



# HMHB Resource Watch

**HEALTHY MOTHERS, HEALTHY BABIES**  
Coalition of Georgia

*Improving the health status of Georgia's Families.*

## HMHB's 2007 Annual Meeting and Conference

Volume 8, Issue 6  
October 4, 2007

We would like to thank all of you who came to the Georgia Freight Depot on October 3 to support Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition of Georgia. It was a huge success and we could not do it without you.. A special thanks to the 2007 Annual Meeting and Conference exhibitors: Amerigroup, Better Brains for Babies, G-CAPP, Georgia Dental Association, Georgia Perinatal Association, Georgia Public Health Association, Georgia Volunteer HealthCare Program, Georgia Volunteer HealthCare Program, Partnership for Prescription Assistance, PeachState Health Plan, Sanofi Pasteur, Voice's for Georgia's Children, Walden University, and WellCare.

### *Inside this issue:*

Annual Meeting Update	1
Agency Spotlight	2
Train the Trainer Work-	2
News from National	3
News from National	4
Other News	5

### HMHB would like to thank our 2007 Annual Meeting and Conference Sponsors:

GlaxoSmithKline  
March of Dimes- Georgia Chapter  
Wyeth Vaccines  
Babies 'R' Us  
Mitchell and McCormick

## Legislative Update

### Capitol Hill Watch | Democratic Leaders Schedule SCHIP Legislation Vote For Oct. 18 in Hopes of Overriding President Bush's Veto

The House on Wednesday won a procedural vote that allowed them to postpone until Oct. 18 a vote to override a veto of legislation that would reauthorize and expand SCHIP, *CQ Today* reports. President Bush vetoed the bill on Wednesday. According to *CQ Today*, the delay is intended to give Democrats and bill supporters time to "make a 'no' vote as politically unpalatable as possible for Republicans" (Wayne, *CQ To-*

*day*, 10/3). The compromise bill would have provided an additional \$35 billion in funding over the next five years and brought total spending on the program to \$60 billion. The additional funding would have been paid for by a 61-cent-per-pack increase in the tobacco tax. The House last week voted 265-159 to approve the measure, with 45 Republicans voting in favor and eight Democrats voting against the bill. The Senate on Thursday voted 67-29 to approve the legislation, with 18 of the 49 Senate Republicans voting in favor. The program expired on Sunday (*Kaiser Daily Health Policy Report*, 10/3). House Speaker Nancy Pelosi

(D-Calif.) said that the two-week delay will allow time for Democrats and outside groups to pressure Republicans that voted against the bill (Coile, *San Francisco Chronicle*, 10/4). However, Republican House leaders said they are confident they will be able to sustain the veto (Lueck, *Wall Street Journal*, 10/4). Source: [http://www.kaisernetwork.org/daily\\_reports/health2008dr.cfm?DR\\_ID=47985](http://www.kaisernetwork.org/daily_reports/health2008dr.cfm?DR_ID=47985)

## Agency Spotlight on Better Brain’s for Babies

Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition of Georgia we are proud to announce a new partnership with Better Brains for Babies.

*Better Brains for Babies (BBB) is a collaboration of state and local, public and private organizations dedicated to promoting awareness and education about the importance of early brain development in the healthy growth and development of infants and young children in Georgia.*

### Vision

Our vision is: "All children will grow up in healthy, secure, and enriching environments to help ensure their social, emotional, academic, and occupational success."

### Mission

Our mission is: "To disseminate research-based information about the importance of early brain development in infants and young children in order to educate parents, practitioners, policy makers, and the general public about practices and policies that can maximize the potential of Georgia's children."

### Goals

The Better Brains for Babies Initiative has goals in four key areas.

**Education.** To develop and deliver a clear and consistent science-based message about the impact of early brain development on children's overall growth and development.

**Training.** To educate and support volunteer Better Brains for Babies trainers who will actively disseminate information on early brain development throughout the state.

**Advocacy.** To influence early childhood practices, policies, and funding decisions in Georgia through the use of early brain development research findings.

## Better Brain’s for Babies

Better Brains for Babies is pleased to offer another Train the Trainer two-day workshop on Thursday and Friday, November 15 and 16, at Epworth-by-the-Sea on St. Simons. We thank the Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems (ECCS) initiative for the funding for this workshop. The application form is posted on the BBB website, [www.bbbgeorgia.org](http://www.bbbgeorgia.org), and we are accepting applications now.

The workshop will follow the same format as the two workshops con-

ducted by the BBB Executive Committee members in March and April, with a review of the Trainer Guide, and small group exercises to apply the material to training situations. Each participant will receive the Trainer Guide kit with the flash animation CD. There will not be a registration fee for this workshop, as the location may mean more travel and overnight costs for most participants.

