

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS
COUNCIL ON COMMUNITY PEDIATRICS
MENTORSHIP AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Council on Community Pediatrics (COCP) Mentorship and Technical Assistance Program provides \$1,500 to \$2,000 in funding to assist COCP members to improve their community pediatrics skills and/or develop innovative programs within their community.

PURPOSE:

The program was developed by the COCP Executive Committee to:

- Provide COCP members with mentorship, technical assistance, and resources to improve their community pediatrics skills and/or assess, implement, or improve a new community program
- Increase COCP members' and others' involvement and expertise in community pediatrics
- Identify and enhance the ability of mentors in community pediatrics
- Provide COCP members an opportunity to offer their expertise as mentors and consultants

ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION CRITERIA:

Applicants must submit a completed application form. Applications will be reviewed by an appointed committee of section members and should:

- Identify a specific outcome that will improve the applicant's community pediatrics knowledge base, skills, or ability to assess, implement, or improve an innovative program
- Outline steps for significant involvement in the projects by an AAP member in good standing who is a member of the Section on Community Pediatrics
- Support the principles and recommendations in the AAP policy statement "The Pediatrician's Role in Community Pediatrics"

Proposed projects should not qualify for funding through the Community Access to Child Health (CATCH) or Healthy Tomorrows Partnership for Children programs. However, funding can be requested to enhance or expand upon completed CATCH or Healthy Tomorrows Partnership for Children programs.

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Priority will be given to proposals that:

- Represent child care, mental health , or oral health initiatives not yet addressed by the applicant in their community
- Are submitted by applicants who have not previously received funding through this program
- Demonstrate a significant need and have expressed that need clearly

Due to budget constraints, it is possible that not all proposals will be funded. Proposals will be reviewed throughout the year.

USE OF FUNDS:

Funding can be requested to support travel, meals, and incidental expenses for a mentor to visit and provide technical assistance to a section member seeking assistance, or to a section member who wishes to visit a model program or training institution to learn from a mentor with identified expertise. A typical request would include: up to \$1,000 for travel for a 2-day meeting (airfare + hotel [2 nights] + meals [2 days] + ground transportation), a \$500 per day honorarium for the mentor (not to exceed 2 days), and up to \$500 to purchase resources, hold post-meeting conference calls, or conduct other necessary follow-up. Payments will be made to the section member applicant and the section member mentor once the Travel and Meeting Expense Form and appropriate documentation have been submitted.

QUALIFIED MENTORS:

Applicants are encouraged to select mentors who are pediatricians who are members of the Council on Community Pediatrics. Applicants may also request assistance from the Council Executive Committee in selecting a mentor. A list of possible mentors is available upon request.

SAMPLE PROJECTS:

Below are just two examples of the types of projects that could be funded through this program. We welcome your creativity in designing other types of community pediatrics mentorship experiences.

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#1: A COCP member in a community with a large number of uninsured children would like to implement a model parent training session on SCHIP enrollment. The section member applies for a grant to work with a mentor who has experience in this area.

#2: A pediatrician is receiving many emergency department referrals and unassigned admissions of children with poorly controlled asthma. She has some ideas as to why these children are not accessing appropriate care but needs assistance from a mentor on how to assess issues, build consensus, and develop a plan to address it. She would like to bring in a mentor to brainstorm issues, meet with community leaders, discuss how to access and review appropriate data, and develop a plan to address the problem.

OVERSIGHT:

Upon receiving the application, an SEC subcommittee will review and score the request. Projects will be selected based on their scores and available section resources. The subcommittee will forward its recommendations to the full SEC for final approval.

IMPLEMENTATION AND REPORTING PROCEDURES:

After the SEC determines that an application is to be funded, program applicants will be notified within 14 days, and will have 12 months to complete their program plan.

Once the program applicant and mentor have been notified, they should proceed to 1) make appropriate travel and other arrangements, 2) inform the section staff person of the proposed timeline for project implementation, 3) carry out approved activities, and 4) provide a final report and evaluation form to the Academy.

RESOURCES AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:

Program participants will be provided with resources and assistance from AAP staff and the Department of Community Pediatrics on an as needed basis. See the Community Pediatrics pages on the AAP Web site (www.aap.org) for more details.

For more information about this program, contact:

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