

# Iowa Chapter

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American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®



## President's Message



I hope you are all doing well during the pandemic. It has been a difficult time for most of us. I know we are all looking forward to the changes that are coming related to having immunizations available. I was in a virtual meeting earlier today with national AAP where they were discussing the upcoming immunization availability. It appears they are starting to do more research in children down to the age of 12 now with the Pfizer vaccine.

Future rollout of other vaccines for SARS CoV-2 appears to be well on track and pediatricians have been part of this in the national level. As you know, we are still in early dissemination of the vaccine across our state. We all hope this continues to go smoothly and rapidly. Iowa AAP is pleased to have our Vice President, Marianka Pille, MD serving on the Infectious Disease Advisory Council (IDAC). I do encourage you to get your immunizations as soon as possible and encourage others to do the same.

I have enjoyed the chance to meet some more of you during our virtual chats. We are looking forward to host more of those soon, including one specifically related to dealing with pediatric obesity that seems to be rising dramatically during the pandemic. There are also thoughts of having specific topics for the other chats in the near future. If you have any specific thoughts or topics that you would like us to address during a virtual chat please give us a call.

Our state chapter board, like many of you, is looking forward to times when we can get together in person again. When we can do so we do plan on having more in person activities for our chapter across the state and even possibly for those outside of our state. Again, I hope all of you are doing well and wish you a happy and safe 2021.

Sincerely,

Dan Wright, D.O.

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## E-Cigarette Champion for IA AAP

Hello Iowa AAP members. I want to reintroduce myself in a new role as the E-Cigarette Champion for the Iowa Chapter of the AAP. I have completed my training and am excited for the opportunity to share the wonderful tools available to assist within your clinic and community for prevention, screening, cessation and advocacy. I hope to provide clinically relevant guidance and education opportunities to help pediatricians, and those who care for Iowa youth, fight the E-Cigarette epidemic.

Please watch for more information in our communications, including a future CME Webinar being developed in cooperation with the Wisconsin and Illinois E-Cigarette Champions. We hope to host this in the coming months.

Below is an outstanding resource- a new **Tobacco-Free Schools Initiative** from the Alliance for a Healthier Generation. **“This is designed to improve the health of students and foster tobacco-free learning environments. AAP members and staff reviewed content prior to its finalization.”** Learn more below and at the following [webpage](#): This is a wonderful tool you may share with your colleagues and local school districts. Please contact me if I can provide you with other resources in the meantime or if you are interested in working on any E-Cigarette/Vaping/Tobacco-free initiatives.

Amy Kimball, DO FAAP

E-Cigarette Champion, Iowa Chapter of the AAP

Past President, Iowa Chapter of the AAP

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## Introducing Our Tobacco-Free Schools Initiative

Schools and districts nationwide are challenged with creating vape-free and tobacco-free campuses that support the health, well-being and academic success of the next generation.

Healthier Generation, together with the CVS Health Foundation and the American Heart Association, are proud to launch the [Tobacco-Free School Initiative](#) to foster supportive learning environments that center tobacco cessation and prevention. Participating schools and districts can access at no cost:

- [Tobacco-Free District Model Policy](#) that promotes supportive disciplinary practices and alternatives to suspension
- [Tobacco-Free District Assessment](#) that helps districts identify opportunities to update or strengthen their current tobacco policies and practices
- Technical assistance and support to guide leaders in creating sustainable change
- On-demand webinars to help educators grow and sustain a tobacco-free culture of health
- Shareable, evidence-based strategies and resources for staff and families

Start creating a tobacco-free school today!

[Get Started Today](#)

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## Help is Here!

Leveraging 1<sup>st</sup> Five Partnerships during a Pandemic

By Meredith Fishbane-Gordon, MD

The primary care landscape has changed a lot since the start of the pandemic. On top of financial stress, many primary care offices have felt the increased strain endured by families during this time; yet most practices do not have the infrastructure to help parents and other caregivers of young children navigate their concerns nor the ever-changing sea of resources.

1<sup>st</sup> Five Healthy Mental Development Initiative is here to help! Located in 88 of Iowa's 99 counties, the 1<sup>st</sup> Five Healthy Mental Development Initiative is run by Iowa's Department of Public Health. 1<sup>st</sup> Five partners with primary care practices and serves as a referral resource for their patients aged birth to five years old through connection with their parents or other caregivers.

Started 13 years ago, 1<sup>st</sup> Five remains true to the heart of its mission: to support providers in the important work of identifying developmental delays as early as possible through routine developmental surveillance and screening as outlined by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)'s Bright Futures

guidelines and Iowa's Early Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) program.

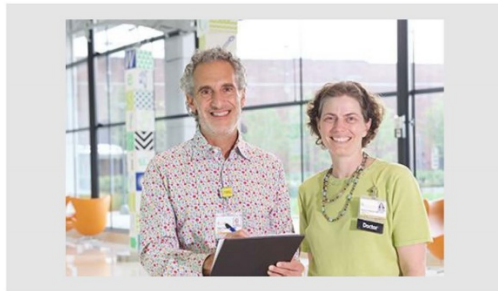
Additionally, as part of their mission to support children who are at risk of or have a development delay, 1<sup>st</sup> Five often results in benefits for the whole family through support and resource connections.

As the research on early brain development has shown, support and connection to community resources addressing the social determinants of health can offer the much-needed buffer to stress and trauma during tough times. 1<sup>st</sup> Five works with parents and caregivers of all referred children to assess additional needs to maximize the support for each child's development; intake protocols include questions to elucidate food insecurity, difficulty with finding quality childcare, caregiver depression, and housing insecurity. In fact, for every referral received by a 1<sup>st</sup> Five Site Coordinator, approximately three connections with resources are made. In fiscal year 2020 alone, 1<sup>st</sup> Five received 2,788 referrals from 652 providers representing 362 clinics. From these 2,788 referrals, 6,344 diverse needs were identified and addressed through community connections by the 1<sup>st</sup> Five team, demonstrating the power of this program to help unearth additional social determinants needs. Once connections are made, the 1<sup>st</sup> Five team follows up with families to ensure that they receive the intended community support and then provides timely feedback to the referring primary care provider to ensure that everyone stays on the same page.

