



HMHB Resource Watch

HEALTHY MOTHERS, HEALTHY BABIES
Coalition of Georgia

Improving the health status of Georgia's families.

It's not too late to register for HMHB's 21st Annual Legislative Breakfast

Volume 9, Issue 2
January 23, 2008

The 21st Annual Legislative Breakfast will be taking on a new and different format. We are aware of the demands on your time and we have attempted to design an event that will be shorter in length and will place more of an emphasis on the opportunity for you to meet with your legislators.

When: Wednesday, February 6 from 8:00am to 9:30am
Where: The "Sloppy" Floyd Veterans Building in the Floyd Room
Cost: Registration- \$50.00
Student- \$35.00
Registration & HMHB Membership Renewal- \$85.00

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Visit www.hmhbga.org to register for the Legislative Breakfast

HMHB in the Community

January 31,2008- 8:30 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. Faith Leadership Summit on the Prevention of Child Abuse, 732 Joseph E. Lowery Blvd, NW, Atlanta, 30318

February 9th 10:00 a.m.- 6 p.m. – February 10th 11:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m. Gwinnett Center Family Fest, Gwinnett Center

February 9th 9:00- 1:00 p.m. – Sister to Sister, Twelve at Atlantic Station, 361 17th Street, NW, Atlanta GA

February 9th 11:00 – 3 p.m. – Black Heritage Festival/ Health Expo, Savannah Civic Center, Savannah, GA

February 28th 10 a.m.- 3 p.m. Black History Health Fair, Atlanta Technical College

Come out and support us.....

To volunteer for an event call our office at 770-451-0020, ext. 302

Get Involved with HMHB



We need YOU!

We are in the planning stages of our yearly health fair. This year we are moving the health fair to Savannah (Chatham County). Please assist us by volunteering or pledging a tax-deductible donation. We are hoping to make this the biggest health fair Savannah has seen— to find out more visit our website at www.hmhbga.org.

Perdue's budget includes relief for Grady

Atlanta Business Chronicle - by [Urvaksh Karkaria](#) Staff Writer-Wednesday, January 16, 2008 - 6:07 PM EST

Gov. Sonny Perdue's budget, released Jan. 16, promises relief for struggling Grady Memorial Hospital.

The budget proposal increases funding in two major areas -- trauma care and Medicaid reimbursement -- that helped drive Grady into a \$55 million deficit last year. The governor is seeking to add \$53 million to his amended fiscal 2008 budget to help pay for trauma care across 15 centers statewide. The money will be used to reimburse physicians, EMS providers and trauma hospitals for uncompensated care. Funding the state's trauma care centers is a hot button issue this legislative session. The governor and speaker both want to raise trauma care funding through additional fees on Georgia drivers and higher fines for lead footed drivers.

Finding dollars for trauma care "is a significant step in the right direction," Georgia Hospital Association (GHA) spokesman Kevin Bloye said. "Right now the trauma system is in serious financial crisis." While the additional money is not a "magic bullet for Grady," Bloye said, it will go a long way to help the safety net's losses. Trauma centers, which treat critical injuries like accidents and gunshot wounds, are losing nearly \$210 million annually in unpaid medical care, according to the GHA.

State officials estimate up to \$85 million is needed annually to stabilize the statewide trauma network -- anchored by Grady, one of only four Level 1 trauma centers in Georgia, and the only one in Atlanta. The budget proposal also called for \$34.7 million in hospital Medicaid reimbursement funding for fiscal 2009. Cutbacks in Medicaid reimbursement are biting into hospital bottom lines.

Hospitals are reimbursed 85 cents for every dollar they spend on Medicaid patients, the GHA noted. In fiscal 2009, Medicaid reimbursements to hospitals are expected to fall to about 79 cents -- a \$480 million payment shortfall, the GHA cautioned.

The governor's budget proposal also calls for a \$15 million increase in the fiscal 2008 budget supplemented by \$21 million in new funds in fiscal 2009 to improve care in Georgia's mental health hospitals. Another \$17.6 million is being earmarked to improve compensation to nursing homes and help reimburse the facilities for capital upgrades. Perdue also wants to use \$9.3 million in tobacco settlement funding to increase access to primary health care in rural Georgia.



