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Advocating for Kids

White Coat Day/Winter Business/Awards Dinner

White Coat Day

When: February 11 from 8-10 a.m.

Where: Capitol Building, Boise, ID

Information: Meet in the rotunda on the bottom floor at 8:00 a.m. for pictures. We will observe the Health and Welfare committee and meet some child advocate partners. You are encouraged to contact your legislators and set up a time to meet. We will be done around 10, but it is a casual morning, and you are welcome to stay and observe longer if you wish.

Winter Business/Award Dinner

When: February 11 from 5:30-8 p.m.

Where: Cottonwood Grille, 913 West River Street, Boise, ID

AAP national and local legislative updates will be presented, our white coat day experience will be discussed, and we will be presenting the Idaho Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics awards to the recipients.

Hope to see you on February 11.

To RSVP for dinner, please respond to idahoaap@gmail.com

Spotlight on a Chapter Member

2025 AAP Chapter Awards

We would like to announce the Idaho AAP awardees for 2025. Congratulations and thank you.

Pediatrician of the Year: Dr. Brian Birch
Child Advocate of the Year: Dr. Alejandro Necochea
Organization of the Year: Idaho Academy of Family Physicians

In Memory – Dr. Karen Redwine

With great sorry, we share news that Dr. Karen Redwine passed away in January. She was a kind and empathetic physician devoted to the care and wellbeing of her patients. Dr. Redwine will be dearly missed by her friends and colleagues. Our hearts are with her family and all those who loved her.

Welcome to New Members and Residents

Members

Dr. Taylor Brown Dr. Andrew Smith
Dr. Todd Jacobs Dr. Laura Walawender
Dr. Kristina Miles

Residents

Dr. Kholtny Barney Dr. Holly Burrell
Dr. Zachary Landers Dr. Meghan Murphy

February 3 – National Women’s Physician Day

We would like to honor and celebrate the women pediatricians for their amazing care of children in Idaho. Thank you.

Upcoming Educational Opportunities/Meetings/Events

Vaccine Confidence Media Skills ECHO

The AAP is recruiting for the **AAP Vaccine Confidence Media Skills ECHO**. This ECHO provides advanced training to equip pediatricians, advocates, and partners with strategies to counter false rumors about vaccines using tested messages and evidence-based communications strategies. Participants will learn how to effectively engage in online conversations, share pro-vaccine narratives in the media, and collaborate with key voices to reach specific communities.

This 6 session ECHO will be held on Thursdays at 12pm CT/1pm ET/11am MT/10am PT from February 19, 2026 – May 7, 2026.

ECHO sessions will be held on the following dates:

Session 1: February 19, 2026

Session 2: March 5, 2026

Session 3: Marching 19, 2026

Session 4: April 9, 2026*

Session 5: April 23, 2026

Session 6: May 7, 2026

*This session is delayed one week to accommodate for Passover

ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes), is a telementoring platform that leverages video conference technology to connect experts with primary care teams in local communities, fostering an “**all teach, all learn**” approach.

[Register Online here](#) Questions? Contact Lisa Brock, Program Manager, ECHO Initiatives at lbrock@aap.org

To view the flyer [click here](#)

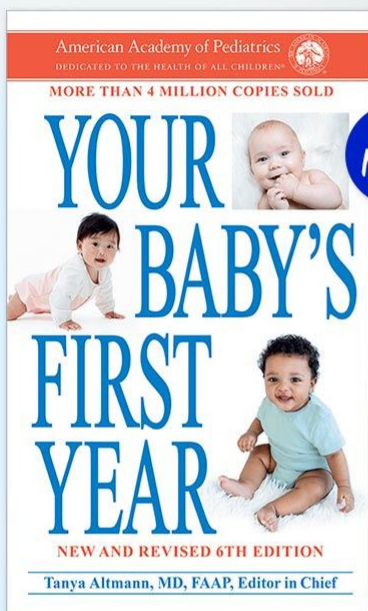
AAP New Pediatrician-Approved Guidance

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Your Baby's First Year, 6th Edition

With more than 4 million copies in print, this comprehensive resource is recommended by pediatricians and trusted by parents!

This definitive all-in-one resource provides authoritative advice on every aspect of infant care. Featuring the latest AAP recommendations, the sixth edition of *Your Baby's First Year* contains guidelines for prenatal and newborn care; CDC milestone guidelines for growth and development; complete health encyclopedia covering injuries, illnesses, and congenital diseases; safety standards, including childproofing, car safety seats, drowning prevention, and toy safety; and much more!

