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ANNUAL REPORT

Tennessee Chapter

American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®



Our Mission

The Tennessee Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics is committed to being a leading voice, advocate and authority for the physical, mental and social welfare of infants, children and adolescents, as well as the pediatricians who care for them.



A letter from our leaders...

As we reflect on another challenging year in pediatrics in Tennessee, a word that often comes to mind is perspective. It seems as if these last three years have been a blur. As we prepared this report, it was common to look back to ensure what year some of these events took place. We know we have faced challenging pieces of legislation, continued community violence and mass shootings, threats to our colleagues, attacks on immunizations, natural disasters due to climate change, and much more. However, we know that because of you, our members, there is hope. There is joy in pediatrics in all that we do. Sometimes it gets a little lost in the phone calls to insurance companies, the last note of the day, a challenging case, or that required module. But it's always there. And that is why our perspective is so important. Initially, this word brings to mind school art projects- drawing a city streetscape that fades into a central point of focus. However, lately, as we get older, time seems to pass so quickly. This is often due to our perception and perspective of time. When we are young the days are long, we are always enjoying new experiences, and we have plenty of time for play.

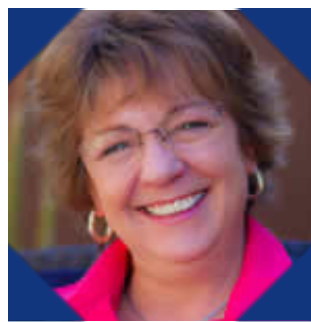
Once we're older we tend to get caught in our routines and rely on the processes that we've hardwired into our brain over the years. What does all of this mean? Find the joy in pediatrics. Try something new. Trick your brain! Change your mind. Quite simply, take a lesson from the kids and just play for a while. And although this won't fix all of the world's problems, it's a start. Our work is important, and we need all of you! Children are our North Star in all that we do. TNAAP continues to be the leading voice for children and pediatricians in Tennessee. You continue to tell us that our advocacy work is what is most important, and we have been tremendously successful thanks to our leadership and all of you. While we continue to be active in COVID related areas, we have also been active in maintaining high immunizations standards, supporting the patient-physician relationship, protecting access to care, and expanding services for children and families in Tennessee through our advocacy work.

Our programs work to provide services to you around mental and behavioral health, practice management, EPSDT and coding, immunizations, developmental screenings and referrals, and quality improvement. Our voice is being heard throughout the state through numerous articles, interviews, and op-ed pieces. We are the go-to source when it comes to children's health. Our membership numbers and financial condition remain very healthy. We are ready to face the challenges head on as we consider the turmoil of the last three years and work to continue to be a champion for children in Tennessee. Pause for a moment to think on your source of joy in our work, take some time to play, evaluate your perspective, and then dig in for another exciting year!



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jason Yaun, MD".

Jason Yaun, MD, FAAP
TNAAP President



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Ruth E. Allen".

Ruth E. Allen
TNAAP Executive Director

point of view **Advocacy** ['ædv support of an i the act of pleac mending

Advocacy continues to be reported as our number one member benefit.



TNAAP's 2022 advocacy efforts required taking on numerous issues important to children, families, and pediatricians at the state and federal level.

We spoke out about the need to protect public health measures and the importance of both COVID and routine childhood immunizations. We worked with the Governor's Office, TennCare, and other policy makers around COVID related policies, monitored hundreds of bills in the state legislature, and had many successes despite ongoing challenges. TNAAP spoke out on topics such as children's mental health, the importance of immunizations, challenges with payers, payment for telehealth services and immunization counseling, later school start times for adolescents, and the importance of programs benefiting families, such as post-partum and dental coverage for mothers on TennCare and insurance access to name a few!

Payer Advocacy

TNAAP's Pediatric Council



2022 Successes include:

- Worked with TennCare MCOs to advocate successfully for payment of COVID vaccine counseling – 99401
- Continued to work with TennCare MCOs on SDOH pilot programs to improve data capturing
- Worked with TennCare MCOs to successfully advocate for payment for new Principal Care Management Codes 99424-99426
- Worked with UHC to reverse improper flu vaccine denials
- Worked with Amerigroup on Cover Kids Transition
- Worked with the Immunization Program, UHC and Amerigroup to resolve denials for MenQuadfi and flu vaccine
- Advocated successfully for increase payment for 90471 with BlueCross



Convincing payers to remove inappropriate edits and claims denials



Addressing inappropriate prior authorization requirements



Advocating for coverage of certain services and CPT codes



Halting payer audits and recoupments

Members are encouraged to submit payer-related issues to
janet.sutton@tnaap.org.

State Legislative Advocacy



TNAAP monitored hundreds of bills and lobbied for and against numerous pieces of legislation. The following list highlights some examples of legislation we actively lobbied on, many of which included providing legislative testimony at various committee hearings.

