



# AAP SOMSRFT REPORT

SECTION ON MEDICAL STUDENTS, RESIDENTS AND FELLOWSHIP TRAINEES  
District II: New York State

October 2011

## NCE 2011 Is Just Around the Corner!

This October's National Conference & Exhibition (NCE) will be held in Boston, MA. Technologies to help medical offices build medical homes will be presented (check out the AAP's Pediatric Office of the Future). CME courses will cover topics from neonates to adolescents. Pediatrics21 will illustrate ways to end childhood obesity in a generation. There will also be events outside of pediatrics; join other conference attendees in Freedom Trail walks among other events highlighting the exciting history Boston has to offer or at the Boston Experience! at the Museum of Science. There will be a 5K Fun Run and Walk benefiting the AAP Friends of Children Fund. In addition, the Keynote Address will discuss creating a culture of compassion from a Sesame Street perspective.

The NCE will also give the Section on Medical Students, Residents, and Fellowship Trainees a chance to debut the materials for their new advocacy project of the year. Only last year, they unveiled the Obesity Campaign, which was full of successes across the country. Please see the following website for a link to these materials from last year's advocacy campaign:

<http://www.aap.org/sections/ypr/r/advocacy/obesity.html> .

The SOMSRFT meetings are also places to discuss issues pertaining to medical students, residents, and fellows, so please contact us if you have something you would like to discuss. At the NCE, we will be electing new representatives for the 2011-2012 academic year. It will be the perfect opportunity to get more involved in the AAP, where positions such as District II SOMSRFT Coordinator and Assistant Coordinator will be elected upon, so come join us!

The NCE will be Oct 15-18, 2011 in Boston, MA. We look forward to seeing you there! For further details and schedules please visit <http://www.aapexperience.org/> .



## Important Websites:

AAP District II Website: <http://www.aapdistrictii.org/index.htm>

AAP SOMSRFT District II Website:

<http://www.aap.org/sections/ypr/r/resident/districts/districtii.html>

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## Important Dates/Upcoming Events (2011-2012)

**October 15-18:** AAP National Conference & Exhibition in Boston, MA

**November 4-6:** Immunization Summit at the Mohonk Mountain House

**December 4:** District II Meeting (video conference between Uniondale and Rochester NY)

**February 28:** Annual Lobby Day in Albany, NY

**March 16-18:** Annual Leadership Forum in Schaumburg, IL

**May TBA:** Immunization Summit in Cooperstown, NY

**June TBA:** District II Meeting (video conference between Uniondale and Rochester, NY)



(above) Elmhurst residents showing off their poster at the 2010 NCE

## Social Networking: The YP Connection and SOMSRFT on Facebook

The YP Connection is a social and professional networking site for members of the Section on Young Physicians and the Section on Medical Students, Residents and Fellowship Trainees. Come get connected now!!! [Click here](#) and log in with your AAP ID & password. You can also expand your network of medical students, residents, and fellowship trainees in New York by joining the "AAP District II (NY) SOMSRFT" Facebook Group.

## 2011 Election Results!

To illustrate the highest caliber of pediatricians we are fortunate to have in NY State, we are proud to announce that our newest President-Elect for the AAP comes from District II/NY State! Dr. Thomas McInerny will take office as president-elect Oct. 17 at the 2011 AAP National Conference & Exhibition in Boston and will serve as the 2012-2013 AAP president. He is a professor and associate chair for clinical affairs in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Rochester Medical Center and Golisano Children's Hospital. In a recent news release, the AAP reports:

"The highest priorities for the AAP and its membership are to ensure that, as health care reform continues to unfold, all children have access to high-quality health care," Dr. McInerny said. As president, he will work with legislators and other organizations to promote "facilitated enrollment," which identifies and encourages eligible families to acquire continual health insurance for children. Dr. McInerny will also press for pediatricians to be paid appropriately for providing a coordinated medical home for children."

Upon his election into office, Dr. McInerny was quick to discuss working with SOMSRFT in the future. He wanted to make sure our members, especially those of District II knew of his "sincere interest in working with SOMSRFT to determine how the AAP can best provide significant value to our youngest members."

In other exciting AAP District II election news, many congratulations to our newly elected District Chairperson - Danielle Laraque, MD, FAAP! She currently holds the position of Chair of the Department of Pediatrics and Vice-President of Maimonides Infants and Children's Hospital of Brooklyn. Dr. Laraque has worked diligently to improve the lives of children all over NY State, and even the world (she was one of the NY physicians who went to Haiti as part of the disaster relief effort), but has always found time to work with medical students and residents in pediatrics. She has always been a supporter of resident advocacy in NY state, and we look forward to working with her and Dr. McInerny in the future!