Resources

Food Bank Resources

About 75;640 children were food insecure in 2023, which means roughly 16 percent of kids don't have consistent access to adequate food. Experts describe these as households who skip meals, don't know where their next meal is coming from and/or parents skip meals to feed kids. We are attaching a list of local food banks throughout the state to assist as you help families access food.

AAP Press Release regarding the new Dietary Guide for America

Here is a link to a press release by AAP regarding the new Dietary Guide for America.

[AAP Statement on Dietary Guidelines for Americans](#)

Vascular Anomaly Resource

<https://VAccess.org> is a free, clinician-focused resource designed to support all clinicians caring for patients with rare or complicated vascular and lymphatic anomalies (or seeking evaluation for vascular and lymphatic anomalies). In addition to helpful educational documents and patient support resources, clinicians can submit an "Ask a Specialist" request to get guidance on real-world clinical questions and use the "Find a VAC" tool to find a multidisciplinary vascular anomalies clinic in their area.

Maternal Care Article with 2025 Maternal and Child Health In Idaho Fact Sheet



In the News: Idaho's shrinking maternal care options worsen with looming Medicaid cuts

A new fact sheet highlighting maternal and children's health from our partners at Idaho Kids Covered was featured by [CBS 2 News](#) this week.

They found that about 30% of Idaho counties have no obstetric provider or hospital or birthing center offering obstetric care. Idaho also ranks last in the country for pediatricians — with only 50 doctors per 100,000 children, less than half the national average.

"Idaho's healthcare system for pregnant women, new moms, babies and kids is increasingly strained, and proposed Medicaid cuts threaten to make the situation worse." [Read the full article here](#)

[2025 Maternal and Child Health in](#)

Big News: AAP is now on TikTok

Come follow along and join the conversation: @AmerAcadPeds

Keeping Children Safe

Review of 2023 Natural Cause Deaths from Child Fatality Review Team (CFRT)

In 2023, eighty-one children under 18 years of age died due to “natural causes” (meaning there is a medical diagnosis included on the death certificate).

Fifty-seven of these deaths involved infants under 1 year of age:

- 29 were extremely premature/pre-viable
- 15 had anomalies (trisomy 13, trisomy 18, bilateral multicystic non-functioning kidneys, 3 with holoprosencephaly, hypoplastic left heart, 4 with multiple anomalies incompatible with life
- Two had “unknown metabolic disease”
- Other causes were Noonan Syndrome, GBS sepsis/meningitis/NEC, rotavirus/dehydration, placental abruption due to motor vehicle accident (mom)
- Three were home births: deaths due to possible trisomy 21 with cardiac abnormalities/sepsis, pneumonia/pulmonary hemorrhage with widely patent PDA, and RSV bronchiolitis, H. flu tracheitis (less than 1 month of age)

Twenty-four children were 1 year of age or older:

- two were possible SUDEP (sudden unexplained death in epilepsy)
- eleven had cancer
- other causes of death were hemolytic uremic syndrome with cerebral hemorrhage, RSV with group A strep septicemia, small bowel volvulus with hemorrhagic necrosis

The CFRT reviewed only 13 cases extensively; Health and Welfare administers our grant and does not feel cases with a medical diagnosis are the purpose of our review, thus limits the number fully reviewed to those chosen by a subcommittee. I disagree and continue to lobby for more of these to be reviewed (they are in other states); in the past we have found neglect as well as incorrect/incomplete information on death certificates. This year we found delays in communication of hospitals with coroners/health and welfare, as well as family fatigue/language barrier as factors in death of an infant who had presented to medical care several times. Records were not received in some cases and often do not include immunization status or whether infants receive Vitamin K. Our team is endeavoring to improve this process.

Questions/comments welcome. Send to V. Susan Bradford, MD at bradsusa3@gmail.com

Book Corner

My One-of-a-Kind Body by Whitney Cesares, MD, MPH, FAAP

"My One-of-a-Kind Body: The Ultimate Guide to Caring for Me" by Whitney Cesares, M.D., M.P.H., FAAP, will help kids ages 7-12 embrace their own bodies, appreciate others' differences, and learn to take care of the only body they've got. This book engages young readers with a diverse cast of characters who challenge them to understand and empathize with others' life experiences. [Click here to order.](#)