1<sup>st</sup> Five is a clutch teammate for other reasons as well. Besides being the referral resource for your practice, 1<sup>st</sup> Five also partners with offices who are not yet doing the recommended universal developmental screening to provide tools and trainings to help integrate these best practices into the office setting *and* get additional payment for doing this important work. These tools include not only general developmental screening and autism specific screening, which many practices have already integrated into their workflow, but also social-emotional screening that can be very useful to providers confronting young patients with behavioral issues or emotional concerns. Young children are feeling the strain of this pandemic alongside their parents; this stress can manifest in myriad ways including developmental delay, increased emotionality, or difficult behaviors. 1<sup>st</sup> Five can provide the tools and resources to help your practice navigate supporting a young child and their parents during these unprecedented times.

If you have any questions about 1<sup>st</sup> Five, its mission or how you can get connected, please refer to [IDPH's website](#) for your local connection to these services.

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Consult with a University of Iowa Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist to address your mental health questions at 1800-322-8442.

This free service is available 24 hours a day/ 7 days a week.

#### Common Questions:

- Are there other medication options for this specific clinical problem?
- What guidance can I give parents?
- Are there resources for a specific clinical problem?
- What is an approach to use for a child having school issues?
- What screening tools could I use?

#### Case Examples:

- 5 year old has disruptive behavior but some discrepancies are found in reports. What's the best next step?
- A teenager has eating disorder behavior. Is there anything that you suggest that we haven't done already?
- "I was scheduled to see a pre-teen patient of my colleague who retired, and his medication regimen seems complex. Here are some medications I have questions about."

## MOC4 Focuses on Improving Care for Developmental Disabilities and Dysmorphic Features

A multi-state virtual learning collaborative is available to connect pediatricians interested in improving performance, documentation, and follow-up (including referrals and genetic testing) on screening for developmental disabilities and dysmorphic features in pediatric

primary care clinics. The project can be completed in 4 months. There is no charge for participation in this HRSA-funded project. To register for this MOC4 opportunity, click [here](#). This project will begin in January 2021.

## CATCH Planning, Implementation and Residential Grants

Iowa Pediatricians! Are you looking for ways to improve care for your most vulnerable patients? Are you frustrated with gaps in care for patients in your care? Do you have a great idea for a partnership you're your community to help children? You should apply for a CATCH grant!

### Recent Iowa CATCH Grant recipients:

- Marguerite Oetting, MD: Green and Gold Clinic (faculty grant, school-based clinic associated with UIHC)
- Melanie Reyes Hernandez, MD Latin Xchange (Resident Grant, UIHC)
- Rachel Segal, MD and Michael Cole, MD: Healthy Hawkeye Smiles (Resident Grant, UIHC)

The Call for Proposals for 2021 CATCH grants is open!

## **WHO IS ELIGIBLE?**

- General pediatricians, pediatric medical subspecialists, pediatric surgical subspecialists, and fellowship trainees from the United States and its territories and Canada.
- U.S. and Canadian pediatric residents (typically PGY1 or PGY2) in a training program AND have a definite commitment for another year of residency or chief year.
- National and chapter AAP membership must be current before grant funds can be disbursed.

## **WHAT IS A CATCH PROJECT?**

- Is led by a pediatrician or pediatric resident.
- Focuses on building strong community partnerships.
- Serves those who are underserved/experience health disparities.
- Provides access to services that lead to optimal child health and well-being.
- Has measurable outcomes.
- Plans for sustainability.

## **WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW BEFORE I APPLY?**

- If you are an AAP fellow/fellowship trainee, read the [Planning and Implementation Call for Proposals guidelines](#)
- If you are a resident, read the [Resident Call for Proposal guidelines](#)
- Preview [application questions](#)

## **HOW DO I APPLY?**

If you're interested in applying, you must first check your eligibility for a grant. [Please create an account or login to begin.](#)

## **WHAT IS THE GRANT TIMELINE?**

- January 27, 2021 - Application Deadline
- May 3, 2021 - New Grantees Announced
- June 30, 2021 - Projects Begin

## **WHAT ELSE SHOULD I KNOW?**

- Grantees will have 12 months to complete their projects.
- At least one formal "check-in" with grantees, CATCH facilitators and AAP staff will occur during the course of the project period.

## **ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE**



Contact your Iowa AAP Chapter CATCH facilitator for questions or technical assistance!

[Shriver.amy@gmail.com](mailto:Shriver.amy@gmail.com)

[Chapter CATCH Facilitators](#), [District Resident CATCH Liaisons](#) and [CATCH staff](#) are available to help you with everything from proposal development to project implementation.

The CATCH Planning, Implementation and Residents Grants are administered by the AAP CATCH Program and are made possible through the support of Roots & Wings Foundation with additional support from various AAP Sections and Councils and individual donations through the AAP Friends of Children Fund.



In 2020, the CDC launched Project Firstline, a collaborative of diverse healthcare, public health and academic partners committed to providing infection control training designed especially for healthcare workers. The Iowa Chapter AAP, along with AAP national, is one of these partners.

Healthcare workers need and deserve clear and trustworthy information not only on CDC's infection control recommendations, but also on the science behind them. Project Firstline delivers comprehensive, transparent, and responsive training and education to the millions of frontline healthcare workers in the United States.

[Learn More](#)