LEGISLATIVE AND BUDGET WINS

- Stopped Nurse Practitioner and Physician Assistant Independent Practice legislation*
- Expanded the definition of provider-based telehealth to include audio-only conversations when other options are unavailable
- Defeated several COVID-19 related and general anti-vaccine bills
- Protected the mature minor doctrine
- Spoke out on various legislation limiting access to gender-affirming care for transgender youth
- Elimination of Professional Privilege Tax for doctors (starting in 2023)
- Extension of TEIS services through age four (for those enrolled by age three)
- Increased funding for several key areas including new primary care residency spots in Tennessee, school nurses and counselors, and TennCare Coverage for post-partum mothers for 12 months following delivery plus dental services.

*TNAAP continues to be very active with the Coalition for Collaborative Care (CCC) – a coalition of all medical specialties formed to tackle these scope of practice issues.



TNAAP hosted our annual **Day on the Hill** event March 2, 2022.

Over 40 members attended and 38 meetings were scheduled with legislators for the day!

Special thanks to TNAAP's Legislative Committee Chairs Dr. Hunter Butler, Dr. Dorothy Sinard and Dr. Barb Dentz as well as our lobbyists Jim Schmidt and Melanie Bull.

Advocacy for Children, Families, and Pediatricians



COVID-Related Activities

Weekly Chapter Chats with National AAP

Regular eblast updates to members

Letter to school superintendents regarding the importance of quarantine and isolation and that current TN Department of Health Guidelines allow each school the ability to establish and enforce quarantine requirements under the emergency rule.

Ongoing activity in courts related to Amicus Briefs

Various Op-Eds/Articles/Interviews

Letter to the Governor followed by meeting with Governor's Chief of Staff, Joseph Williams

- *Advocacy around TN rollout of COVID vaccines for children 6 months to 5 years of age*
- *Ensuring vaccines are widely available, including at local health departments*

Monitoring bivalent booster rollout

Advocacy for Children, Families, and Pediatricians

Activities

- Supported TEIS Extension
- Submitted letter during open comments period on TennCare III Waiver, Amendment IV
- Signed on to letter with AAP and others in support of the Department of the Treasury and the Internal Revenue Service Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) to eliminate the "family glitch" under which children are disproportionately impacted. More than half of the 5 million people who are locked out of subsidized coverage are children.
- Later school start times support letter



Firearms Safety

- TNAAP support letter for Be SMART to use in promoting the program
- Co-branding of materials
- Conducted webinar for members to introduce the program

2022 Awards



Pediatrician of the Year 2022
Dr. Morgan McDonald (image with Dr. Anna Morad)



Lifetime Achievement Award
Dr. Kipp Frizzell (image with Dr. Gail Beeman)



Lifetime Achievement Award
Dr. Joel Bradley (image with Dr. Jason Yaun)



TNAAP Advocating in the Media!

Op-Ed Submissions

TNAAP leadership submitted numerous Op-Eds throughout the year including:

- The Hill – Hope on the horizon for parents of young children awaiting COVID-19 vaccine (J. Yaun, A. Morad, C. Smith)
- The Hill - Don't forget about our youngest children - Most remain unvaccinated (J. Yaun, C. Smith)
- The Hill - How to Tackle a Pediatric 'Tripledemic' (C. Smith, J. Yaun)

TNAAP @TNAAPChapter · Dec 1, 2022
TNAAP Members in the News: Board president @JasonYaunMD spoke with @mandyfrachnews and @FOX13Memphis about how falling immunization rates are putting kids at risk for measles



fox13memphis.com
Doctors warn parents in Mid-South to be prepared for measles outb...
While there have not been any reported cases so far in the Mid-South, health experts said it's a concern because the virus can spread ...

Media Interviews

The news media continues to turn to TNAAP for expert opinions:

- Fox13 - Doctors warn parents in Mid-South to be prepared for measles outbreak
- NewsChannel5 - 'We're kind of the epicenter of influenza right now': TN among states leading the nation in flu activity
- WKRN - Schools close in Tennessee as sickness sweeps across the state
- KWAM-AM - Le Bonheur Doctor Tells Parents How Much Sleep Kids Need
- Cleveland Daily Banner - Vaccines for young children are safe
- NewsChannel3 - FedEx helps to off-load transport specialty baby formula

Media training for Pediatricians

Session 1 featured Susan Stevens Martins, the AAP Director of News, Media, & PR

- Message development, on camera presentation and interviewing skills

Session 2 featured well-known local TV Reporters Phil Williams and Brad Broders and newspaper reporter David Waters

- Provided tips on working with reporters

TNAAP's first distribution from the TNAAP endowment funded this training.



