

**April 2026  
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**Advocating for Kids**

**Dr. Tom Patterson - Article and Spanish PSA**

Check out your AAP News 2026 March magazine featuring our own Tom Patterson and our Idaho Chapter vaccine grant work (link below). Also, we have included the link to hear the Spanish PSA Dr Patterson recorded.

AAP Article:

[https://apnews.com/article/babies-newborns-pediatricians-vitamin-k-hepatitis-b-erythromycin-9126463f0cb38b9778fb77bc0d071776?utm\\_source=Email&utm\\_medium=share](https://apnews.com/article/babies-newborns-pediatricians-vitamin-k-hepatitis-b-erythromycin-9126463f0cb38b9778fb77bc0d071776?utm_source=Email&utm_medium=share)

Spanish PSA:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1aXNhoRaHJaXD8QIbeNzGSxrHEe6LaVeF/view?usp=sharing>

**Spotlight on a Chapter Member**

**Welcome to New Members**

Andrew Racine – AAP Current President

Andrew Bressler

John Burk

Theodore Gross

Jose Pena

Medical Students:

Jordan Capps

Elijah Gregory

Kylie Haas

## Spotlight on a Chapter Member (cont.)

### **AAP Chapter Champions Recruitment: Senior Member**

National AAP is requiring a Senior Member Chapter Champion, and has asked the state executive directors to nominate a candidate. Please review the information below about the position and consider this opportunity. If you have an interest, please contact Sherry Iverson at [sherrydeeiverson@gmail.com](mailto:sherrydeeiverson@gmail.com).

Chapter Champion:

- \* **Roles and Responsibilities:** The Senior Member Chapter Champion serves as a vital representative, attending at least 80% of meetings and actively contributing to committees and events. They provide the senior member perspective on chapter programs, foster engagement among new members, and collaborate with senior member champions to strengthen involvement. Champions also serve as liaisons to the Section on Senior Members (SOSM) and author one annual article for AAP or chapter publications to highlight initiatives.
- \* **Meetings:** Virtual sessions will be held quarterly for one hour, focusing on national and chapter updates, resource sharing, and cross chapter collaboration.
- \* **Term:** Each chapter champion term is 2 years, with the possibility of renewal for a subsequent term. The term will begin on May 1, 2026 and end on April 30, 2028.

AAP National staff will Provide resources for chapter calls, schedule and coordinate Chapter Champion meetings, take high-level notes during each meeting, and support ongoing collaboration between national leadership and chapter champions. These responsibilities ensure consistent communication, an organized workflow, and alignment across national and chapter-level initiatives.

Questions can be directed to [Senior Member Chapter Champion program staff](#).

Learn more about all active Chapter Champion programs on the [Chapter and District Leadership collaboration site](#) (AAP login required).

## Social Media Update

### **Social Media Snapshot: March**

Spring has officially sprung, and so has our engagement! 🌱 🐰

In March, we gained 113 new followers, bringing our total to 385. We reached more than 24,900 views and connected with over 7,800 accounts on Instagram. Compared to February, this marks a significant increase in visibility, with nearly 10,000 more views and almost double the number of accounts reached.

A major highlight was the success of our paid vaccine-related posts. These boosted posts continue to play an important role in increasing visibility, driving engagement, and ensuring that trusted, evidence-based information reaches more Idaho families. We will continue prioritizing boosted vaccine content to support education and expand our reach.

April is shaping up to be a meaningful month filled with important topics and opportunities for educational content for Idaho families.

Here's what's coming up:

- **Safety Sundays** continue each week, with the first and last Sundays dedicated to **SIDS awareness** and **suicide prevention**.
- **Child Abuse Prevention Month** content will highlight support, awareness, and resources for families.
- Ongoing **vaccine education**, **national awareness days**, and **seasonal safety reminders**.
- Celebrations of **World Health Day** and **National Public Health Week**,

## Social Media Update (cont.)

If you come across a high-quality, credible post that aligns with our mission, feel free to send it my way. I'm always happy to share relevant content in our stories and feed.

And finally, Hoppy April! 🐰🥚🌸

I hope you all have wonderful Easter celebrations (if you celebrate), and I am excited to see what this next month brings for our chapter and our community.

