AACAP Educational Outreach Program for Child and Adolescent
Psychiatry Residents, supported by AACAP’s Endowment Fund

The AACAP Educational Outreach Program provides the opportunity for child and adolescent psychiatry residents to receive a formal overview of child and adolescent psychiatry, establish mentor relationships with child and adolescent psychiatrists, and experience AACAP’s Annual Meeting. Supported by AACAP’s Endowment Fund, recipients receive up to $1,000 of financial assistance to attend AACAP’s Annual Meeting and must obtain a minimum of $300 of shared funding from a regional organization or institution.

Ireen Ahmed, MD—Tufts Medical Center
Aparna Atluru, MD—Stanford Hospital and Clinics
Taiwo T. Babatope, MD, MPH, MBA—University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
Aaron D. Besterman, MD—University of California, Los Angeles Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior
Azka Bilal, MD—St. Mary Mercy Hospital
Meelie Bordoloi, MD—University of Missouri
Neil B. Bruce, MD—New York University Langone Medical Center
Clarice P. Chan, MD—Hofstra Northwell School of Medicine
Miriam A. Dickson, MD—University of Illinois at Chicago
Travis D. Fahrenkamp, MD—University of Minnesota
Tzvi Furer, MD—New York University Langone Medical Center
Carolyn G.C. Gnerre, MD—Montefiore Medical Center
Richard D. Ha, DO—Virginia Tech Carilion Clinic
Rebecca Hicks, MD—University at Buffalo
Shawen M. Ilaria, MD—Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School
Amandeep S. Jutla, MD—Northwestern University
Margarita Kats, MD—Montefiore Medical Center
Lovejit Kaur, MD—University at Buffalo
Veronica Murphy, MD—Zucker Hillside Hospital—Northwell Health
Orlando R. Ortiz, MD—University of New Mexico
Bonny Patel, MD—Hofstra Northwell School of Medicine
Markian Pazuniak, MD—Albert Einstein Medical Center
Ian Peters, DO—Drexel University
Ravi S. Ramasamy, MD—The University of Chicago
Shama Rathi, MD—New York University Child Study Center
Anupriya Razdan, MD—Johns Hopkins Medicine
Lillian Reilly-Prado, DO—Drexel University
Aaron Roberto, MD—Yale University
Katherine A. Rockefeller, MD—Maine Medical Center
Hannah C. Sweet, MD—University of California, San Diego
Stephen M. Tourjee, MD—Massachusetts General Hospital/McLean Hospital
Amy Woods, MD—University of California, Los Angeles Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior
November 08, 2017

Endowment Fund
AACAP’s Executive Committee
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20016

Dear Executive Committee:

I wanted to take this opportunity to sincerely thank you for sponsoring me to attend AACAP’s national meeting this year. Without the scholarship, I would not have been able to go and experience for the first time all that AACAP has to offer.

Through this opportunity I was able to attend lectures on topics I am deeply interested in including autoimmune encephalopathies and dealing with the care of unaccompanied minors. These lectures were given by the most experienced and influential individuals in the field of child psychiatry. I was able to network and seek out mentors who can and will aid me greatly on my journey as a child psychiatrist as well.

Throughout the meeting I came to feel that the Academy would become an “organizational home” for me in which I can continue to learn, advance and advocate in the field of child psychiatry. Thank you again for this amazing and wonderful opportunity.

Sincerely,

Ireen Ahmed, MD
PGY-4
Triple Board Program at Tufts Medical Center
800 Washington Street
Boston, MA 02111
T: (617)636-1821
E: IAhmed1@tuftsmedicalcenter.org
To: AACAP Executive Committee  
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20016  

Dear AACAP Executive Committee,

I wanted to thank you for allowing me to attend the AACAP annual meeting through the EOP award for child psychiatry residents. As a CAP-2 Fellow who will be graduating in 2018, the EOP award helped me explore career opportunities, learn about advances in the field, network with future colleagues and employers and further my knowledge of psychopharmacology, psychotherapy, and systems issues. Further, the networking connections I made with peers were also immensely rewarding. Further, my experiences have given me a better understanding of AACAP as an organization, and I hope to participate on AACAP committees in the future, particularly the early career committee. Thank you again for the award and for an opportunity to be a part of your wonderful organization.

