Dear New York AACAP Members:

As a result of state budget cuts, the inpatient child psychiatry service at Stony Brook University Medical Center in Long Island is at risk of being closed. If that happens, it will also end Stony Brook’s child and adolescent psychiatry training program.

The Stony Brook inpatient unit serves severely mentally ill children ages 4 -12. It is the only university and hospital-based children's inpatient unit on Long Island. With the closing of the children’s unit would come the elimination of Stony Brook’s training program for child and adolescent psychiatrists.

If the Stony Brook unit is closed, children in need of psychiatric hospitalization will lose their last option in the Long Island area and the shortage of child and adolescent psychiatrists in New York will be worsened.

**Please help us preserve this vital resource by contacting your elected officials and by forwarding this message to anyone who is interested in preserving mental health services for children. Follow the steps below to take action:**

- Go to [http://www.save12north.org/](http://www.save12north.org/) for information about the threat and how you can help. The website includes sample letters and contact information for your elected officials.
- Please be sure to copy save12north@gmail.com on all correspondence.
- Forward this alert to your colleagues and mental health partners and ask them to take action.