



ALL ALASKA PEDIATRIC PARTNERSHIP  
2015 ANNUAL REPORT

ALL ALASKA



PEDIATRIC  
PARTNERSHIP



## BETTER TOGETHER

**ALL ALASKA**



**PEDIATRIC  
PARTNERSHIP**

[www.a2p2.org](http://www.a2p2.org)

Since 1995, the All Alaska Pediatric Partnership has worked to create safe spaces in which working relationships are able to grow and to help move positive decisions forward, all to benefit the health of Alaska's kids. As a unique network of Alaska's hospitals, the Department of Health & Social Services, the Division of Public Health, children's health service providers and community resources, we bring a broad range of institutional perspectives together to exchange ideas and develop collaborative approaches that will enhance Alaska's pediatric resources. We're a catalyst and think tank constantly improving systems of care through concentrated efforts on chosen priorities.

We serve as an information exchange network, helping to develop and share ideas. Working in unison with our partners, we are able to inform policy and other changes to keep Alaska's children healthy. This process of freely discussing issues and innovative ways of approaching our families' and children's wellness needs leads to solutions.

# WORKGROUP UPDATE

## **IMMUNIZATION**

In 2015, the volunteer-based workgroup received nearly \$9,000 in donations and grant funding to develop, purchase, and distribute immunization promotion resources, including the Vaccine Preventable Diseases photo books, immunization schedule growth charts, and "I Did It by Two!" t-shirts. Samples of these resources were distributed statewide to providers enrolled to receive state-supplied vaccine for use in their clinic settings. Other resource supplies were dedicated to health clinics, home visitors, public health nursing, and early childhood learning programs in the Mat-Su Borough to use with families to promote immunizations and prompt them on the timing of immunizations, developmental steps, and well child visits.

In addition, A2P2 members presented information on the importance of immunizations at various health care meetings and community events in Southcentral Alaska.

## **BREASTFEEDING**

Together with the Alaska Children's Trust, AAPP began research into providing new mothers with an innovative smartphone application that provides real-time lactation support by local licensed IBCLCs.

## **CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT**

Workgroup members, including board president Dr. Matt Hirschfeld presented numerous talks throughout the state to varied audiences of providers, Alaska Native leaders, policy makers and community members on Adverse Childhood Experiences, toxic stress, trauma-informed practices and resiliency.

## MISSION

*We are the leaders of collaborative, statewide efforts to improve health and wellness outcomes for children. We do this by communicating, coordinating and advocating best practice efforts in Alaska.*

## VISION

*The All Alaska Pediatric Partnership will become the leading member-organization advancing the goal of healthy and thriving children and families throughout Alaska.*

## 2015 BOARD

**Dr. Matthew Hirschfeld MD**  
Medical Director: Maternal and Child Health Services, Alaska Native Medical Center

**Stephanie Wrightsman-Birch**  
RN, MPH, MS, FNP, Section Chief for Women's Children's and Family Health, Division of Public Health

**Kate Mohr**  
RN, MSN, NEA-BC, Executive Director of The Children's Hospital at Providence

**Emily M. Stevens**  
RN, MSN, BSN, Mat-Su Regional Chief Nursing Officer

# 2015 AT A GLANCE

## JANUARY

Participated on a panel following an AAPP-sponsored screening of an episode of the documentary "The Raising of America - Early Childhood and the Future of Our Nation" at the Alaska Public Health Association Summit

Hosted monthly partnership meeting at Mat-Su Regional Medical Center in Wasilla

## FEBRUARY

Met with policymakers and hosted an informational legislative breakfast in Juneau

Hosted monthly partnership meeting at Bartlett Regional Hospital in Juneau

## MARCH

Hosted monthly partnership meeting at Fairbanks Memorial Hospital in Fairbanks

## APRIL

Attended the Help Me Grow National Meeting in Orange County, CA

## MAY

Implemented Triple P training for 20 multi-disciplinary practitioners in Sitka

## JULY

Hired Tamar Ben-Yosef as executive director of the All Alaska Pediatric Partnership

## SEPTEMBER

The executive team of the All Alaska Pediatric Partnership engaged in a day long session of strategic planning facilitated by Vantage Consulting

Hosted monthly partnership meeting at Kenai Peninsula College in Homer

## OCTOBER

Application for tax exemption was approved and the All Alaska Pediatric Partnership officially became a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization

Hosted monthly partnership meeting at North Star Behavioral Health in Anchorage

## NOVEMBER

Hosted the All Alaska Pediatric Symposium in Girdwood, Alaska

Held a full-day planning meeting for a new neurodevelopmental disabilities program in Alaska

Hosted monthly partnership meeting at Alaska Regional Hospital in Anchorage

## DECEMBER

Recruited pediatrician Dr. Laura Brunner as a board member representing Fairbanks Memorial Hospital and Tanana Valley Clinic.