Regards,

Aparna Atluru, M.D.  
CAP-2 Fellow  
Stanford Hospital & Clinics
November 7th, 2017

Endowment Fund
AACAP’s Executive Committee
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20016

Dear Sir/Ma,

RE: AACAP Educational Outreach Program Award

I was ecstatic to learn that I was a recipient of the 2017 AACAP Educational Outreach Program Award which enabled my attendance at the AACAP’s 64th Annual Meeting, in Washington D.C. I am writing to thank you for your financial support of this Award.

I have always been drawn to the field of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry since my nephews were diagnosed with Autism and ADHD. Upon experiencing the joys of motherhood myself, I knew that my foray into the field was cemented. Subsequently, I applied and was accepted into a 5 yr. Combined General Adult, Child and Adolescent combined residency/fellowship track at the University of Texas Health Sciences Center at Houston. I am currently a 3rd year resident preparing to start my child and adolescent fellowship in July 2018. My interests and career goals include working with and advocating for collaborative and interdisciplinary transition services for children with autism and intellectual disabilities at state and federal levels.

By awarding me the AACAP Educational Outreach Program Award, you provided me an opportunity to network with great minds of similar interests. I acquired a substantial amount of knowledge regarding the continuum of care practices in other states, innovative approaches to treatment and available resources in the child and adolescent psychiatry community. I plan to be a lifelong member of this prestigious academy and contribute my quota to the development and progress of the field.

Thank you once again.

Sincerely,

Taiwo Babatope MD, MPH, MBA
PGY 3 Resident
Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences
University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
2800 S MacGregor Way, Houston TX 77021 | 1941 East Road Houston TX 77054
713-704-7243 | Pager Number: 18917
https://med.uth.edu/psychiatry/
Dear AACAP Executive Committee,

I am very grateful to be a recipient of one of this year’s Travel Awards. Because of the award, I was able to attend my first AACAP conference. One really unique and enriching experience was advocating for children’s mental health to my state senators and representatives. This is my first experience with political activism and provided me with a hands-on learning opportunity on how to advocate for the needs of my patients moving forward. Another highlight of the conference was being able to attend the Autism Committee Meeting. My research and clinical interests are focused on better understanding neurodevelopmental disorders, especially from a genetics perspective. At this meeting, I was able to meet many of the leaders in this field and I will join the workgroup on genetic testing guidelines. Lastly, it was a real pleasure to hear Sir Michael Rutter speak about the history and the trajectory of our field. All of these opportunities were only possible because of the travel award.

Thank you very much for your support.

Sincerely,

Aaron D. Besterman, MD
Second Year Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellow
Inpatient Chief Fellow
UCLA Semel Institute of Neuroscience and Human Behavior
Endowment Fund
AAPC’s Executive Committee
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20016

11.10.17

Dear Executive Committee members,

I am writing to thank you for your generous contribution sponsoring me for the Education Outreach Program (EOP). The EOP award made it possible for me to attend the 64th annual AAPC meeting and be part of the mentorship events. It was an amazing experience for me as it provided me the opportunity to meet leading experts in child & adolescent psychiatry and gain mentorship. I also got to meet fellows from other institutions and share learning experiences, research ideas and career interests. I enjoyed attending the educational events, especially related to young child development and mental health. Moreover, the meeting also helped me understand the important of advocacy for my patients as a child and adolescent psychiatrist.

I plan to use the skills I learnt at the AAPC meeting as I care for my patients. I am excited to attend the next meeting in Seattle and am hoping to present a research poster.

I thank you again for your generosity.

Sincerely,

Askia Bilal
Askia Bilal, MD
Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellow
Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia
To,

Endowment Fund
AACAP’s Executive Committee
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20016

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the AACAP executive Committee, endowment fund for granting me the Educational outreach program to be able to attend AACAP 2017 at Washington, DC.

As I had mentioned in my personal statement, I have only just started my fellowship in child psychiatry and I had thought that attending the AACAP meeting would nudge me in the right direction, which it rightfully did and how! From meeting with mentors from all fields in child psychiatry to understanding the ways of child trafficking to implementing cultural beliefs/systems in community psychiatry, the themes were all encompassing and career based.

