



August 2020

MINNESOTA CHAPTER NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PEDIATRIC NURSE PRACTITIONERS

PRESIDENT UPDATE

As I was driving in my car this morning listening to a news podcast, I heard the word “unprecedented” for what seemed like the millionth time this year. It is a word I do not remember hearing much before, but now seems to be common vernacular over the last few months. It struck me that after all that has happened in our world since the beginning of 2020, we are still finding new reasons to use that word. It also struck me how exhausting it is.

As the summer ends and we embark on a new school year and the upcoming viral season, I think this is important to recognize that we are all probably a bit tired. We have all been working tirelessly, learning about a new disease, giving advice to our patients and families, and making decisions in our own lives about the best way to live right now. With this in mind, I hope you can all find a space or a moment to take a deep breath. Do something for yourself. I know we as the MN Chapter of NAPNAP will continue to help and support each other through this time.

We had our first board meeting of the 2020/2021 year last month, and I am excited for all we have planned! We are going pretty much all virtual at this point, as it seems everything is right now. We are learning a lot about new ways to do things, and hope we can bring you some helpful education and information through the upcoming year.

Sincerely,
Becky Carlson, MAN, APRN, CPNP
MN NAPNAP President

Upcoming Events

1. Twin Cities Pediatrics Update
 - a. Sept 11, 2020 7:45am-2:30pm
 - b. Registration link: <https://www.childrensmn.org/events/2020-twin-cities-pediatrics-update/>
 - c. MN NAPNAP members Patsy Stinchfield and Becky Carlson will be speaking at this event
2. Race, Racism, and Implicit Bias: What we can do about it?
 - a. Presented by Dr. Stephen Nelson, Director of hemoglobinopathy program at Children’s MN
 - b. Fall MN NAPNAP Conference
 - c. September 23rd, 2020 7:00pm-8:30pm
3. YWCA Midtown Minneapolis School Supply Drive
 - a. Taking donations for school supplies through August 28th, see link for details of needed items and drop off times: <https://www.ywcamppls.org/get-involved/food-and-supplies-distribution-at-ywca-midtown/>
 - b. Also a great resource for your patients if they live in the area. They can use that same link to sign up to receive donated items.

Legislative Update

MN NAPNAP

Advocacy/policy/practice/health

National Legislative Updates

COVID relief updates: After an initial swift response from Congress passing emergency relief for the pandemic, Democrats and Republicans have reached an impasse. The Democrats have proposed the HEROES Act, a stimulus package which would cost \$3 trillion and include stimulus checks to individuals, ongoing enhanced unemployment benefits, eviction protection, and funding for school reopening. The Republican HEALS act would cost \$1 trillion and would provide a pared-down version of stimulus checks, unemployment benefits, and school support. The HEALS act also includes payroll tax reductions but does not include eviction protection.

Immigration Update: US Immigrations and Customs Enforcement has drawn criticism for their practice of detaining children in hotels rather than in official licensed centers. The hotels lack the safeguards offered by traditional detention centers, including workers trained in providing childcare. This practice puts vulnerable children at risk of abuse and neglect.

Public Charge Rule: In January, the Trump administration passed legislation denying status to immigrants who receive government assistance including healthcare. This ruling has faced several legal challenges, the most recent of which occurred in a federal appeals court three weeks ago. At present, only Connecticut, New York, and Vermont pose limitations on the public charge rule. The rule poses an emergent threat to public health as it deters immigrants from seeking healthcare. In combination with the close living quarters and essential jobs that often define immigrant communities, the public charge rule is likely responsible for the increase in COVID-19 cases in these populations.

What to watch for in the upcoming session:

- **HR 8061:** A bipartisan bill introduced to the house on August 17 to increase vaccination rates and keep families healthy during the pandemic.

Find your legislator!

Do you know who is making decisions about your practice and the health of children and families in your community? Here's how you can find out- just type in your zip code:

US house of Representatives-

<https://www.house.gov/representatives/find/>

Minnesota Legislators-

<https://www.house.gov/representatives/find/>

What's Happening at Home

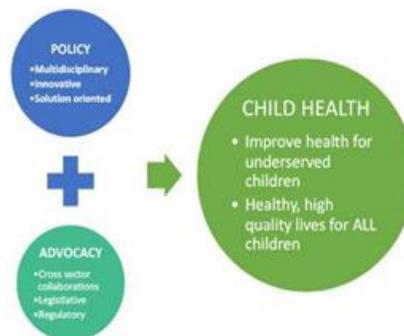
MN Policy Updates

Special Session Recap: Minnesotan legislatures wrapped up their second special session of the summer on July 21st. Highlights of the session include passing an extension of Governor Walz's emergency powers; adoption of HR 1, which declares racism as a public health emergency; and police reform. Legislators were unfortunately not able to come to an agreement on a bonding bill. A third special session came to order on August 12th; the outcome of this special session was to again extend Governor Walz's emergency powers.

Tobacco 21: On August 1, Minnesota officially changed its laws to align with the federal laws regarding minimum tobacco purchasing age. All Minnesotans must be 21 years of age or older to purchase tobacco cigarettes, e-cigarettes, and chewing tobacco. NAPNAP applauds this bipartisan legislative victory as an important step in preventing youth tobacco addiction.

APRNs as Examiners: As of August 1, APRNs in Minnesota may now function as examiners for civil commitment in an emergency room setting. Any APRN with appropriate credentialing may now issue a 72-hour hold on a patient with a mental health illness who may pose a threat to themselves or others. Previously, only physicians, PA's, and psychiatric NPs had this authority.

***Please contact your legislative representative, Katie Roberts at Katie.s.roberts@gmail.com if you would like more information on these events.**



Back to School Resources

- COVID Guide
 - <https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/schools/k12planguide.pdf>
- Back to School Planning list for Parents; COVID 19 addition: Planning inperson, virtual, and navigating stress and uncertainty
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/parent-checklist.html>
- School Decision for parents: How to decide to return to school vs virtual learning.
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/decision-tool.html>
- How to support your child's mental health as they return to school during Covid-19
 - <https://www.unicef.org/coronavirus/supporting-your-childs-mental-health-during-covid-19-school-return>





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