Get Involved in Your Community



National Women's Heart Health Fairs CALENDAR LISTING ***– Basic Facts***

Atlanta National Women's Heart Health Fair to be held at TWELVE Atlantic Station on February 9, 2008 from 9am-1pm as part of nationwide effort to prevent heart disease among women

- What:** Free heart health screenings will be provided by the Sister to Sister Foundation and Saint Joseph's Heart Center for Women at this year's National Women's Heart Health Fair. Attendees can take advantage of free screenings for cholesterol, blood glucose levels, blood pressure, body mass index and family health history, while obtaining individual results on site, with counseling that explains the results and describes the next steps. In addition to the free screenings, there will be interactive medical presentations that focus on women, lifestyle seminars, cooking demonstrations, fitness programs, stress-reduction workshops, vendors, raffles and giveaways.
- When:** February 9, 2008 from 9am to 1pm
- Where:** TWELVE Atlantic Station
- Why:** Making women aware of the risk of heart disease is the first step in taking action to lower their risk. The Sister to Sister Foundation helps motivate all women to take action by getting screened and by learning about a heart-healthy lifestyle to reduce their heart disease risk.
- Sponsoring Organizations:** The annual National Women's Heart Health Fair is presented by the Sister to Sister Foundation and Saint Joseph's Heart Center for Women – The Sister to Sister Foundation is the only national organization focused on providing free heart health screenings nationally. Through their efforts, hundreds of thousands of women learn about prevention and early detection of heart disease, as well as heart-healthy nutrition and lifestyle changes for themselves and their families. For more information visit www.sistertosister.org

About the Sister to Sister Foundation:

The Sister to Sister Foundation, a national 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization, is dedicated to preventing heart disease among women through free cardiac screenings. In addition, Sister to Sister provides women with resources to increase awareness about heart disease, to encourage healthy lifestyles, and to reduce risk factors for heart disease, the #1 killer of women today. For more information about the National Women's Healthy Heart Campaign, go online to www.sistertosister.org.

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News From National Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies— January 21, 2008

MATERNAL-INFANT HEALTH NEWS

1) NEW FROM NIH: CONTINUING ED PROGRAM ON SIDS PREVENTION The National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) has developed a new continuing education program designed to help nurses communicate the risk factors for Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) to the parents they service. Created in collaboration with the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR), as well as a number of national nursing and health organizations, the curriculum recognizes that nurses are on the front lines in connecting with pregnant women and new parents to share the SIDS prevention message. It is approved for 1.1 contact hours of CE credit from the Maryland Nurses Association, which is accredited by the American Nurses Credentialing Center Commission on Accreditation. Nurses may download the curriculum online or order hard copies from NICHD by visiting <http://www.nichd.nih.gov/sidsnursesce> or calling 1-800-370-2943. An interactive online version of the program is under development, expected to be available later this year.

2) AAP URGES CAUTION IN USE OF COLD & COUGH MEDICINES FOR CHILDREN The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) is supporting the recent US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) advisory strongly recommending that over-the-counter cold and cough medications not be given to infants and toddlers under two years of age, due to the risk of potentially life-threatening side effects. AAP is instead encouraging parents to use safer ways to soothe infants and toddlers suffering from colds and coughs, including saline nose drops and suctioning bulbs, along with cool-mist humidifiers. According to AAP President Renee Jenkins, MD, FAAP, "We urge FDA to continue its analysis of the existing data on these medicines intended for children over age two and to take appropriate action including initiation of immediate, rigorous scientific studies as needed to determine the drugs' safety and efficacy." The FDA says it expects to announce its recommendations for children ages two to 11 in early spring of this year. For more from AAP on treating children without over-the-counter cold and cough drugs, go to http://www.aap.org/publiced/BR_Infections.htm.

3) FISH OIL SUPPLEMENTS DEEMED SAFE DURING PREGNANCY A new report published in the Archives of Disease in Childhood-Fetal and Neonatal Edition finds that it is safe for women to take fish oil supplements during pregnancy, with no harmful effects on the fetus and potential developmental benefits for the child. Eye and hand coordination scores were significantly higher among children in the high-dose prenatal fish oil exposure group as compared to the control group, whose mothers received an olive oil placebo during pregnancy. The authors conclude, "These preliminary data indicate that supplementation with a relatively high-dose of fish oil during the last 20 weeks of pregnancy is not only safe, but also seems to have potential beneficial

effects that need to be explored further." For the abstract, go to <http://fn.bmj.com/cgi/content/abstract/93/1/F45>.

CHILD, ADOLESCENT, FAMILY & COMMUNITY HEALTH NEWS

4) FINDINGS: LOWER-INCOME MOMS PREFER WEB AS HEALTH INFORMATION SOURCE According to a new study of lower-income mothers published in the January issue of the Journal of Nutrition Education and Behavior finds that websites are the preferred source for nutrition and health information. The study presented 155 lower-income moms with the same nutrition information in different formats. The mothers in this study reported a preference for the website format, saying they understood the information better and paid more attention. After the task, "nutrition literacy" scores were also higher for women who viewed the website, though no difference was found in mothers' ability to retain the information at a two-week follow-up. According to the authors, efforts to increase nutrition literacy among low-income families have traditionally focused on brochures and other printed materials, but there may be reason to change direction. And they say that while video games held promise as "edu-tainment," they can represent intellectual challenges for some audiences. For the abstract, go to <http://www.jneb.org/article/PIIS1499404607009761/abstract>.

