Child Protection: A Global Responsibility

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AAP: Poverty & Health

AAP National Agenda 2013 - 2014

AAP: Poverty and Child Health

- Poverty has been shown to negatively impact child health:
  - Increased infant mortality
  - Low birth weight, subsequent problems
  - Chronic diseases: asthma, obesity, MH, development
  - Food insecurity, poorer nutrition and growth
  - Less access to quality health care
  - Increased accidental injury, mortality
  - Higher exposure to toxic stress

AAP: Poverty & Child Health

- Families in poor & low-income households have difficulty
  - meeting basic needs that are crucial for healthy child development
  - accessing health care services
- In United States 2012:
  - 22% children under 18 lived in poverty (16M)
  - 45% children under 18 lived in low income households

Poverty and Well-Being

- Poorer educational outcomes
  - Low academic achievement, higher HS dropouts
- Less positive social and emotional development
- More problem behaviors
  - Early unprotected sex with increased teen pregnancy
  - Drug and alcohol abuse
  - Increased criminal behavior as adolescents and adults
- More likely to be poor adults

What AAP is Doing about Poverty and Child Health

Policy
- Advocacy
- Research
- Programs & Education

AAP Policy Statements & Pubs re: Impact of Poverty on Health

Current policies include:
- Providing Care for Children and Adolescents Facing Homelessness and Housing Insecurity
- Medicaid Policy Statement
- Early Childhood Adversity, Toxic Stress, and the Role of the Pediatrician: Translating Developmental Science into Lifelong Health
- The Importance of Play in Promoting Healthy Child Development and Maintaining Strong Parent-Child Bond: Focus on Children in Poverty
**Advocacy for Families**

- **Access** to Health Care
  - Medicaid/EPSDT, CHIP, ACA
- **Early Education and Child Care**
  - Head Start and Early Head Start
  - Child Care and Development Block Grant
  - Preschool Investment
- **Maternal and Child Health Services**

**Advocacy for Families**

- **Nutrition**
  - Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010
  - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
- **Income Support**
  - Minimum wage
  - Welfare reform
- **Public health approach** to address toxic health

**Practices: What Can Pediatricians Do?**

- Apply eco-bio-developmental framework

**AAP Practices: EBCD Principles**

- Child development – foundation for community, economic development
- Brains built over time, better on solid foundation
- Brain development integrated – social, emotional, learning skills closely connected
- Toxic stress disrupts brain development
- Positive parenting can buffer toxic stress
- Creating right conditions in early childhood has critical long-term benefits
Practices: What Can Pediatricians Do?

Educate/Train Parents
- ACEs and effects
- Recognize and encourage rudimentary foundational skills as they emerge
- Ensure the brain’s wiring is right the first time
- Children are biologically predisposed to more physiologic stress and critical brain structures that modulate stress mature later
- Resiliency skills

Educate/Train Providers
- Whole child development
- Aces and effects
- Educate re: trauma-informed care
  - Address needs of child with significant behavioral problems related to traumatic life experiences


WHAT IS TITLE V?

Maternal and Child Health Block Grant

Only federal program devoted solely to improving the health of all women and children

MCH History
- Enacted in 1935 as a part of the Social Security Act
- Nation’s oldest Federal-State partnership
- Functioning over 75 years
- Title V converted to a Block Grant Program in 1981

CHSC Vision

Assuring a System of Care for Iowa’s Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs

Who we serve: IA children & youth birth through 21 who have a chronic condition (physical, developmental, behavioral, or emotional) or have an increased risk for chronic condition and who have a need for special services.

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CHSC Key Facts

- Title V Program for CYSHCN
- 13 Regional Centers
- 163,488 CYSHCN (22.7%)

Partnering with family-support organizations

State Networks, Partnerships, Collaborations

Summary

- Alarming rates of chronic health conditions among children/youth
- Poverty persists among American children
  - Major impact on child health and development
- Much evidence supports importance of early childhood
  - Negative experiences have lasting effects
- Family-centered community health care linked with other community services can meet common elements in these priorities

Thank you!

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