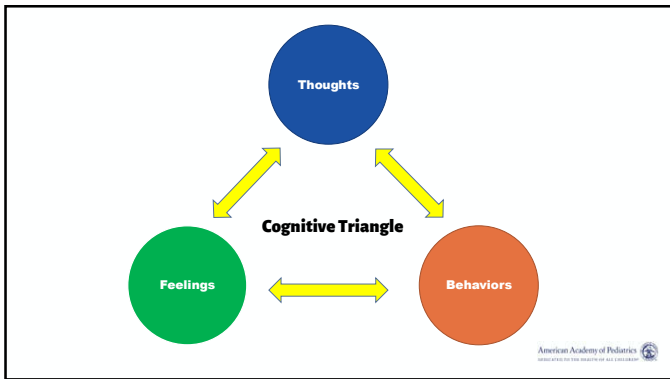
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## My example

- My Original Thought....
- "What is happening????!?"
- Shock
- Then feeling stupid and embarrassed
- Unable to move

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## Alternate Thoughts

"It's a good thing no one was hurt."

"Cars are just things. Things can be replaced."

"Glad I have insurance!"

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### Vicarious Resilience

Involves the process of learning about overcoming adversity from the trauma survivor and the resulting positive transformation and empowerment through their empathy and interaction.

(Hernandez, Gangsei, and Engstrom, 2007)

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### How Does Vicarious Resilience Feel?

- Greater perspective and appreciation of own problems
- More optimistic, motivated, efficacious, and reenergized
- Increased sense of hope, understanding, and belief in the possibility of recovery from trauma and other serious challenges
- Profound sense of commitment to, and finding meaning from the work

(Hernandez, et al, 2007; Engstrom, et al, 2008)

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### Why we do what we do...

- Compassion satisfaction
- Vicarious transformation

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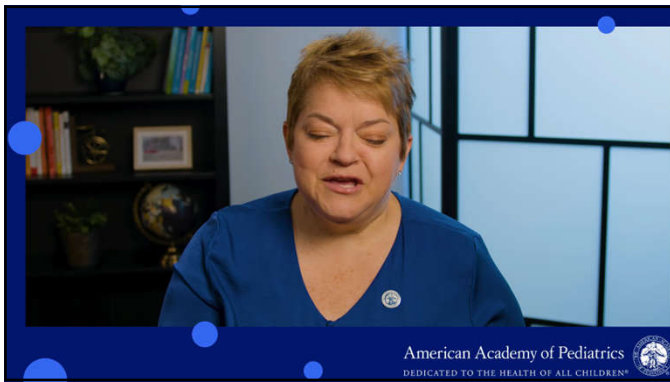
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IF YOUR LIFE  
INSPIRES  
JUST ONE CHILD,  
YOUR LIFE  
HAS BEEN A  
**SUCCESS**  
*-Mark Devoaux*

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