TNAAP Representation with AAP

AAP Leadership Conference - August 2022



Dr. Anna Morad (TNAAP Past President), Ruth Allen (TNAAP Executive Director), Dr. Moira Szilagyi (AAP President), and Dr. Jason Yaun (TNAAP President)



AAP National Conference & Exhibition - October 2022



TNAAP Training has Measurable Success!!

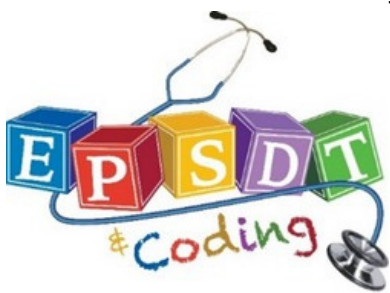


Trained a total of 981 people

- 555 of those were Pediatric and Family residents, PNP, FNP, PA, and NP students
- 12 Practices received the complimentary developmental screening kits as part of an initiative to complete the START program
- Continued outreach to practices across the state to share information about TNAAP and the START program
- Raised awareness about TEIS extension through age 4 (including multiple member communications and conducting a webinar)

BeHiP trained a total of 1040 participants

- 99 participants were trained through 11 Monthly BeHiP Learning Collaborative sessions
- 244 through 5 community-based trainings
- 597 through online Learning Modules
- 248 participants claimed CME credit through Learning Collaborative and online modules
- Participants report increased confidence in managing complex behavioral health conditions to include recognizing trauma, applying trauma competent care, increased collaboration with the child welfare system, behavioral health providers, and managing psychopharmacology



Trainings

- Office Support/Consults (audits, assistance with coding issues such as modifier usage, MCO problems, telehealth, EPSDT, etc.) – 58 practices - 67 participants
- Formal Trainings at offices, regional events – 2022 EPSDT and Coding Update, and Practice Managers' Conference - 236 practices - 535 attendees
- EPSDT and Coding Webinar Views – 188

Trainings

- 45 practices with 153 attendees

Well Care QI Project

- 14 practices representing 134 physicians and 70,376 patients

MOC Part 4 Credit

- 5 physicians and 125 total points awarded

New QI Projects Developed and approved for MOC Part 4 Credit

- Well Care Age 0-2
- Increasing Immunizations



Launched a NEW Educational Program



- Operates Monthly Immunization ECHO Offering CME (ECHO topics to including building vaccine confidence, promoting vaccines in the community, etc.)
- Includes an optional associated QI Project with MOC Part IV Credit
- Offers Training Modules for staff
- Provides toolkits for practices including sample social media posts patient handouts, posters, etc.

TNAAP also received funding to partner in a pilot project in West TN to offer a behavioral health consult line for pediatricians. Watch for more information on this!

Continuing Education for the Whole Practice!



2022 Practice Management Conference offered participants continuing education on a variety of topics including:

- Sshhh! Juggling Adolescent Confidentially in Your Practice
- Feeling the Burn(out): How to Recruit, Retain and Motivate Your Staff
- No Surprises with Surprise Billing
- A Little Coffee Talk Amongst Ourselves – Breakout sessions Workflow/Transition to Endemic
- Staff Morale
- Pearls and Common Issues at Your Practice Break out discussion groups
- Finding the Right Vendors for Your Practice
- Coding for HEDIS and Quality Measures



2022 TSPC conference highlights:

- Engaging Topics and Speakers
- 85 Registrations
- Friday night trivia was a success!
- 15 Resident/Student Posters Submitted



Topics Covered

- Parent-Engaged Developmental Monitoring Using CDC's New Developmental Milestone Checklists
- Community-Acquired Pneumonia and the Case for Antimicrobial Stewardship
- Articles that Could Change the Way You Practice: The Tennessee Edition
- State Health Round Table
- The Crisis of Adolescent Mental Health: the Pandemic and Beyond
- Seeing Spots: Rashes in Children

Chapter Financial Results

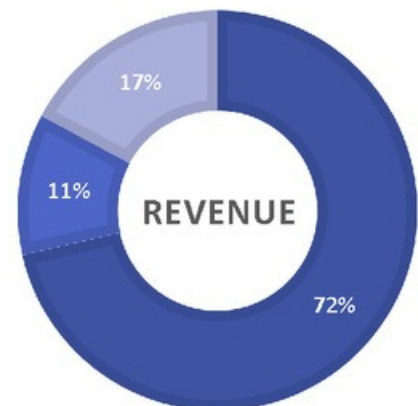
Year Ended June 30, 2022

The chapter finished the fiscal year ending 6/30/22 with a \$159,603 increase to net assets and a total reserves balance of \$616,659. The chapter continued providing important educational programs funded by over \$750,000 in grants.

The chapter's endowment fund continued to grow during 2022 ending the year with a balance of more than \$50,000. Contributions to the endowment will support the chapter's mission over the long-term.

