

September 2026 Newsletter Highlights

- **Advocating for Kids**
2026 AAP President-Elect & At-Large Board Election
2026 National Nominating Committee District VIII Candidates
- **Spotlight on a Chapter Member**
2025 AAP Award of Chapter Excellence
Children's Museum of Idaho Superhero Fun Run
- **Social Media Update**
Social Media Snapshot: August
- **Upcoming Educational Opportunities/Meetings/Events**
AAP Pediatric Mental Health Education Center Suicide Prevention ECHO (8-session series)
2026 Pediatric Emergency Medicine Conference
2026 AAP Experience – National Conference & Exhibition
2026 Relational Health & Trauma-Informed Care Course
Safer Communities: Secure Firearm Storage Conversations – Online Course
- **Resources**
Idaho Oral Health Alliance News for AAP – Idaho Chapter
Oral Health Support Portal
- **Book Corner**
Narwhal vs Kindergarten by Vanessa Roeder

Advocating for Kids

2026 AAP President-Elect & At-Large Board Election

The AAP National Nominating Committee (NNC) has chosen Wanda D. Barfield, M.D., M.P.H., FAAP, of Atlanta, Ga., and Lois K. Lee, M.D., M.P.H., FAAP, of Boston, as candidates for president-elect and also announced candidates for an at-large board member.

Voting will take place from Sept. 2-16. The winner of the September election will serve as AAP president in 2028, succeeding Terri D. McFadden, M.D., M.P.H., FAAP, who will serve as president in 2027.

For more information read [AAP News coverage](#).



Dr. Lee is a senior faculty advisor in the Office of Health Equity and Inclusion and a senior associate in pediatrics in the Division of Emergency Medicine at Boston Children's Hospital. She also serves as a professor of clinical pediatrics and an associate professor of emergency medicine at Harvard Medical School. She is chair of the Council on Injury, Violence and Poison Prevention Executive Committee. [View Bio](#)

Advocating for Kids (cont.)

2026 AAP President-Elect & At-Large Board Election (cont.)



Dr. Barfield is director of the Division of Reproductive Health within the National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. She is a professor of pediatrics at Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences and an assistant professor of pediatrics at Emory University School of Medicine. She previously served as CDC Liaison to AAP Section on Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine Executive Committee and AAP Committee on Fetus and Newborn. [View Bio](#)

2026 National Nominating Committee District VIII Candidates



Terence McAllister, M.D., FAAP
Las Vegas

Professional title

Pediatrician, Desert Valley Pediatrics, Las Vegas

Medical school and post-graduate education

M.D., Tufts University School of Medicine

Residency program and fellowship

Wright State University/Wright Patterson Air Force Base joint military and civilian residency

Involvement in AAP or other organizations

- Nevada Chapter president (2025-'26), vice president (2023-'24) and treasurer (2021-2022)
- Fellow, AAP (2000-present)
- Nevada Medical Association (2025-Present)
- Massachusetts Medical Society House of Delegates representative (2014-'18)
- New Mexico Pediatric Society (2003-'06)

What motivates you to seek this position?

With 25 years of clinical and leadership experience, I am eager to join the National Nominating Committee to bring the Nevada voice to the national stage. My goal is to ensure the unique perspectives of lower-population states are integral to selecting future leaders. Through active membership in medical societies in Nevada, Massachusetts and New Mexico, and roles such as Nevada Chapter president and U.S. Air Force major, I have developed the governance expertise to identify candidates with an inclusive vision. I am committed to selecting leaders who reflect the excellence and diversity of our profession.



Anna Ogena, M.D., FAAP
Anchorage, Alaska

Professional title

Pediatric hospitalist at Alaska Native Medical Center (ANMC) in Anchorage

Medical school and post-graduate education

M.D., University of Santo Tomas, Manila, Philippines

Residency program and fellowship

Michigan State University at Devos Children's Hospital

Involvement in AAP or other organizations

- Pediatric hospitalist with 20-plus years of clinical experience at ANMC
- Immediate-past pediatric hospital medicine medical director at ANMC
- Pediatric liaison for trauma team and pediatric sedation lead hospitalist
- AAP Alaska Chapter immediate-past president, former vice president
- AAP Section on Hospital Medicine nominating committee co-chair
- Alaska Perinatal Quality Collaborative Steering Committee
- Alaska Emergency Medical Services for Children Advisory Committee

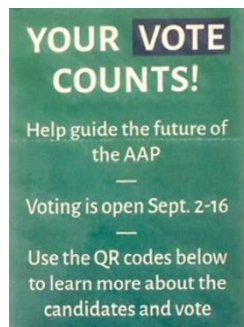
Advocating for Kids (cont.)

2026 National Nominating Committee District VIII Candidates (cont.)

Anna Ogena (cont.)

What motivates you to seek this position?

I am seeking to become a member of the AAP National Nominating Committee because I am deeply committed to strengthening the future of pediatrics through selection of visionary and inclusive leaders. My experiences as a pediatric hospitalist of 20 years, PHM medical director within a tribal health organization, and immediate past president of the AAP Alaska Chapter have reinforced the importance of equity, transparency, collaboration and culturally responsive governance. I am motivated to help identify leaders who reflect the diversity of our profession and the communities we serve who can effectively advocate for all children. Serving on the NNC would allow me to contribute to a fair, thoughtful and forward-looking process which advances the AAP's mission and values nationwide.