## AAP District II Annual Advocacy Day

Each year, medical students, residents, and fellows from all three NY AAP chapters come together with academic and community pediatricians in Albany, NY to advocate for children across the state. The day is both an effective and informative day at the state capitol, spent learning about current laws pertinent to pediatrics, and lobbying our state legislators.

This year's Advocacy Day in Albany brought out more District II SOMSRFT members than ever before! It offered the members a chance to make a difference for children through our state government. There were speakers from the state legislature, from the department of health and the department of insurance at the event. Then, along with senior faculty members, SOMSRFT members met with various state representatives to discuss important issues in pediatrics. They also combined with Reach Out and Read coordinators to stress the importance of the program across the state.



(above) Residents at the 2011 Annual Lobby Day

(below) The Manhattan skyline from Central Park on 9/11/11



## The End of a District II Era

Don't forget to check out our District II's Chair Report from October 2011, which can be found at: <http://www.aapdistrictii.org/advocacy/DIIChairReport1011.htm>

Soon, Dr. Schaeffer, the AAP's District II Chairperson will end his 6 years serving the AAP and NY State. So much has been accomplished during his time leading the district, please see his final report discussing everything from the legislation that has been passed to protect children's health in NY state, to the successful programs our district has founded, such as the immunization coalition or mental health training for pediatricians. SOMSRFT District II would like to thank Dr. Schaeffer for all of his efforts over the years. He has worked tirelessly as our District II Chairperson to serve the children in NY and members of the AAP, and has made a huge difference in his role as Chairperson. Thank you Dr. Schaeffer for all that you've done! We look forward to seeing all that you have to offer to the AAP and District II in the future!



*(left) AAP District II Faculty Members at the combined district meeting in TN*

*(below) Mt Sinai residents and fellows at their end of the year celebration*



## Mentoring in District II

The District II (NY State) AAP would like to foster networking and improve connections among the physicians within our community, and expose members to what the AAP and its leadership has to offer. As members of the AAP, we are dedicated to the health of all children. One of the best ways to serve children, however, is also to lead each other, and offer our own experiences to those who are starting new phases of their own careers in pediatrics. Mentoring happens each and every day in the medical community; teaching attendings mentor their residents while on service, residents offer practical advice to medical students interested in pediatrics, 1st year fellows have personal and recent experience applying to fellowship programs. We would like to further improve the mentoring experience within pediatrics by making sure there are opportunities to connect with those in the field whose careers and lifestyles are most meaningful to you. Please help us with this by answering a quick survey you will receive via email in the near future. It will only be 3 questions, and take about 5 minutes. Also, we would love any input you have about setting up a mentoring program for AAP members in District II; send suggestions to [DiGiovine@gmail.com](mailto:DiGiovine@gmail.com). Thank you!

## 9/11: 10 years later

With the 10th anniversary of 9/11 this past month, many of us experienced painful memories and emotions about the event and its aftermath, especially those of us from New York. However, the AAP has offered resources to aid in coping with the pain associated with remembered trauma and loss. We would like to encourage healthy discussion regarding the day, and to reassure children by telling them what their families, schools and government officials do to keep them safe. Please find links to these resources at <http://www.aap.org/pressroom/DisasterPrep9-11.html>. Dr. Steven Krug, MD, FAAP, and Chair of the AAP's Disaster Preparedness Advisory Council reminded us that "When reacting to or remembering disasters, children should be encouraged to take positive actions, and should be included in conversations about how we not only should prepare for adversity, but how we can learn from it and make things better."

Since that tragic day in 2001, the US government has labeled 9/11 a National Day of Service and Remembrance. Fortunately, both service and remembrance occur each and every day in New York. We would like to take this moment to remember all those lost on 9/11, as well as their surviving family members and friends. As every family ponders the messages of the 9/11 anniversary, the AAP reminds parents to consider their own pediatrician as a resource when it comes to helping children at difficult times. For those of you in the area, the following is for NY Cares (NY Cares Day is 10/15) and opportunities to volunteer as a way of remembering those lost on 9/11. They may be gone, but will never be forgotten.