Applicants need to complete the application form on line, secure ap-

## Train the Trainer Workshop

proval from supervisor to attend, and agree to follow the BBB trainer guidelines. To receive the kit and be qualified as a BBB trainer, participants need to participate for the full two days as scheduled. Deadline for applications is October 17. We will notify applicants about acceptance in late October.

If there are questions, contact [info@bbbgeorgia.org](mailto:info@bbbgeorgia.org).



## News From National Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies- October 1, 2007

### MATERNAL-INFANT HEALTH NEWS

1) **STUDY FINDS NO LINK BETWEEN THIMEROSAL & NEUROLOGICAL PROBLEMS-** A study published in the September 27 issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine* has found no consistent link between thimerosal, a preservative used in childhood immunizations, and later neurological problems. The study looked at more than 1,000 children between the ages of seven and 10, comparing their neuropsychological health to their level of thimerosal exposure in utero and during their first seven months of life. Thimerosal has been a center of controversy for several years, and parents of some children with autism believe that the mercury used in the preservative is a cause of the disorder. It was widely used in childhood vaccines before 1999, when the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) found that children vaccinated according to the recommended childhood schedule could be exposed to higher levels of mercury from thimerosal than the maximum considered safe by the FDA. At that time, the CDC and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) asked vaccine manufacturers to remove thimerosal from vaccines, although the CDC says there is no scientific evidence of a link between thimerosal and autism. According to Dr. Paul Offit, who wrote one of two accompanying articles in the September 27 edition of the journal, "Parents should feel enormously reassured that another study has found that the levels of thimerosal contained in vaccines before 2001 are not harmful." For the abstract, go to <http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/abstract/357/13/1281>.

2) **NEW STUDY FINDS FREQUENCY OF ANTEPARTUM & POSTPARTUM DEPRESSION-** Research just published in the *American Journal of Psychiatry* finds that approximately one in seven women is identified with and treated for depression during the period encompassing 39 weeks before through the 39 weeks after pregnancy. The authors conclude that "The high level of treatment among women identified with depression (93.4 percent overall) suggests that women are willing to obtain treatment if identified with depression." They add, "The acceptability of treatment does support routine screening for depression, which could uncover undetected depression and, with appropriate treatment, mitigate the devastating effects of this disease on the mother, infant and other siblings." For the abstract of this study, go to <http://ajp.psychiatryonline.org/cgi/content/abstract/164/10/1515>.

3) **POSTPARTUM DEPRESSION BILL MOVES FORWARD IN HOUSE OF REPS** Last week the House Energy and Commerce Committee approved the Melanie Blocker Stokes Act, HR 20, which would authorize \$3 million in grants to study the causes and treatments of postpartum depression and postpartum psychosis. HR

No amendments were offered on the bill, and it now moves forward in the House of Representatives, sponsored by Rep. Bobby Rush (D-IL). HR 20 would also provide grants through HHS to establish and operate effective systems for delivering essential services to women with PPD or postpartum psychosis. For more about HR 20, the Melanie Blocker Stokes Act, go to <http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/bdquery/z?d110:HR00020:@@L&summ2=m&>.

4) **TOOLS & RESOURCES FOR SIDS AWARENESS MONTH-** October is SIDS Awareness Month, providing an opportunity to increase awareness of protective behaviors such as placing infants on their backs to sleep. During SIDS Awareness Month, free educational materials and informational resources are available from national and local campaigns. For "Back to Sleep" materials from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, go to <http://www.nichd.nih.gov>. For fact sheets and "The Death of a Child, The Grief of Parents" from the National SIDS Resource Center, go to <http://www.sidscenter.org>. For lists of local coordinators and bereavement support from the Association of SIDS and Infant Mortality Programs, go to <http://www.asipl.org>. For sites targeted to parents and families, visit The National SIDS Alliance/First Candle at <http://www.firstcandle.org> and The SIDS Network at <http://www.sids-network.org>.

5) **SAVE THE DATE: 2008 AMCHP CONFERENCE-** The Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs (AMCHP) has announced its 2008 Annual Conference, set for March 1-5 in Alexandria, VA outside Washington, DC. This year's conference program will cover topics MCH topics with a special focus on social justice. Sessions will focus on health equity, quality improvement, partnerships, leadership skills and competencies for the future workforce, AMCHP best practices and strategies, AMCHP's new social marketing messages and resources and AMCHP's new legislative strategy. Attendees will include public health practitioners, family advocates and professionals in maternal and child health, with workshops led by researchers, federal officials, advocates, healthcare providers and directors of state programs. For more details and to register, go to <http://www.amchp.org/news/2008/index.html>.