I really appreciate the committee for establishing such an award which helps open the eyes of newbies like me. I was amazed at the fact that such importance was placed on honing us to be future leaders. For instance, I had very little knowledge of “advocacy”. As a part of the scheduled events, we were asked to “role play” a senator and physician urging the former to pass a bill for mental health. This was an eye opener for me. Again, the importance was diversity as a motto for the AACAP was well reflected by the number of International medical graduate forums and mentoring.

Networking with senior and contemporary colleagues is very much advocated by AACAP and this could be sensed in the air! I heard from repeat AACAP attendees that there are people that they see every AACAP and their friendship is special and cherishable. I made some lovely friends too and I know that they will be in my hearts forever. Infact, we continue to be in touch.

Last but not the least, there was fun and food! I was able to go to my St. Louis meet and connected with peers and seniors from neighboring towns. I was pleasantly surprised that we could go to any other region’s meet and we would be welcome with open arms! I enjoyed at the dinner reception and there again I was surprised that the disc jockey actually played music from different regions of the world only reiterating the fact that we believe in unity in diversity.

In conclusion, I can only say that had it not been for the Endowment fund, I would have never got the opportunity to broaden my horizon at such an early stage of my career and understand the nuances and intricacies of being a child psychiatrist. For that, I would like to thank the donors who made it possible and I would hope to emulate this act and pay it forward. After all, we are only a tight knit group of people, from different cultures and backgrounds trying to make a difference in the lives of children worldwide.

Thank you again.

Meelie Bordoloi

1st year CAP fellow

University of Missouri, Columbia
Endowment Fund  
AACAP’s Executive Committee  
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20016

November 4, 2017

Dear Members of the Executive Committee:

Thank you so much for supporting me in my recent trip to attend the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Annual Meeting in Washington, DC. I found the experience highly educational and inspiring, reminding me of all the exciting work going on in the field today while revitalizing my interests in research and evidence-based medicine. I truly appreciate your generous contribution.

Thank you,

Neil Bruce, MD
November 9, 2017

Endowment Fund
AACAP's Executive Committee
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20016

Dear AACAP's Executive Committee,

I want to take a moment to extend my most sincere gratitude for choosing me as one of your Educational Outreach Program (EOP) award recipient at the AACAP annual meeting in 2017.

You have no idea how happy I was when I received notification that I was selected for the award. I want you to know that I enjoyed every minute at the annual meeting in Washington DC this year. Though I participated in annual meetings in the past, this was the first time I met so many colleagues, develop connections and most importantly, an interest in the Academy's advocacy efforts.

It is so wonderful that you are able to fund a program like EOP to foster learning and leadership among child and adolescent psychiatry residents. It was a great opportunity for me, and I'm sure other residents will benefit from the award as much as I do.

If you would, please extend my gratitude to the donors who made the awards possible. I hope that someday I will be able to be as generous as they are.

Gratefully,

[Signature]

Clarice Chan, MD
Dear representatives of AACAP Executive Committee Endowment Funds,

I am sincerely honored to have been selected as one of the recipients of the EOP Award. Thank you for your generosity, which has allowed me to attend AACAP 64th annual meeting in Washington, D.C. I enjoyed attending several conferences, and to be honest it would be extremely hard to select a favorite one. I was impressed by the enthusiasm and eagerness to share valuable information by many AACAP members who have been practicing in this field for many years.

As I complete my CAP fellowship at University of Illinois in Chicago, I am very thankful for receiving your award that allowed me to participate at AACAP 64th meeting. Because of your award and generous support I attended AACAP, and I learned a lot. I really enjoyed the Mentorship meeting as well as interacting with very talented members in our field.

Thank you again for your thoughtful and generous gift.

Sincerely,

Miriam A. Dickson
Chief Fellow at CAP Program at UIC
Mdicks4@uic.edu
305-336-6406
AACAP Executive Committee
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20016

Dear AACAP Executive Committee,

I am writing in sincere appreciation for the sponsorship to attend the AACAP Annual Meeting in Washington D.C. The endowment fund provided me with the funding to cover a large amount of travel expenses for the conference, and without it, I may have been unable to attend.

The AACAP annual meeting exceeded my expectations as a first-time attendee. Quite frankly, it was by far the best conference I have ever attended. I know that being a 2nd year CAP fellow creates some bias; nonetheless, I also felt there was breadth of topics and the variety of presentation formats that made this conference valuable, independent of practice experience and learning style. Because of this, I am already planning for the next meeting in Seattle, and looking forward to meetings in the future.