Hosted monthly partnership meeting at Fairbanks Memorial Hospital in Fairbanks

## NEURODEVELOPMENT DISABILITIES/AUTISM DIAGNOSIS PROGRAM

In an effort to find a solution to fill the gap in pediatric neurodevelopmental subspecialty services for Alaska, staff from the State of Alaska Section of Women's, Children's and Family Health (WCFH), the All Alaska Pediatric Partnership and the University of Alaska LEND program held a series of meetings by teleconference throughout the year with noted pediatric neurodevelopmental physicians from the Universities of Massachusetts, Utah and Washington to envision a new model of providing services to children who are suspected of having autism and other neurodevelopmental disabilities. In November, the AAPP secured funding from the Alaska Children's Trust to assist WCHF in sponsoring a planning day to develop a new system of diagnosis. The full-day meeting took place on Nov. 6 at the Alaska Mental Health Trust, and was attended by nearly 30 multidisciplinary health care and social services professionals as well as physicians and staff from the Universities of Massachusetts, Utah and Washington. The meeting resulted in a draft outline of a multi team-structure that is currently in the development and fundraising phase in partnership with the University of Massachusetts, Alaska Native Medical Center and The Children's Hospital at Providence.

## TRIPLE P - POSITIVE PARENTING PROGRAM

The Triple P Program (Positive Parenting Program) is an evidence-based practitioner training program designed to give parents the skills they need to raise confident, healthy children and teenagers and to build stronger family relationships. Triple P offers increasing levels of support to meet parents' different needs, including public seminars, small group classes and individual sessions. Through a \$50,000 Mental Health Trust grant, the All Alaska Pediatric Partnership identified Sitka as a the pilot community for the program and implemented Triple P training for 20 local practitioners from a range of professions of which eight were certified to integrate the Triple P parent training into their practice settings. In November, the community in Sitka was invited to attend two Triple P public seminars and the response by participants was highly enthusiastic, resulting in a request for additional seminars by the parents. AAPP continues to work with the community in Sitka on further integrating Triple P, and is looking at opportunities to pilot the program in additional communities.



## NEW BOARD MEMBER

Dr. Laura Brunner, MD is a pediatrician at Tanana Valley Clinic at Fairbanks Memorial Hospital. Dr. Brunner specializes in pediatric and considers it a privilege to participate in children's health care. She attained a medical degree from the University of Minnesota Medical School, and an undergraduate degree from the University of Minnesota College of Biological Sciences.

## NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In July 2015, Tamar Ben-Yosef joined the All Alaska Pediatric Partnership as executive director following a position at Thompson & Co. Public Relations. Prior to that Tamar worked for three years as a reporter and editor for the Arctic Sounder and the Dutch Harbor Fisherman weekly newspapers. She holds a B.S. in communication studies and political communications from the University of Texas at Austin.

## 2016 STRATEGIC PLANNING

In September, the executive team of the All Alaska Pediatric Partnership engaged in a day-long session of strategic planning facilitated by Vantage Consulting. The planning session resulted in an outlined five-year plan for board and organizational development and restructuring with the goal of transitioning into a member association by 2020.



## THE ALL ALASKA PEDIATRIC SYMPOSIUM

More than 80 attendees participated in the 2015 All Alaska Pediatric Symposium that took place Nov. 7-8 at the Alyeska Hotel in Girdwood. Designed to bring pediatric health care professionals together to learn about best practices and innovations for caregivers and to develop tools to advance children's health in Alaska, the 2015 symposium included a special focus on pediatric neurodevelopment with national experts from the Universities of Massachusetts and Utah Medical Schools.



## DECREASE CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

Partner with individuals and community organizations to decrease child abuse and neglect in Alaska and raise awareness around Adverse Childhood Experiences.



## INCREASE IMMUNIZATION RATES

Increase Alaska's low on-time childhood immunization rates by partnering with providers, health facilities and community resources.



## INCREASE BREAST FEEDING RATES

Increase exclusive breast milk feedings post delivery in the hospital, at three months of age and at 6 months of age.



## PATIENT CENTERED MEDICAL HOMES

Create a comprehensive system of care that links families with clinical care providers and community resources.

## PARTNERING PROGRAMS

### HELP ME GROW

Help Me Grow (HMG) is a system that links families with at-risk children with the services and programs they need through comprehensive physician and community outreach and centralized information and referral centers. In 2015, with the help of the All Alaska Pediatric Partnership, HMG Alaska developed an active leadership team and confirmed a contract with HMG National. In January 2016, HMG Alaska will host a HMG Community Meeting with statewide community stakeholders to introduce them to the HMG program and begin the process of strategic planning for implementation of the program in Alaska with the goal of a soft launch in Fall 2016.

### CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH SPECIAL HEALTH CARE NEEDS STATE PLANNING

In 2015, the State of Alaska Title V agency led a group effort to develop a five-year State Plan for Children & Youth with Special Health Care needs (CYSHCN). The planning process used the National Standards for CYSHCN document as a framework to assess and identify strategies to improve the pediatric system of care in Alaska. Families and stakeholders from around the state, including the All Alaska Pediatric Partnership, were engaged in the strategic planning process. The strategic plan report will be disseminated and further development of strategies and work plan timelines will occur in early 2016.

### PATIENT CENTERED MEDICAL HOME STEERING COMMITTEE

The All Alaska Pediatric Partnership actively participates on the Patient Centered Medical Home Steering Committee (PCMH). The PCMH Steering Committee is a broad stakeholder advisory group that provides oversight and direction to the Title V Program for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN) as well as statewide efforts related to pediatric medical home capacity building and systems integration. The committee meets quarterly and includes state, provider, and family representation.

The All Alaska Pediatric Partnership is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization

## 2015 PARTNERING INSTITUTIONS