### CHILD, ADOLESCENT, FAMILY & COMMUNITY HEALTH NEWS

6) **NAPNAP & SPN INTRODUCE PEDIATRIC NURSING RESOURCE-** The National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (NAPNAP) and the Society of Pediatric Nurses (SPN) have invited public comment on their publication

"Pediatric Nursing: Scope and Standards of Practice." The publication incorporates the wide array of responsibilities of pediatric nurses, and is the result of a collaborative process involving representatives from several practice areas in NAPNAP and SPN. It is intended to be a comprehensive resource meeting the needs of pediatric nurses in a variety of settings and roles, as well as a resource for nursing faculty and students, other healthcare providers, researchers, and those involved in funding, legal, policy and regulatory work. To view the publication, go to <http://www.napnap.org> or <http://www.pedsnurses.org> and use the online evaluation form to provide feedback by November 9.

### ADVOCATES IN ACTION

7) **"100 BEST COMMUNITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE" COMPETITION** The America's Promise Alliance and Capital One have announced their 2008 "100 Best communities for Young People" Competition, with a call for entries from communities across the US that are the best places for young people to live and grow up. Winners will range from large urban cities to small rural towns, and will be eligible to apply for a total of \$300,000 in grants from the Alliance. Winning communities will be featured prominently on the Alliance's website, their newsletter and as part of national and local media materials. They will also receive a partial stipend to attend the Alliance's National Forum and Celebration in Washington, DC and will be invited to participate in the Alliance's Regional Best Practice Forums. Deadline to apply is November 2, 2007. For more information and to apply, go to <http://www.americaspromise.org/APAPage.aspx?id=5858>.

### NONPROFIT MANAGEMENT

8) **CAPACITERIA'S PEER-REVIEWED DATABASE OF RESOURCES-** The Capaciteria website offers nonprofit organizations a comprehensive, searchable database of administrative resources for leveraging YOUR capacity. The site is largely interactive and relies on peer review from nonprofit managers who comment on and rate individual resource links, as well as contributing new links. To get started, go to <http://capaciteria.org>.

## News From National Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies— September 24, 2007

### MATERNAL-INFANT HEALTH NEWS

1) **SAVE THE DATE: ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NATIONAL BIRTH DEFECTS PREVENTION NETWORK** The National Birth Defects Prevention Network (NBDPN) will host its 11th Annual Meeting February 11-13, 2008 at the L'Enfant Plaza Hotel in Washington, DC. Featured presentations focus on the current and future research agenda of the National Birth Defects Prevention Study, birth defects and public policy, reproduction and infertility, defects of the ventral wall and a parent's perspective from Judy Woodruff, national news anchor and parent of a child with spina bifida. Breakout sessions will cover birth defects surveillance, research and prevention issues, in addition to opportunities for networking and exhibits. Early bird registrant discounts are available before December 14. For more information, contact Amy Case at amy.case@dshs.state.tx.us or Cara Mai at cmai@cdc.gov. Visit the NBDPN site at <http://www.nbdpn.org>.

### CHILD, ADOLESCENT, FAMILY & COMMUNITY HEALTH NEWS

2) **SEPTEMBER 23-29: NATIONAL ADULT IMMUNIZATION AWARENESS WEEK** This year marks the 20th consecutive observance of National Adult Immunization Awareness Week, with the theme "Adult Immunization: It's Your Best Shot!" This year's observance, September 23-29, is a great opportunity for individuals and organizations to promote the importance of adult and adolescent immunization for individual, family and public health. A 2007 Campaign Kit is now available for download on the CDC website, providing resources to help educate consumers and healthcare workers. To download the PDF and to access additional tools shared by the California Adult Immunization Coalition (CAIC), go to <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/events/naiaaw/default.htm>.

4) **NHTSA & EPA SHARE SMOKE-FREE HOMES & CARS MESSAGE** The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are working together to share the message that just like injury to children from improperly installed car seats, childhood illness from secondhand smoke exposure in cars is preventable. They are working with partners in child and family health and safety to get the message to parents and caregivers: Even when smokers open a window or increase the ventilation in their cars, child passengers are still exposed to secondhand smoke. And the US Surgeon General reports that secondhand smoke is a known cause of respiratory problems, ear infections, asthma attacks and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) in infants and children. The EPA offers downloadable materials that can be shared with parents during car seat safety inspections, parenting classes and other events – many of which are

available in both English and Spanish. To download, print or order these "Smoke-Free Homes and Cars" materials, go to <http://www.epa.gov/smokefree/publications.html>. For more on this EPA program, go to <http://www.epa.gov/smokefree>.

5) **CRN POLLS HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS ON DIETARY SUPPLEMENTS** The Council for Responsible Nutrition (CRN) is sponsoring new research among healthcare professionals, in an effort to better understand their personal use of dietary supplements and how it impacts the way they counsel their patients about dietary supplements. Results of the survey are expected to be released in early November as part of the CRN's campaign, an initiative to help consumers create a lifestyle focusing on healthy diet, supplements and exercise. CRN estimates that more than 150 million Americans – just over two-thirds of US adults – currently use dietary supplements. For more about the CRN, a Washington, DC-based trade association, go to <http://www.crnusa.org>.