5) STUDY: MEDICAID COVERAGE OF CAR SEATS IS GOOD HEALTH POLICY A study released last week by The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) finds that distributing child car safety seats to low-income families would be cost-effective health policy. According to the study's findings, a Child Restraint Systems (CRS) program would provide access to child safety seats and education via physician prescription. Children enrolled in a Medicaid-based CRS program at birth would receive a combined infant and toddler safety seat, along with educational materials, when discharged from the hospital after birth. At age four, the child would receive a belt-positioning booster seat. CHOP's study finds that, including all medical and societal costs, this program would reduce medical costs by \$1 million per 100,000 children, and would reduce future victim productivity costs by \$2.7 million per 100,000 participating children. Published in the journal Ambulatory Pediatrics, the study's findings will prove useful for state and national policymakers, and especially those committed to preventive care for children. The next recommended step: Pilot testing of the program at the state or local level. For more on child passenger safety from CHOP, go to <http://www.chop.edu/carseat>.

ADVOCATES IN ACTION

6) BREASTFEEDING COALITION OF WASHINGTON ANNOUNCES NEW WEBSITE, ONLINE RESOURCES The Breastfeeding Coalition of Washington (BCW), a program of WithinReach, just released the winter edition of its free Breastfeeding Matters newsletter, available for online reading or download and printing as a PDF. The edition introduces BCW's new website, as well as spotlighting BCW's work with Head Start and Early Head Start. It also covers recent breastfeeding news at the state and national level, including the City of Portland's decision to eliminate formula discharge packets, airline travel while breastfeeding and new research. The BCW website shares maternal and child health information for families and professionals, including numerous free MCH educational materials. Go to <http://www.breastfeedingwa.org>.

NONPROFIT MANAGEMENT

7) THE ONLINE FUNDRAISING & NON-PROFIT MARKETING LEARNING CENTER Guidance and inspiration for planning your 2008 online fundraising strategy: Network for Good recently launched a new Online Fundraising and Nonprofit Marketing Learning Center. The free resource center is designed to be "a guide for the overwhelmed, overworked fundraiser," and features articles on topics such as home page essentials, a quick guide to social networking and tips for changing the fundraising game, plus many other items relevant to nonprofit marketing. Go to <http://www.fundraising123.org>.

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News From National Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies— January 14, 2008

MATERNAL-INFANT HEALTH NEWS

1) AAP'S UPDATE ON BREASTFEEDING, MATERNAL DIET & INFANT ALLERGIES The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) has issued an update on the link between pregnant and nursing women's diets, breastfeeding and the risk of infant allergies, published in the January issue of the journal *Pediatrics*. AAP recommends that in high-risk infants prone to atopic disease – which includes eczema, asthma and food allergies – exclusive breastfeeding for at least four months may delay or even prevent the condition. The new report also states that although breastfeeding can prevent infant allergies, there is currently no evidence that avoiding certain foods in a nursing mother's diet – including eggs, fish and peanut butter – prevents allergies. An earlier AAP statement, from August 2000, had advised nursing women with a family history of allergies to avoid consuming cow's milk, eggs, fish, peanuts and tree nuts to help prevent food allergies, asthma and allergic rashes in infants. The new statement suggests that dietary manipulation for breastfeeding women is not indicated by research, except in very specific instances where there is a family history of an allergy. For the complete clinical report, go to <http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/cgi/content/full/121/1/183>.

2) JANUARY 17: "EMERGING ISSUES IN MCH" CONFERENCE CALL To kick off the fifth year of the "Emerging Issues in Maternal and Child Health" Conference Series, sponsored by NACCHO and CityMatCH, the first call of 2008 is scheduled for this Thursday, January 17, from 3 to 4:30 p.m. EST. "Collaborations Between Community Health Centers and Local Public Health Departments" will feature speaker Catherine Hess, MSW, Senior Program Director at the National Academy of State Health Policy, a team from Michigan on a statewide overview of local-level initiatives, and a presentation on an innovation collaboration in Emporia, Kansas. An interactive Q&A period will follow. Continuing education credits are available. For more information and to register for this call, go to <http://www.citymatch.org/v1/ProdServe/emch.htm>.

3) NIMH STUDY FINDS GENETIC LINK FOR AUTISM A new study from the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) has found a variation in a particular gene (CNTNAP2) that may raise the risk of developing autism – especially when the gene variant is inherited from a mother rather than a father. Although inheriting the gene variant does not mean a child will inevitably develop autism, it means that a child may be more vulnerable to developing the disease. Results of the study were reported January

10 in the *American Journal of Human Genetics*. NIMH Director Thomas Insel, MD, responded to the findings: "Autism is highly heritable. Identifying the genes involved is crucial to our ability to map out the pathology of this isolating and sometimes terribly disabling disease, which currently has no cure." For more about this study and its findings, go to <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/science-news/2008/autism-risk-higher-in-people-with-gene-variant.shtml>.

