



AACAP 2025 LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

May 5–6, 2025
Washington, DC

American Association of
Child & Adolescent
Psychiatry



Monday, May 5, 2025

2:00 pm	Registration Opens	
2:30 pm	President’s Welcome	Tami Benton, MD, AACAP President
2:35 pm	Welcome Remarks	Laura Willing, MD & Melvin Oatis, MD, Co-Chairs, AACAP Advocacy Committee
2:45 pm	Advocacy in Today’s Political Environment	Peggy Tighe, JD, Principal, Powers Pyles & Sutter Verville PC
3:15 pm	Policy Discussion: Impact of Medicaid Reductions on Children’s Mental Health	Anita Burgos, PhD, Director, Public Policy, National Alliance on Mental Illness Rachel Pryor, Senior Vice President, Health Plan Strategy, Jefferson Health Dawn Puster, Deputy Director of OhioRISE, Ohio Department of Medicaid <i>Moderated by Laura Willing, MD</i>
4:00 pm	<i>Break</i>	
4:15 pm	Congressional Panel: Mental Health Policy Roadmap in 119th Congress	Molly McTaggart, Legislative Assistant, Office of Rep. Andrea Salinas (D-OR) Matthew Duglin, Legislative Director, Office of Rep. Don Bacon (R-NE) John Chambliss, Policy Advisor, Office of Sen. Alex Padilla (D-CA) <i>Moderated by Melvin Oatis, MD</i>
5:00 pm	AACAP Advocacy Policy Review	Alexis Geier-Horan, Chief of Advocacy and Practice Transformation
5:15 pm	Preparing for Capitol Hill	Role Play: Keeping Your Cool, AACAP Advocacy Committee
5:30 pm	Preparing for Capitol Hill	Practice with Your State Delegation & Break Outs
6:15 pm	Final Remarks & Adjourn	Laura Willing, MD & Melvin Oatis, MD, Co-Chairs, AACAP Advocacy Committee
6:30 pm – 7:30 pm	Welcome Reception	<i>Hosted by AACAP-PAC</i>

Tuesday, May 6, 2025

7:00 am	All Attendee Breakfast	
7:30 am	AACAP-PAC Chairperson’s Breakfast – invitation only	
8:15 AM	Welcome to Washington Remarks	Representative Andrea Salinas (D-OR), Co-Chair, Congressional Mental Health Caucus
8:30 am	AACAP Congressional Champion Award	Representative Nanette Barragan (D-CA) <i>Moderated Q&A by Melvin Oatis, MD</i>
9:00 am	Wrap-Up & Depart for Capitol Hill	
12:30 pm	Group Photo	<i>Capitol Steps, East Front, House Side</i>