[http://manhattan.about.com/gi/o.htm?zi=1/XJ&zTi=1&sdn=manhattan&cdn=citiestowns&tm=355&f=00&su=p284.12.336.ip\\_&tt=3&bt=1&bts=0&zu=http%3A/www.newyorkcares.org/volunteer/mygooddeed/](http://manhattan.about.com/gi/o.htm?zi=1/XJ&zTi=1&sdn=manhattan&cdn=citiestowns&tm=355&f=00&su=p284.12.336.ip_&tt=3&bt=1&bts=0&zu=http%3A/www.newyorkcares.org/volunteer/mygooddeed/).

## District II Updates

This year, District II had their combined meeting in Nashville, TN with District IV. Each of the 2010-2011 District II and IV resolutions were discussed and open forums were held. While both districts also spent time apart in standard meetings, they combined efforts to hand out awards to honored members in each district. The three chapters across District II have been busy across the state. Multiple chapters within the district have been working to train more general pediatricians in the mental health program promoted by the district's Mental Health Task Force. In addition, Chapter 1 is proud to announce their involvement in new commercial airing in Buffalo entitled "Vaccines save Lives." In other news, District II successfully held its First Annual NYS Immunization stakeholders' Congress in NYC this past year. As Dr. Schaeffer described it in one of his excellent newsletters, this meeting brought together "pediatricians, vaccine manufacturers, insurers, representatives of the State Department of Health, representatives of County Health Departments, and other interested parties to discuss issues related to immunization in practice, the role of the media and the development of public perceptions both for and against childhood immunizations."

We want to hear what has been going on in your own residency program, so please send an email to [DiGiovine@gmail.com](mailto:DiGiovine@gmail.com).

## **Spotlight on: North Shore – LIJ Pediatrics Residents Play a Fundamental Role in Instituting a Global Health Track**

By: Shaanan Meyerstein

Some very motivated residents at North Shore – LIJ Pediatrics Residency Program have banded together and played an integral part of organizing the residency's very first Global Health Partnership. The mission of the Pediatric Health in Underserved, Migratory and Global Populations track at Cohen Children's Medical Center (CCMC) is to train and inspire future leaders in pediatrics to identify and address the varied issues that affect the health of at risk groups of children in our own community and abroad. The new track will provide a foundation of skills, knowledge and mentorship from which its graduates will build careers in research, policy, and community engagement for underserved children.

The core educational components of the track include:

- Monthly conferences providing residents contact with like-minded trainees and faculty to discuss current topics in global and public health,
- A two week elective at CCMC's partner community in the Dominican Republic where residents will provide primary care and health education to a community without access to medical care,
- Planning and coordinating an annual Pediatric Global Health Symposium at CCMC open to residents and faculty of other pediatric programs, and
- Membership in the AAP's section on International Child Health, with career development guidance for incorporating Pediatric Global Health work after residency.

Residents apply to this track in January of the PGY-1 year and upon completion of pre-requisite assignments, and attendance of lectures, will be eligible for a completely subsidized medical trip to the Dominican Republic. Upon successful completion of the residency program, track participants will obtain a Recognition of Distinction in Pediatric Underserved, Migratory and Global Health.

### Background on the Dominican Republic Population

The Bateyes are sugarcane plantations where impoverished Haitian migrant workers live in overcrowded shacks with no sewage systems, electricity and running water. HIV/AIDS, TB, other childhood illnesses, including diarrhea, fever, malnutrition, as well as respiratory & parasitic infections, affect the youth in these communities. With no legal status in the DR, these migrants have no access to the country's health care system.

With the monthly presence of CCMC residents in Bataye 16, there is a unique opportunity to provide sustainable pediatric primary care including health maintenance visits, acute sick visits, referrals to specialists & monthly follow up, as well as health education to leaders of the local community to facilitate self-sufficiency in disease prevention and management.

CCMC residents will benefit from this experience by having exposure to tropical medicine pathologies not seen in NYC, working in a locale with greater emphasis on physical exam and clinical skills in a resource poor setting as well as facing challenges inherent in treating patients with different cultural, religious, & linguistic practices.

Prior to Departure, residents will complete modules on topics such as pediatric Malaria, TB, HIV/AIDS, Parasitology, Acute Malnutrition, Maternal Child Healthcare, Disaster Medicine, & Water borne diseases as well as learn about the impact of historical, social, economic and political factors on the healthcare of these children. Materials to teach residents basic Medical Spanish will also be provided.