REVENUE AND SUPPORT

Grants	\$ 750,315	72%
Membership Dues	119,800	11%
Sponsorships & Other Income	180,075	17%
Total Revenue	\$ 1,050,190	



EXPENSES

Program Services	\$ 769,637	87%
Management & General	90,511	10%
Fundraising	30,439	3%
Total Expenses	\$ 890,587	
Change in Net Assets	\$ 159,603	



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Assets	\$ 764,394
Liabilities and Net Assets	
Liabilities	\$ 147,735
Net Assets	616,659
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 764,394

ENDOWMENT FUND

Balance as of June 30, 2022	\$ 50,872
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TNAAP Donor Report

Creating a Legacy for Future Pediatricians: TNAAP's Endowment Fund

This endowment continues to help fulfill TNAAP's mission by supporting TNAAP's long-term educational, advocacy and quality improvement programs. The fund was established in 2020 by Stuart T. Weinberg, MD. Contributions to the endowment also support the chapter over the long-term by increasing future annual distributions for tomorrow's pediatricians.

Endowment Contributors to date:

Ruth Allen

Blake Bergeron, MD

Suzanne Berman, MD*

Becky Brumley

Hunter Butler, MD*

Miranda Butler, MD*

Barbara Dentz, MD*

Gayatri Jaishankar, MD

Elisha McCoy, MD

Anna Morad, MD*

Dorothy Sinard, MD*

Carlenda Smith, MD

Lindsey Wargo, MD

Stuart Weinberg, MD*

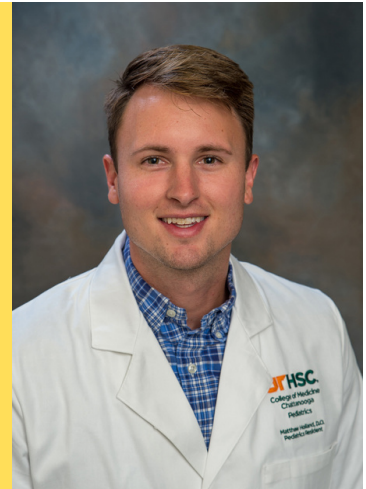
Toni Whitaker, MD

Jason Yaun, MD

The Tennessee Chapter of the AAP Endowment fund received its second annual distribution in 2022! This initial \$400 dispersal was used to fund a two-part (free) Media Training Opportunity for TNAAP Members during 2022. **The second annual distribution (\$1,269) was used to provide a stipend to a resident in 2022 to attend the AAP National Conference and Exhibition.**

"I want to say a huge thank you to all of the members of TNAAP for allowing me the opportunity to attend the AAP National Conference and Exhibition. I can't possibly summarize all of the numerous amazing encounters I had. Nevertheless, please know that your support provided a future pediatrician with an unforgettable experience, and I truly hope that the ideas I brought back to my program will provide tangible benefit to the state of Tennessee."

Matthew Holland, DO, PGY-1 Pediatrics, University of Tennessee,
College of Medicine - Chattanooga



2022 General Fund Donors

Suzanne Berman, MD*

Barbara Dentz, MD*

Anna Morad, MD

Jason Yaun, MD

*Major Donor - \$1,000 or more

Tennessee Chapter

INCORPORATED IN TENNESSEE

American Academy
of Pediatrics



DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®

2022 TNAAP Board of Directors

Jason Yaun, MD - President
Carlenda Smith, MD - Vice-President
Lindsey Wargo, MD - Secretary
Anna Morad, MD - Nominating Chair/
Immediate Past President

Fellows-at-Large

Paty Carasusan, MD (West)
Debo Odulana, MD (West)
Maya Neeley, MD (Middle)
Toni-Ann Wright, MD (Middle)
Gayatri Jaishankar, MD (East)
Sara Trimiew, MD (East)
Karen Schetzina, MD - Membership Chair

TENNESSEE CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS
P.O. BOX 159201
NASHVILLE, TN 37215-9201

Return Service Requested

TNAAP Staff

Ruth Allen, Executive Director
Janet Sutton, EPSDT and Coding Program Manager
Susan Rollyson, START Program Manager
Elaine Riley, BeHiP Program Manager
Becky Brumley, PHiT Program Manager/ Quality Coach
Samantha Williams, Immunization Program Manager
Trudy Williams, Practice Management Quality Coach
Melissa Koffman, Finance Manager
Sara Chang, Communications Manager
Ned Dannenberg, Communications Coordinator

We Thrive Because of You!

2022 brought many challenges for the medical community. We appreciate your continued faith in us to provide you support during the last year. Your support, guidance, and dedication to Tennessee's children help make our work possible! We could not be prouder of the pediatric community in TN who rose to the occasion again and again during the pandemic.

