



Maine Pediatrics

March 2023 - Newsletter: Highlights

President's Message

Maine AAP Spring Conference

Event Spotlight: Mentor Program Kick Off Event

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

Advocacy/Legislation Committee Update and Invitation to Join

Raffle - Congrats for Feb and New for March

'In the News' Feature for March

Upcoming Maine AAP and Partner Programs



President's Message

Laura Blaisdell, MD, MPH, FAAP

March is an interesting month is it not? Days are finally feeling a bit longer and sometimes the temperatures hint that we should look for an ambitious crocus or two. We watch our March Madness brackets and wonder why the assassination of Caesar still looms ominous after 2067 years in the use of the phrase, "Ides of March".

The social unrest surrounding Caesar's death reminds us that our government structure, which is modeled heavily on the Romans, requires our constant care and vigilance to ensure a strong country in which power is shared by many. This busy legislative season reminds us of the tremendous power that pediatricians possess when we use our collective experience, stories and voices to advocate for positive change for children and families in Maine. Thank you for all you are doing to support kids in and out of the exam room!



2023 spring conference

advocacy **a**wareness **p**revention

april 28-30 | samoset resort

[Learn More and Register Here!](#)

Mentor Program Kick Off at RiRa!

The Career/Leadership/Mentorship Committee hosted a Mentor Program Kick-off on Tuesday, 3/7 at RiRa in Portland. A great mix of students, residents, primary care docs, hospitalists and specialists attended. The next event will be on Saturday evening at the annual conference in collaboration with a poster session and reception.

The Maine AAP's Mentor Program, newly formed in 2023, provides an opportunity for our members to grow professionally through skill attainment, knowledge building, and networking while strengthening relationships with professional colleagues in Maine.

Click [HERE](#) to sign up to be a **mentor!** Click [HERE](#) to sign up to be a **mentee!**

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/>

Advocacy/Legislation

The Maine AAP is weighing in on legislation focused on issues pediatricians care about such as firearm safety, ending the sale of flavored tobacco products / reducing youth smoking, improving mental health services, increasing oral health access, LGBTQ+ care and more. Get involved by writing testimony, calling your legislator, or working in your community. Check out the Maine AAP's bill tracker for issues you are passionate about and connect to work with us! Our advocacy committee meets monthly. The next meeting is Thurs, 3/16 at 5pm. [Click here to tell us](#) and we'll add you to the distribution for the meeting invite.

Current Bill
Tracker

RAFFLE/GIVE AWAY FOR MARCH

Enter to win a coupon for **50% off** the registration fee for the Maine AAP Spring Conference, April 28-30th at the Samoset Resort or a gray Maine AAP

In the News

From the First Tooth (Re)introduces Bruce the Dental Health Moose!

FTFT is excited to launch the *Bruce the Dental Health Moose* pilot project, reviving a beloved Maine CDC oral health mascot to be the face of this effort. As part of this pilot, 9 primary care sites will receive and distribute family oral health kits during well-child visits with toothpaste, floss, and a toothbrush for each family member, as well as educational materials on establishing healthy mouth habits. This project will expand next year to include additional practices. Watch for information to sign up for the next cohort!

Comprehensive Behavioral

fleece vest!

Congratulations to Last Month's Winners:

Susan Abel, MD
Dartmouth/Hitchcock

Cathryn Sherman
Brewer Schools

[Enter Here](#)

Health Plan for Maine

The Maine Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) released a [Comprehensive Behavioral Health Plan for Maine](#) (PDF) last week intended to improve the continuum of behavioral health services available to Maine people from childhood throughout the lifespan.

Maine Department of Education

The immunization requirements for Maine Schools have been translated into 8 languages and can be found [HERE](#).

Upcoming Maine AAP Programs

TREAT ME Learning Collaborative - Block Four Asynchronous material is now available. Dr. Sarah Bagley, Medical Director of the CATALYST (Center for Addiction Treatment for Adolescents/Young adults who use Substances) Clinic in Boston addresses "Working with Families Impacted by Substance Abuse". The next live webinar is on Co-Occurring Mental Illness presented by Dr. Kevin Simon who practices as a Pediatric & Adult Psychiatrist and Addiction Medicine specialist through the Adolescent Substance use & Addiction Program at Boston Children's Hospital. [READ MORE](#)

Building Welcoming Inclusive Medical Practices for LGBTQ+ Youth
March 21, 12 - 1:30PM (non-clinical) or **7 - 8:30PM** (clinical) CME is pending for the clinically focused session. Learn about evidence-based strategies to provide optimum care to LGBTQ+ youth in the practice setting. [REGISTER](#)

Upcoming Partner Programs

[Maine Health - Resiliency-Built Pediatric Care Training \(ACES, SDOH & Developmental Screening\)](#) - **March 15th: 12PM-1PM**

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

[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: 12PM-5PM**

Connect with us on Social Media!!

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>

Sent by dee.kerry@maineaap.org in collaboration
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