



COVID-19: Update & Resources

April 8, 2020

Dear NYS AAP - Chapter 3 Member,

Thank you for all the work that you are doing to combat the pandemic! We hope that you and your loved ones are safe and well, and are adjusting to our new normal of social distancing, perpetual news updates, and virtual school. We are all in this together!

Please see the important COVID-19 updates and resources below:

- The National AAP summarized the recent **Coronavirus Stimulus Bill**:
 1. **\$100 billion to hospitals** for Personal Protective Equipment, testing supplies, increased workforce training, and emergency operation centers
 2. **\$150 billion to states and localities** for COVID-19 response activities
 3. **\$377 billion in loan forgiveness grants, emergency grants, and Small Business Administration loans** to aid small businesses with fewer than 500 employees, including pediatric practices.
- The **NYS DOH's COVID-19 Weekly Healthcare Provider Update Compilation** provides healthcare providers in New York State with a consolidated update of guidance released by the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) related to the COVID-19 pandemic response. [Click Here for this week's update.](#)
- Congratulations to **Dr. Nina Agrawal**, Co-Chair of Chapter 3's Committee on Family Violence and Prevention, for her **New York Times Op-ed "[The Coronavirus Could Cause a Child Abuse Epidemic.](#)"**
- Our sister Chapter, Chapter 2, discovered and helped fix a loophole in the national COVID response. Their efforts made sure that **across the country, kids in insurance plans governed by the federal Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA) can get access to telehealth services for the duration of the pandemic.** Prior to this, only adults were covered, and the kids were left to each individual plan's decisions.
- **Raise the Age NY put out a call for help** in urging NY Governor Cuomo and NYC Mayor de Blasio to act quickly to reduce the risks to young people and families posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Their recommendations include: working with criminal justice partners to release as many young people as possible from confinement, stopping arrests of youth for all but the most serious charges, and ensuring that implementation of the PAUSE Executive Order does not lead to harsh and targeted policing of young people. View their [social media toolkit](#) to learn more and spread the word.

- We are working on compiling [COVID-19 resources on our website](#) and **are looking for resources to share with parents on being home with and caring for their developmentally disabled child.** If you have any guidance to share, please email Jessica Geslani at jgeslani@aap.org.
- **Headspace is offering free access for US healthcare professionals.** You can learn more and sign up for their mindfulness and meditation app here: <https://www.headspace.com/health-covid-19>

Please don't hesitate to contact us with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,
Lisa Handwerker, MD, FAAP
President, NYS AAP - Chapter 3

The NYS AAP - CHAPTER 3 is YOUR Local AAP Chapter

The New York State American Academy of Pediatrics (NYS AAP) is comprised of three local AAP Chapters, Chapters 1, 2, and 3, who work together as a coalition.

Your Chapter, the NYS AAP - Chapter 3, has over 1,700 members in 8 counties: Manhattan, the Bronx, Staten Island, Westchester, Rockland, Putnam, Orange and Dutchess.

To learn more about Chapter 3, please view our [Member Value Flyer](#), which describes the value of Chapter membership.

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