👉 If you haven't followed our social media, hop on over to:

**Instagram:** @idahoaapeditrics

**Facebook:** Idaho Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics

Isabel Edwards

Email: izzoblue10@gmail.com

## Upcoming Educational Opportunities/Meetings/Events

### **AHRQ Webinar: AAP PROS & Practice-Based Research Networks**

**[Register Now](#) for AHRQ Webinar - Practice-Based Research Networks: The Value of Research in Real Primary Care Practices**

Join AHRQ's National Center for Excellence in Primary Care Research (NCEPCR) for a webinar - **Practice-Based Research Networks: The Value of Research in Real Primary Care Practices**, on **April 9 from 2:00 - 3:30 PM ET**. In this webinar, hear key findings from AHRQ's *Primary Care Practice-Based Research Networks Publications, 2014–2023: Synthesis Report*. Three PBRN researchers will share information about their research network and the kinds of research they conduct. They will also discuss the value and impact of PBRN research. There will be a Q&A.

**Moderator: Sebastian Tong, MD, MPH** (University of Washington; WWAMI Region (Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana, and Idaho) Practice & Research Network (WPRN))

#### Presenters:

**Asta Sorensen, MA**, Strategic Planning and Evaluation Consultant; North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

**Melinda Davis, PhD, MCR**, Oregon Health & Science University; Oregon Rural Practice-based Research Network (ORPRN)

**Alexander G. Fiks, MD, MSCE, FAAP**, American Academy Pediatrics; AAP Pediatric Research in Office Settings (AAP PROS PBRN)

**Jacqueline Britz, MD, MPH**, Virginia Commonwealth University; Virginia Ambulatory Care Outcomes Research Network (ACORN PBRN)

Advance registration is required: [Register Now](#).

Donna Harris, MA – PROS Project Specialist  
American Academy of Pediatrics

[dlharris@aap.org](mailto:dlharris@aap.org)



## Upcoming Educational Opportunities/Meetings/Events (cont.)

### April – National Child Abuse Prevention Month

April is Strengthening Families Month with the color blue and pinwheels representing awareness of child abuse and prevention. Some simple ways to participate include:

- \* Display pinwheels in your clinic or outside in a pinwheel garden.
- \* Wear blue once a week or definitely on April 8 which is the statewide awareness day.
- \* Check out local activities for families by visiting Idaho Children's Trust Fund website.

If you are interested in pinwheels or window clings for your clinic, please contact Sherry Iverson at [sherrydeeiverson@gmail.com](mailto:sherrydeeiverson@gmail.com).

### Strong Families, Safe Kids Fair



## STRONG FAMILIES, SAFE KIDS FAIR

*Strengthening Families Month Event to Prevent Child Abuse and Neglect*



**Friday, April 17th**  
**4:00 PM to 7:00 PM**



*Hosted by*  
**West Boise YMCA**  
5959 N Discovery Way, Boise



#### **Fun Run/Walk**

Hosted by the YMCA - Whether you run, walk, skip, or stroll, everyone is welcome. Perfect for kids, parents, grandparents, and participants of all fitness levels.



#### **Free Activities**

Connect with supportive community partners from the Treasure Valley! Enjoy interactive games and hands-on activities.



#### **Free Resources**

Access to valuable resources from Treasure Valley organizations dedicated to supporting strong, healthy families and child safety.



#### **Community Connections**

Engage with a supportive community, building connections with local organizations and professionals dedicated to strengthening families and keeping kids safe.



**Sponsored by:**

**IDAHO CHAPTER**  
American Academy of Pediatrics

We are proud to welcome an incredible lineup of local organizations, each bringing engaging activities, hands-on resources, and expert support to help strengthen families and keep kids safe.

- Ada County Victim Services Center
- American Academy of Pediatrics
- Bikers Against Child Abuse
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Idaho
- Casey Family Programs
- Family Advocates
- Foster + Heart
- Idaho Association for the Education of Young Children
- Hand in Hand Mentoring
- Idaho Children's Trust Fund
- Idaho Network of Children's Advocacy Centers
- Idaho Department of Health & Welfare
- Internet Crimes Against Children Taskforce (ICAC)
- St. Alphonsus Family Center
- St. Luke's Children's
- West Ada School District
- You. Me. We. All.
- YMCA
- And more . . .

**Food available for purchase from local food trucks.**

**Visit [www.cacidaho.org](http://www.cacidaho.org) for event updates**

Upcoming Educational Opportunities/Meetings/Events (cont.)