Spotlight on a Chapter Member

2025 AAP Award of Chapter Excellence

The 2025 AAP Award of Chapter Excellence was presented to the Idaho Chapter as an Outstanding Award Finalist and for excellence in programs that promote the health and welfare of children. Thank you to everyone for all you work to make our chapter successful.



Children's Museum of Idaho Superhero Fun Run

This past weekend, Idaho AAP had the opportunity to be part of the Children's Museum of Idaho's Superhero Fun Run! We had so much fun cheering on the runners, connecting with our community, and celebrating healthy, active kids. Thank you to everyone who stopped by to say hello and made the day so much fun!

We're grateful to be part of events that bring Idaho families together. 💙

Response from Amy Costello, Development Director, Children's Museum of Idaho

Thank you to your team for participating in today's Superhero Fun Run! What an incredible day, with hundreds of children and their families coming together to enjoy the sunshine, celebrate healthy activity, and create lasting memories. Your message about vaccines and their superpower was a perfect combination with this event.



Social Media Update

Social Media Snapshot: August

So long, Summer!

August was a strong month for growth and community engagement. We welcomed **72 new followers**, bringing our total audience to **641 followers across Facebook and Instagram**. This was **23 more new followers than July!!** Our Facebook and Instagram content reached approximately **44,000 views**, a big step up from our July views.

August also brought several exciting opportunities to connect with Idaho families. We had the opportunity to participate in the **Superhero Fun Run hosted by the Children's Museum of Idaho**, which provided a great opportunity to engage directly with Idaho parents and children. During the event, we highlighted graphics directing families toward AAP-backed pediatric resources and pediatrician social media accounts, as well as Idaho AAP's own platforms. This outreach helped us gain additional followers and, more importantly, helped connect more Idaho families with **evidence-based, science-backed information from trusted pediatric sources**.

Our **Back-to-School Bootcamp** was a major highlight of August. The series generated strong engagement and helped contribute to follower growth while covering practical back-to-school health and safety topics. The series gave us an opportunity to incorporate **vaccine confidence messaging into timely, relevant content**. By connecting immunizations with the broader goal of helping children stay healthy, attend school, and thrive, we were able to make vaccination part of a larger back-to-school health conversation.

Throughout the month, we also shared information on topics relevant to Idaho families, including:

- Breastfeeding Awareness Month
- Wildfire smoke and air quality
- Back-to-school health and safety
- Handwashing and illness prevention
- Immunizations and vaccine confidence
- Community events and pediatric resources

In September, we will continue building on the momentum from our back-to-school content while maintaining a strong focus on **vaccine confidence and timely child health information**. We will monitor ongoing changes in vaccination-related legislation, disease prevalence, and other developments that may affect Idaho families to drive social media content in September.

September 10 is **World Suicide Prevention Day**, and we will share resources focused on suicide awareness and prevention for children and teens.

Additional topics we may explore throughout September include:

- Safe sleep education
- Child and teen mental health
- Fall-related health and safety
- Voting encouragement for upcoming midterm elections

If you have other suggestions or topics you would like to see us cover, please feel free to reach out to me at my new email: marketingidahoap@gmail.com.

As we move into fall, our goal will remain the same: **connect Idaho families with trusted, evidence-based information that helps children stay healthy, safe, and thriving**.

Please share our pages with your friends, family, coworkers, clinics, community partners, and anyone who wants reliable child health information for Idaho families.

Instagram: @idahoaapeditrics

Facebook: Idaho Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics

AAP Pediatric Mental Health Education Center Suicide Prevention ECHO (8-session series)

American Academy of Pediatrics Pediatric Mental Health Education Center: **Suicide Prevention ECHO**

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Pediatric Mental Health Education Center (PMHEC) is recruiting pediatricians and other pediatric clinicians to participate in this ECHO program focused on suicide prevention in clinical settings. The goal of this program is to increase participant knowledge and self-efficacy regarding best practices to identify and support youth and young adults at risk for suicide.

Program Topics Include:

Youth suicide risk screening, safety assessment, brief intervention techniques, care planning, support resources, and implementation of suicide prevention best practices in pediatric settings.

Scholarship Opportunity

A limited number of scholarships are available for clinicians in Medically Underserved Areas to defray the costs of participation. Scholarships will be provided after 10 hours of training, including ECHO sessions and asynchronous courses.

Register Today!



Scan the QR code
or **[click here to apply.](#)**



JOIN US

**1 - Hour
Bi-Monthly**

**At 11am PT / 12pm MT
1pm CT / 2pm ET**

- September 3, 2026
- September 17, 2026
- October 1, 2026
- October 15, 2026
- November 5, 2026
- November 19, 2026
- December 3, 2026
- December 17, 2026

This project was made possible with funding support of the Morgan Stanley Foundation and the Mental Wellness Foundation. The contents are those of the faculty and do not necessarily represent the views of Morgan Stanley, the Morgan Stanley Foundation, and the Mental Wellness Foundation.