CHILD, FAMILY & COMMUNITY HEALTH NEWS

4) NEW KIDS COUNT DATA CENTER UNVEILED

The Annie E. Casey Foundation's KIDS COUNT online database has received a facelift, featuring a whole new look and feel. Now an even more powerful resource, the database provides measures of child wellbeing for the 50 largest US cities, as well as more than 100 indicators – including the most recent data on health, education, poverty, employment and income, and youth risk factors for the nation as a whole, each of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands. Users can create their own reports with maps, charts and graphs, organized by a specific topic or a geographic area. By providing policymakers and members of the public with benchmarks for child wellbeing, KIDS COUNT is intended to enrich local, state and national discussions of how to secure better outcomes for all children. To access the new database, go to <http://www.kidscount.org/datacenter>.

5) REGISTRATION OPEN FOR NAPNAP 2008

Online registration is open and the complete event booklet is now available for the 2008 Annual Conference of the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (NAPNAP). Set for April 14-17 in Nashville, Tennessee, the 2008 conference theme is "In Harmony with the Latest Healthcare Strategies." More than 1,300 pediatric health professionals from across the nation are expected to attend the event, which includes concurrent, plenary and general sessions for all audiences, as well as keynote speaker Naomi Judd. Over 20 hours of continuing education credits will be available. For more information, go to <http://www.napnap.org/index.cfm?page=12&sec=97>.

ADVOCATES IN ACTION

6) WISCONSIN BECOMES FIRST STATE TO SCREEN NEWBORNS FOR "BUBBLE BOY DISEASE"

With funding and advocacy from The Jeffrey Modell Foundation, on January 1 Wisconsin became the first state in the nation to routinely screen newborn babies for Severe Combined

Immune Deficiency (SCID), a genetic disorder that is fatal without early diagnosis and treatment. Infants diagnosed with what is also known as "Bubble Boy Disease" can be referred for treatment that is potentially life-saving, before serious infections develop. The SCID screening has been added to the current panel of 47 other screening tests given to newborns in Wisconsin, through a multi-year pilot program and the collaborative efforts of the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Children's Hospital of Wisconsin and the Jeffrey Modell Foundation, a nonprofit founded by Vicki and Fred Modell in memory of their son Jeffrey, who died at age 15 from a Primary Immunodeficiency (PI). According to Jac Routes, MD, of Children's Hospital of Wisconsin, "We believe that the Wisconsin Newborn Screening program will serve as a blueprint for newborn screening in other states, spurring testing to save the lives of infants throughout the nation." For more about the work of The Jeffrey Modell Foundation, go to <http://www.info4pi.org>.

NONPROFIT MANAGEMENT

7) REPORT: FOUNDATIONS & CORPORATIONS MOVING AWAY FROM PROJECT-BASED GRANTS Reporting from the New York Times finds that more and more foundations and corporate leaders are questioning the tradition approach of awarding project-based funding to nonprofit organizations. Citing inefficiency and lack of goal-driven accountability for measurable outcomes, the Times cites a number of recent studies concluding that providing general operating support to nonprofits means better results for both grantees and foundations. They also cite case studies of funders like the William and Flora Hewlett and Edna McConnell Clark Foundations, which are leading a movement to provide more operating support to the nonprofits they fund. For more on this issue from the Philanthropy News Digest, go to <http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/news/story.jhtml?id=199600011>.

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Public Health Conferences and Events

January 28– February 1, 2008

Title: International Conference on Child and Family Maltreatment

Location: San Diego, CA

See: www.safeta.org

February 6, 2008

HMHB 21st Annual Legislative Breakfast

Location: “Sloppy” Floyd Building

See: www.hmhbga.org

February 27, 2008

Voices for Georgia’s Children

Policy Watch at the Capitol Legislative Breakfast

See: www.georgiavoices.org

February 27, 2008

G-CAPP Annual Legislative Reception

See: www.gcapp.org

January is.....

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Cervical Health Awareness Month

National Cervical Cancer Coalition (NCCC)

www.nccc-online.org/awareness.html

1 - 31

National Birth Defects Prevention Month

March of Dimes

www.marchofdimes.com/professionals/14332_1206.asp

1 - 31

National Glaucoma Awareness Month

Prevent Blindness America

preventblindness.org/news/observe.html

1 - 31

Thyroid Awareness Month

American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists

www.thyroidawareness.com



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Coalition of Georgia

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This newsletter is being distributed to HMHB Coalition Members. Please submit your questions or comments about this newsletter and or its content to Jessica Hawkins at jessica.hawkins@hmhbga.org.

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