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Advocating for Kids

AAP Advocacy Report

We are pleased to share the Spring 2025 [AAP Advocacy Report](#), which summarizes the AAP's recent federal and state activities all in one place. We hope you find this to be a useful resource.

April 1 Child Abuse Prevention Month Event

The Idaho Chapter joined over 20 other organizations on April 1 at the Strong Families Safe kids fair located in the YMCA in Meridian. This event for families kicked off April, Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention Month. Over 200 children had lots of fun painting rocks at our booth where the message was: Kids Rock just ask a pediatrician.



Spotlight on a Member

ICAAP Chapter Leadership Candidates

We are excited to propose the following slate of candidates for officers for the Idaho AAP from July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027.

Dr. Tom Patterson – President

Dr. Brian Birch – Vice President

Dr. Joe Wilbanks – Secretary-Treasurer

Please check the June newsletters for bios on the candidates, and watch for an email ballot in early June.

Jennifer Salame

Please join us in recognizing Jennifer Salame in her upcoming role as President of South Central Idaho Medical Society. South Central Idaho Medical Society is a collaborative of local physician, APP, resident, and medical student members of the Idaho Medical Association. They offer opportunities for engagement in the statewide organization as well as networking opportunities locally. Any physician, APP, resident, or medical student in the Magic Valley or Wood River areas are invited to participate! Their next event is a summer social (families welcome to enjoy free food!) on June 12. You can contact Rebecca Adams at rebecca@idmed.org for more information about SCIMS or to RSVP to this event!

Welcome ICAAP Members

We would like to welcome the following medical students and new/returning providers for our membership:

Jessica Elkin

Rebekah Falkenberg

Mindy Gaddis

Ginger Jensen

Colby Kearn

Anthony Liccini

Savarra Mantzor

Sarah Michels

Venkatraman Sadanand

Abbigail Shrontz

Anja Tjaden

Tara Vizcarra

Upcoming Educational Opportunities/Meetings/Events

Treasure Valley Regional Climate & Health Symposium

Idaho Clinicians for Climate and Health is working with St. Luke's and St. Al's to present their first Treasure Valley Climate and Health Symposium on Friday May 16 from 8am to 4:30pm at St. Al's. The symposium features local and international speakers, who will discuss the impacts climate change is having on our health, including some specifics on impacts on children and youth mental health. The afternoon will be spent in breakout sessions, looking at sustainability in healthcare, either through a clinical or operational lens, to learn how healthcare is impacting the climate and innovations to reduce our waste and costs while improving patient care and employee satisfaction.

Please see the attached flyer for additional information.

The SUID Prevention Program Learning Community Webinar Series

The Sudden Unexpected Infant Death (SUID) Prevention Program is launching a new learning series, the Learning Community (LC): The Kendi-Macy Framework. This free three-part webinar series launches on May 21, 2025 and will meet on a weekly basis until June 4, 2025. This LC cohort will explore different aspects of the Framework to understand how to implement and execute the Framework to improve childhood injury prevention recommendations and strategies. The LC is Maintenance of Certification (MOC) Part 4 eligible for those who meet participation requirements. Please review the attached for additional information, including the registration link, webinar times, and participation requirements.

Upcoming Educational Opportunities/Meetings/Events (cont.)

Idaho Immunization Coalition Webinar

Idaho Immunization Coalition is excited to invite you to our upcoming webinar Unseen Battles: Voices of Vaccine-Preventable Disease Survivors and Their Families: Influenza!

Date: Wednesday, May 21st

Time: 12:00 PM -1:00 PM MST

Register Now: [Unseen Battles: Voices of Vaccine-Preventable Disease Survivors and Their Families](#)

Meet Our Speaker: We're honored to have Dr. Jeb Teichman as our guest speaker for this session.

Dr. Teichman began his medical career as a pediatric hospitalist at Humana Hospital Audubon in Louisville, Kentucky in 1986. He transitioned into private practice pediatrics in 1993 when he founded Jeffersonville Pediatrics in Jeffersonville, Indiana where he practiced for the next 19 years. In 2012, Dr. Teichman made the leap to full-time managed care practicing as a Medical Director for Aetna and eventually as Chief Medical Officer for United Healthcare Community Plan of Kentucky, a managed Medicaid plan where he is today.

