



# Maine Pediatrics

## April 2023 - Newsletter: Highlights

President's Message

Maine AAP Spring Conference

Event Spotlight: Pediatricians Go To Washington

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Anti-Racism, Justice - Recommendation for April

Advocacy/Legislation Committee Update and Invitation to Join

Raffle - Congrats to March Winners! New April Raffle

'In the News' Feature for April

Upcoming Maine AAP and Partner Programs



### President's Message

Laura Blaisdell, MD, MPH, FAAP

Can it already be April? Wow- what a month March has been!! What has Maine AAP been doing this month, you might ask?

- We have members who attended the National AAP Legislative Advocacy Conference in DC who met with Senator Collins and several other legislators providing the pediatrician's voice on issues from mental health, to tobacco, to access to cancer screening.
- We have members writing grants with us which focus on kids and disaster preparedness, to increase funding for substance abuse treatment, to expand infection control resources and education through Project Firstline, and to improve gun safety.
- We have members leading grant efforts to put COPE in schools, improve adolescent transition to adult care, and improve access to oral health.
- We have members providing education about obesity guidelines, the unwinding of the public health emergency and gender affirming care.
- We have members on workgroups trying to address gun safety, Maine's lack of paid leave, and so, so much more.

We are a compassionate group of providers supporting each other in our mission to improve the lives of Maine's children and families. Thank you for all you do for the Maine AAP, your patients their families and our communities.



## 2023 spring conference

**a**dvocacy **a**wareness **p**revention

april 28-30 | samoset resort

[Learn More and Register](#)

## SPOTLIGHT - Maine Pediatricians in DC!



Maine pediatricians, Drs. Amy Buczkowski, Adrienne Carmack, Pam Dietz and Alyssa Goodwin went to Washington, DC to learn from advocacy experts and share their voices on Capitol Hill. They met with Senator Susan Collins to discuss and combat the negative impact of internet use on children's mental health, and the other Maine delegations on topics affecting Maine youth and their families.

### Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Justice & Anti-Racism

This month we feature a podcast revealing some of Maine's history with systemic racism and white supremacy: <https://www.99yearspod.com> If you'd rather read it than listen: <https://mainernews.com/99-years/>



**ACTION ALERT:** Defend Maine's childhood vaccination law! On Monday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> the Joint Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs will consider a slate of six anti-vaccine bills. Join us to testify in person, via zoom, or submit written testimony, and contact your lawmakers. For details:

<https://www.maineamiliesforvaccines.com/action>

Concerned about Gun Safety? There are also several bills being heard on 4/3. Take a moment to watch the [Every Town for Gun Safety Video](#) and the [Maine Gun Safety Coalition's Safe Storage Video](#).

[Let us know if you can help!](#)

Current Bill  
Tracker

## RAFFLE/GIVE AWAY FOR APRIL

Enter to win a 50% discount on registration for the 2023 Spring Conference - Advocacy, Awareness, Prevention!

**Congratulations to the March winners:** Drs. James Bohnhoff and Jenny Paul!

Two winners will be chosen this month!

Enter Here

## In the News

### Medicaid Changes Are Coming - AAP Sends Out Advice to the Unwinding of Medicaid

Visit the [Maine AAP Website](#) to read about the unwinding of Medicaid and the many resources to help your patients and families.

### Alfond Scholarship Foundation

Maine AAP is proud to partner with the Alfond Scholarship Foundation (ASF) by sharing information about the My Alfond Grant Program and the \$500 Alfond Grant invested on behalf of babies born as Maine residents after 1/1/2013 for education after high school. [Read More Here.](#)

## Upcoming Maine AAP Programs

**TREAT ME Learning Collaborative** - Block Five Asynchronous material is now available. Dr. Adrienne Carmack, Medical Director for the Office of Child and Family Services addresses "Social Considerations (Housing, School, Work, Juvenile Justice Involvement)". The next live webinar is on Co-Occurring Medical Illness presented by Dr. Emily Nields who is currently a Pediatric Addiction Medicine fellow at the Adolescent Substance Use and Addiction Program of Boston Children's Hospital. [READ MORE](#)

2023 Maine AAP Spring Conference - [Advocacy, Awareness, Prevention](#) 4/28-30

## Upcoming Partner Programs

[Maine Nutrition Council Virtual Event](#) - April 6th: 2PM-4PM

Hardy Girls is excited to announce this year's [Be You Boldly Conferences!](#) These

events, which are open to girls and nonbinary youth in grades 4-8, are completely planned and run by high school youth, and they are days of empowerment, confidence-building, and fun. This year, we have conferences in **Ellsworth (4/11)**, **Waterville (4/12)**, and **Portland (4/13)**. Registration closes a week before each conference, so we encourage individuals and groups to sign up ASAP at [hghw.org/be-you-boldly](http://hghw.org/be-you-boldly). If you have any questions, please contact [shannon@hghw.org](mailto:shannon@hghw.org).

[Maine Pediatric & Behavioral Health Partnership: A Brief Discussion of Mental Health First Aid](#) **April 12 - 7:30-8:30am**

[MRBN Conference: TOGETHER WE CAN THRIVE: Creating an equitable shared path forward to promote resilience in Maine communities](#) - **April 12-13**

The Barbara Bush Children's Hospital presents "[Partnerships in Pediatrics - Sharing Information...Serving Maine's Children](#)" - **April 25 - 12-5pm**

## Connect with us on Social Media & Show your Support!

The power to spread good messages, share new clinical info or pertinent articles is exponential when using social media platforms such as Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn and Instagram. <https://linktr.ee/maineaap>

The Maine AAP is grateful to our community of supporters, whose donations fund the important work that happens outside of the exam room. From legislative advocacy to vaccine clinics to mentorship, your gift will help Maine AAP ensure that Maine kids receive the best quality of care and that their doctors have access to the most up to date resources and guidelines. [Please consider your gift today.](#)

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