Upcoming Educational Opportunities/Meetings/Events (cont.)

2026 Pediatric Emergency Medicine Conference

Monday-Tuesday, **October 19-20, 2026**

St. Luke's Plaza

Central Plaza Auditorium

720 E. Park Blvd., Boise, ID 83712

The countdown is on!

We are excited to welcome attendees to the **Pediatric Emergency Medicine Conference on October 19-20, 2026 at St. Luke's Plaza in Boise, Idaho**. Whether you're looking to strengthen your clinical skills, discover evidence-based practices, or connect with pediatric emergency care colleagues from across the region, this conference has something for everyone.

Don't forget these added perks:

- **Hands-On Skills Stations:**
 - Registration is required, but no additional costs
 - Featured stations include:
 - Airway Station
 - Trauma skills
 - Hemorrhage management and more!!
 - **Lunch provided** for all skills lab participants
- **Conference Social Event:**
 - Wrap up Day 1 by connecting with fellow attendees at Top Golf!
 - Registration is required, but there is no additional cost to attend.

With expert speakers, practical content, and hands-on learning opportunities, this is a conference you won't want to miss.
Registration closes September 29, 2026.

Visit the conference website for the tentative agenda and registration information: [Pediatric Emergency Medicine Conference 2026](#)

We can't wait to learn, network, and grow together this October!
See you there!

For any conference questions, please reach out to pedsemconf@slhs.org!



2026 AAP Experience – National Conference & Exhibition



[AAP Experience: National Conference & Exhibition – October 2-6, 2026](#)

Upcoming Educational Opportunities/Meetings/Events (cont.)

2026 Relational Health & Trauma-Informed Care Course



aap.org/shopaap

American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®





2026 RELATIONAL HEALTH & TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE

Sponsored by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and the AAP Council on Child Abuse and Neglect (COCAN) and Council on Foster Care, Adoption and Kinship Care (COFCAKC)

LEARN MORE

 **OCTOBER 30-NOVEMBER 1, 2026**
 **AUSTIN, TX**

Earn up to 18.00 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)[™] and 10 MOC Part 2 points.

Safer Communities: Secure Firearm Storage Conversations – Online Course

'Safer Communities: Secure Firearm Storage Conversations'

Help families create safer environments for children and adolescents with a free, evidence-informed online course from the AAP. Through brief videos, real-world counseling scenarios, and practical tools, pediatric clinicians will learn respectful, nonjudgmental approaches to discussing secure firearm storage, evidence-based injury prevention strategies, and effective communication techniques in routine pediatric care. [Register here](#).



Resources

Idaho Oral Health Alliance News for AAP – Idaho Chapter

Fluoride Varnish Training Program for Pediatric Teams

The IOHA offers in-clinic or live web training to assist medical practices in adopting basic oral health services including assessments and application of fluoride varnish. Based on best practices and research by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), the session can be delivered in less than an hour and includes printed and on-line resources, tips for seeking reimbursement and dental referrals, and ongoing support for the six-month pilot phase. To request a training for your clinic, contact Jennifer Wheeler, IOHA Executive Director, jwheeler@idahooralhealth.org

Childcare Provider Oral Health Training

Between September and November, the Idaho Oral Health Alliance (IOHA) will present six regional in-person training to childcare providers, Head Start teachers, and participants in the Parents as Teachers and Nurse Family Partner programs. These trainings help childcare providers better understand the importance of oral health and adopt classroom activities that encourage healthy mouths and healthy lifestyles. Resources, including materials for in-home care, will be distributed. Any interested childcare provider will be able to register on the IOHA website by Sept. 1. <https://www.idahooralhealth.org/>

Oral Health Training for Midwives

The IOHA and partners have created a 30–45-minute training to assist providers who work with pregnant women in adopting basic oral health services including assessments and education. The material is based on best practices, can be delivered in less than an hour, and includes printed and on-line resources, tips for seeking reimbursement, and guidance for patients. If you know an Idaho provider that would like to receive this training in-person or via a live web session, or wants to know more about care and prevention, connect them with Jennifer Wheeler, IOHA Executive Director, jwheeler@idahooralhealth.org

Oral Health Support Portal

New Resource: Oral Health Support Portal

Please consider sharing this resource with chapter members.

The AAP is excited to announce updates to the Campaign for Dental Health (CDH) website, ILikeMyTeeth.org, and a new feature, the [Advocacy Support Request Portal](#), where members and chapters can request AAP support for community water fluoridation and other oral health advocacy needs. Users will be able to access AAP resources on medical dental integration, request assistance with practice implementation, seek to collaborate on oral health initiatives, and otherwise learn how pediatricians and other primary care professionals engage in and partner on children's oral health promotion and disease prevention.



Book Corner

***Narwhal vs Kindergarten* by Vanessa Roeder**

A gentle tale from the beloved creator of *The Box Turtle* about a narwhal whose horn keeps getting in the way during his first week of school, until his new friends help him find just the right accommodations.