Dr. Teichman lost his 29-year-old son, Brent, to influenza in 2019. Dr. Teichman has been a medical advisor for Families Fighting Flu since January 2021.



Idaho Breastfeeding Summit



For more information or to register, please visit: https://www.idahobreastfeeding.org/event-details/8th-annual-idaho-breastfeeding-summit-back-to-the-roots?utm_campaign=63f21d37-818e-442e-8918-8d9adcb10432&utm_source=so&utm_medium=mail&cid=f2b8d11c-e007-4581-a28b-8c0dd0b768e6

Resources

Amid Rise in Counterfeit Car Seats, Clinicians Play a Role in Keeping Children Safe

[Amid rise in counterfeit car seats, clinicians play a role in keeping children safe](#)

With low-quality or counterfeit car seats becoming more available to consumers, pediatricians play a key role in ensuring families can keep children safe while riding in a car.



New Video: Understanding the Rise in Reported Autism Rates

New video: Understanding the rise in reported autism rates

The CDC reports an upward trend in the number of children diagnosed with autism. What should parents take away from this latest report and the misinformation being spread about it? Sara Swoboda, M.D., FAAP, offers guidance for all parents, as well as families with autistic children, in [a new video available here](#).

Understanding
the Rise
in Reported
Autism Rates



Idaho Capital Sun Article on Measles



[\[idahocapitalsun.com\]](#)

[Idaho families must act now to prevent a measles outbreak](#)
[\[idahocapitalsun.com\]](#)

As a pediatrician who has been working in this state for over 20 years, I am deeply concerned about the rising threat of measles across the United States and what it could mean for Idaho.. Recent outbreaks in Texas and New Mexico serve as a stark reminder that measles, a disease once thought to be eliminated in this country, is making a comeback.

[idahocapitalsun.com](#)

Resources (cont.)

Resources from the Institute for Healthy Childhood Weight



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Early childhood is a critical time to set the stage for lifelong healthy weight. In the first years of life, how children are fed, what they eat and how they move can help brain development and build lifelong healthy eating and activity patterns. Resources available at the Healthy Active Living From Birth to Age 2 portal have been specifically designed to assist pediatricians and other professionals in engaging with and educating families about early feeding practices, optimal nutrition, and promoting healthy active living from pregnancy through early childhood. [Access the portal here.](https://tinyurl.com/BirthtoAge2)

Liver CME

In response to the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) release of the clinical report, *Identifying Infants with Biliary Atresia by 2-4 Weeks of Life: Guidance for the Primary Care Practitioner*, the Academy is launching an “Ask the Expert” knowledge series tailored for primary care members this spring. [chapter name] members are invited to attend.

Knowledge experts from the AAP Section on Gastroenterology, Hepatology, and Nutrition (SOGHN) released the clinical report in mid-February and plan to participate in the knowledge series.

“This clinical report is for like-minded practitioners committed to eliminating uneven care and health disparities in diagnosing and treating children with liver disease,” said Sanjiv “Sonny” Harpavat, MD, PhD, FAAP, lead author of the report. “The goal of this work—creating the clinical report and “Ask the Expert Sessions”—provides primary care pediatricians with the appropriate confidence to know what to look for to make better referrals.”

The compact series, which begins in May and spans three months, allows AAP chapter members to log in, listen to the report review and case study, and ask questions. Each 20-minute session will be held virtually on Tuesdays from 12:30 to 1 p.m. CT, May 13, June 17, and July 15. Register for an “Ask the Expert” session here: <https://bit.ly/41tHTY8>

Prepare for the “Ask the Expert” session by listening to the AAP podcast on this series: bit.ly/42fh6jj. For more information about the knowledge series, contact Alison Powers, Manager, District & Chapter Programs, at apowers@aap.org ###

Book Corner

Silence and Light —a mother’s journey of self-discovery through advocacy by Lanya McKittrick, PHD
This memoir shares her diagnosis to grief and advocacy for her two children with usher syndrome.