Save the Date! 2026 Pediatric Emergency Medicine Conference



**SAVE THE DATE!**

**PEDIATRIC EMERGENCY MEDICINE CONFERENCE 2026**

JOIN US FOR TWO DAYS OF LEARNING, COLLABORATION, AND INNOVATION IN PEDIATRIC EMERGENCY CARE.

 OCTOBER 19–20, 2026

 ST. LUKE'S PLAZA ON PARKCENTER, CENTRAL PLAZA ROOM  
800 E. PARK BLVD, BOISE, ID 83712

HOSTED BY ST. LUKE'S CHILDREN'S AND EMERGENCY MEDICINE OF IDAHO, THIS EVENT BRINGS TOGETHER HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS DEDICATED TO ADVANCING EMERGENCY CARE FOR CHILDREN.

FURTHER DETAILS AND REGISTRATION INFORMATION WILL BE SHARED SOON.

*MARK YOUR CALENDAR AND PLAN TO BE PART OF THIS IMPORTANT EVENT!*

Save the Date! Idaho Immunization Summit 2026



**SAVE THE DATE**

**IDAHO IMMUNIZATION SUMMIT**

 **Thursday, November 19, 2026**

 **8:30 AM - 5:00 PM**

 **Basque Center  
601 W Grove Street  
Boise, Idaho 83702**

Registration opens summer 2026.

Space will be limited!

 Idaho Immunization Coalition

Upcoming Educational Opportunities/Meetings/Events (cont.)

43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference on Pediatric Infectious Diseases



43<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL

**Conference on Pediatric Infectious Diseases**

**July 26-31, 2026**

The Lodge at Vail 174 E. Gore Creek Dr.

Vail, CO 81657

Provided by  
Pediatric Infectious Diseases  
Children's Hospital Colorado  
Aurora, CO

In Person  
and Virtual  
Attendance  
Options!



Children's Hospital Colorado



Anschutz

For additional information or to register, go to:

[43rd Annual Vail Brochure\\_Final\\_03252026](#)

Save the Date! AAP 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Firearm Injury Prevention Symposium Webinar

# SAVE THE DATE!



American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN

Georgia Chapter

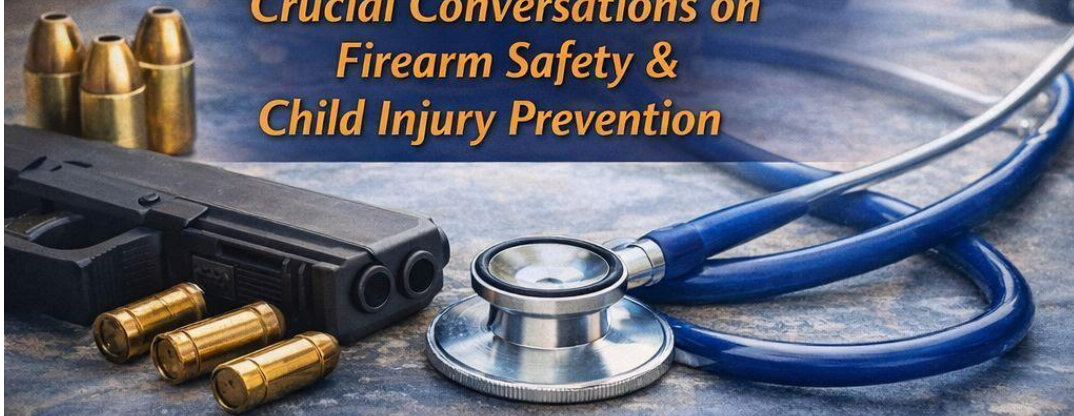
## **4<sup>th</sup> Annual** **Firearm Injury** **Prevention Symposium Webinar**

**Friday, August 28, 2026**

**9:00 AM - 12:30 PM ET**

Led by Georgia Chapter AAP Members

*Crucial Conversations on  
Firearm Safety &  
Child Injury Prevention*



**VIRTUAL EVENT**

*Details & Registration Coming Soon!*

## Upcoming Educational Opportunities/Meetings/Events (cont.)

### Save the Date! AAP 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Firearm Injury Prevention Symposium Webinar



## The 2026 AAP National Conference & Exhibition is Catching a Wave to San Diego!

This year's National Conference will take place on October 2-6, 2026, and is a chance to learn together and strengthen our commitment to the health and well-being of all children. And we're doing it in a city that inspires connection and renewal, with ocean views, warm sunshine, and space to refocus on why we do this work.