### ADVOCATES IN ACTION

6) **INNOVATIVE CURRICULUM EDUCATES TO SOOTHE FUSSY BABIES, IMPROVE FAMILY OUTCOMES** Over 2,000 educators are now teaching "The Happiest Baby" curriculum in university hospitals, teen parenting clinics, fatherhood programs, postpartum depression groups, military bases and child abuse prevention programs. Developed by pediatrician Dr. Harvey Karp, the curriculum has most recently been adopted by the Pennsylvania Department of Health, which has begun the DVD-based training for almost 300 educators who will teach the classes in every state WIC clinic to promote breastfeeding continuation rates. And in August 2007 at the annual CIRMATCH conference on maternal and child health, the Boulder, Colorado Department of Health reported its successful outcomes after teaching "The Happiest Baby" program to parents of high-risk neonates. According to Dr. Karp, prolonged infant crying and sleeplessness are problems experienced by 10 to 20 percent of new parents, and are linked to health consequences including marital stress, breastfeeding failure, postpartum depression, Shaken Baby Syndrome and SIDS. The "Happiest Baby" educator program provides training to health and parenting professionals who teach classes in the "5 S's Method" for calming and soothing fussy babies. To learn more about the program, go to <http://www.thehappiestbaby.com>.

### NONPROFIT MANAGEMENT

7) **TECHSOUP PROVIDES DONATED PRODUCTS TO NON-PROFITS** At TechSoup Stock, non-profit organizations of all sizes can find hundreds of donated computer hardware and software products from partners such as Microsoft, Intuit, Adobe, Cisco and Symantec – including new Microsoft product donations including Office 2007, Windows Vista, Exchange Server 2007 and Visio 2007. No membership is required to work with TechSoup, and their administrative fees are as low as four percent of retail value. To find out more, go to <http://www.techsoup.org/stock>.

Sources:

<http://www.amchp.org>  
<http://www.nbdpn.org>  
<http://www.cdc.gov>  
<http://www.epa.gov/smokefree>  
<http://www.crnusa.org>  
<http://www.thehappiestbaby.com>  
<http://www.techsoup.org>

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# Other Public Health News

## October is.....

1 - 31  
Healthy Lung Month  
[www.lungusa.org](http://www.lungusa.org)

1 - 31  
National Breast Cancer Awareness Month  
National Breast Cancer Awareness Month  
Board of Sponsors  
[www.nbcam.org](http://www.nbcam.org)

1 - 31  
National Dental Hygiene Month  
American Dental Hygienists' Association  
[www.adha.org](http://www.adha.org)

1 - 31  
National Down Syndrome Awareness  
Month  
National Down Syndrome Society  
[www.ndss.org](http://www.ndss.org)

1 - 31  
National Family Sexuality Education  
Month / Let's Talk  
Planned Parenthood Federation of America  
[www.plannedparenthood.org](http://www.plannedparenthood.org)

1 - 31  
Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Awareness  
Month  
First Candle/SIDS Alliance  
[www.firstcandle.org](http://www.firstcandle.org)

15 - 19  
National Health Education Week  
National Center for Health Education  
Society for Public Health Education  
[www.nche.org](http://www.nche.org)

15 - 19  
National School Lunch Week  
School Nutrition Association  
[www.schoolnutrition.org](http://www.schoolnutrition.org)

16  
World Food Day  
[www.worldfooddayusa.org](http://www.worldfooddayusa.org)

19  
National Mammography Day  
American Cancer Society  
[www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org)

24  
Lung Health Day  
American Association for Respiratory  
Care  
[www.aarc.org/headlines/  
lung\\_health\\_day/](http://www.aarc.org/headlines/lung_health_day/)

## Public Health Conferences and Events

### October 24-26

Title: Family Connection Partnership, 9<sup>th</sup> Bien-  
nial Conference, "Community Improvement:  
Tools of the trade"  
Location: The Classic Center  
City: Athens, GA.  
See: [http://www.gafcp.org/news/conference/  
index.html](http://www.gafcp.org/news/conference/index.html)

### October 26 - 28, 2007

Title: 19th Annual NASW-GA Conference  
[Health, Hope and Community: Holistic Practice  
of Mind, Body and Spirit](http://www.naswga.org/)  
Location: Marietta Conference Center & Resort  
See: <http://www.naswga.org/>

### October 27-29

Title: The American Academy of Pediatrics  
(AAP)2007 National Conference & Exhibition  
(NCE)  
Location: San Francisco, CA  
See: <http://www.aap.org/nce/>

### November 3-7

Title: American Public Health Association  
2007 Annual Meeting & Exposition  
Location: Washington, D.C.  
See: <http://www.apha.org/meetings/>



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