**Registration and hotel reservations open  
May 1 for AAP Members and May 8 for all.**

For additional information: [AAP Experience: National Conference & Exhibition – October 2-6, 2026](#)

## Upcoming Educational Opportunities/Meetings/Events (cont.)

### **Idaho Oral Health Alliance (IOHA): 2026 Idaho Rural Health Conference**

**Registration** is live for the 2026 Idaho Rural Health Conference.

When: April 29-30, 2026

Where: The Riverside Hotel, Boise

Who: Representatives/Providers from Critical Access Hospitals, Rural Health Clinics; Rural Emergency Hospitals, Oral Health Professionals, other healthcare professionals

What: This conference is designed to convene providers, leaders, and partners to share perspectives, strengthen collaboration, and access resources that support community-led approaches. [Full meeting agenda.](#)

#### *Oral Health Highlights:*

- Dr. Paul Glassmann on *Concentric Circles of Care in Community-Engaged Oral Health Systems*
- Angie Bailey & Sam Semple-Kenney to *Review the Latest Idaho 3rd Grade Smile Survey*
- Taleah Bankos-Jacobsen on *Community Health Workers and Oral Health*
- Facilitated discussions on workforce and access issues in oral health

Travel Assistance: There is funding to support travel costs for oral health partners. Please reach out to Sam Semple-Kenney for information. [sam.semplekenney@dhw.idaho.gov](mailto:sam.semplekenney@dhw.idaho.gov)

[Register](#) now!!

Jennifer Wheeler  
Executive Director  
Idaho Oral Health Alliance  
208-994-9058  
[jwheeler@idahooralhealth.org](mailto:jwheeler@idahooralhealth.org)  
[www.idahooralhealth.org](http://www.idahooralhealth.org)

### **Early Career Leadership Institute**

#### **Apply now for the Early Career Leadership Institute**

The new Early Career Leadership Institute (ECLI) treats leadership as skill-building — not theory — using practice-based learning, real-world scenarios and cohort accountability to help early career pediatricians grow faster together. In 10 months, participants will build career clarity, executive presence and systems-level insight while developing across four dimensions: strategic thinking, emotional regulation, embodied leadership and purpose. [Click here to explore the curriculum, learn what to expect, and apply](#) by April 27.

## Resources

### **WIC Medical Documentation Form (MDF) Updates and Tools for Providers**

April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026, the Idaho WIC program will update our Medical Documentation Form (MDF), due to recent federal WIC food package changes. This form is used when WIC participants require medically needed changes to their WIC food packages or the use of an exempt/therapeutic formula or nutritional. This form is federally required and allows WIC to provide a variety of exempt/therapeutic formulas and nutritional products with the help of your offices. There are two versions of the MDF being shared, a paper and/or a fillable PDF. The updated versions are attached and our website will be updated April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026 [here](#) with these new versions. We have also provided an instructional video on using the updated form at <https://youtu.be/lmRBrpIINxw>.

Please reach out to [WICNutrition@dhw.idaho.gov](mailto:WICNutrition@dhw.idaho.gov) if you have any questions.

Thank you for taking such excellent care of our WIC families.

WIC Nutrition Team

Division of Public Health | Idaho Department of Health and Welfare  
208-514-5761 NT Phone

### **Vaccines Are My Super Power Tee Shirts Reminder**

Just a reminder that the recent grant funded a tee shirt for each one of our chapter members. To receive your free tee shirt, please e-mail Marilyn at [idahoaap@gmail.com](mailto:idahoaap@gmail.com) (you should be able to respond to the newsletter email) with your name, tee shirt size and mailing address. We also have a limited supply of super hero bow ties. Please let Marilyn know if you would like a bow tie.



Our plan was to have your clinic staff wear these tee shirts maybe one day a week. We also have stickers available with “Vaccines give me super powers” that you can order to give to the kids in your practice. Practices can order 50 sticker bundles (up to 500 stickers) for free.

We have been working with Brigade Screen Printing to supply tee shirts for your office staff. There are two options with grey or white shirts in long or short sleeve. To order shirts for your clinic, please visit <https://brigade-screen-printing.printavo.com/merch/aap/>.

## Book Corner

### **Mother (Goose) Bruce by Ryan T. Higgins**

Curmudgeonly Bruce and his devoted goslings will win readers over, especially as Bruce grows to love the geese against his better judgment.