In addition to the excellent learning experience, I am grateful for the opportunity to meet and connect with colleagues from around the country, as well as internationally. I remember several times during the conference, thinking to myself, "These are my people!" as we discussed topics relevant to our current practice, training, and early careers. I am also grateful for the scheduled events with life members and mentors that provided thoughtful discussions about child and adolescent psychiatry as a career, and gave goals to aspire to as a lifelong learner. I learned about the numerous resources AACAP offers throughout a lifetime of practice and I am happy to have the academy as my professional home.

Thank you again for the professional and financial support.

Sincerely,

Travis Fahrenkamp, MD
Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellow
University of Minnesota
Tzvi Furer, M.D.
NYU Child Study Center
One Park Avenue
New York, NY 10016

AACAP’s Executive Committee
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20016

October 28th, 2017

Dear Executive Committee,

I am writing this letter in appreciation of my experience at the American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry Meeting this past week in Washington D.C. I was one of the selected Child & Adolescent Psychiatry Residents who received the Educational Outreach Program Award that allotted me funding to participate in the meeting.

I want to thank the Executive Committee for allowing me to have an enriching and educational experience during the past week, as I was able to attend a multitude of events that covered topics including training, mentoring, and advocacy. Every year, I feel that I am able to gain more from the conference and this past week was no different. With the support from the Endowment Fund and AACAP, I was connected with the current and future leaders of our field. As well, it was an honor to be recognized by those I look to up in our specialty.

The Educational Outreach Program is an amazing opportunity to link up Child & Adolescent Psychiatry Residents with mentors and influential physicians, providing an unbelievable scope to the ability of our influence for when we will be out of our training. I thought the events required by the program struck a great balance of mentorship, advocating for our patients and our field itself, and making the most of our influence as child psychiatrists. I would strongly support the continuation of this program, and I know that there are multiple individuals I met during this meeting that feel exactly the same way.

The American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry Meeting has always stuck out to me as the premiere organizational conference, and receiving the award this year was an amazing way to experience the meeting. I now head back to practice invigorated, and also excited to bring forward new ideas that I gained from the assembly. Again, I want to thank you sincerely for your support and I look forward to attending the meeting next year in a number of different roles.

Sincerely,

Tzvi Furer, M.D.
Child & Adolescent Psychiatry Resident
Hassenfeld Children’s Hospital at NYU Langone
Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
AACAP Executive Committee
3615 Wisconsin Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20016
November 6, 2017

Dear AACAP Executive Committee,

Thank you so much for the generous award through your Endowment Fund, allowing me the incredible opportunity to attend the 64th Annual AACAP Meeting in Washington, D.C. As a PGY-4 in Psychiatry who is committed to doing a Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellowship, it was so invigorating to experience the energy abounding in the field at the conference. The mentorship programs throughout the week a particular highlight. Learning about the multitude of different ways people shape their careers during the years the work was especially interesting. I feel very fortunate to have been able to spend that time with the Life Members, and thank you for arranging those sessions.

I enjoyed all of the programing I attended, but I especially appreciated the Plenary session during which Marcia Levick spoke, and the media presentation, Screenagers. I found Ms. Levick to be a fantastic and engaging speaker. I really loved how she praised the work put in by child psychiatrists who have published on the stages of child brain development, as the foundation for her successful arguments for protecting children from the death penalty and life sentences. The film Screenagers was really wonderfully done, and I particularly enjoyed the part in which the filmmaker and physician interviewed a family in the Bronx, where I am currently in training. I could go on about all the wonderful sessions I attended, but what I am most excited about is attending next year’s meeting! This experience has made it clear it is not to be missed. Thank you so much for your generous support. I feel very lucky to be a part of this community.

Sincerely,

Carolyn G. Cerro Gnerre
To the Executive Committee of AACAP,

Thank you for supporting my visit to this year’s AACAP conference. This year’s AACAP was a very special one for Virginia Tech Carilion Clinic as we were reunited with the founder of our program, Dr. Mark Kilgus, at the conference. He was the main reason we have a Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellowship program serving the rural and underserved southwest Virginia region today. Four years ago, he shared with me his dream to develop a partnership with our then newly established Virginia Tech Carilion Research Institute (VTCRI) and create research projects that could further improve mental health care. Unfortunately, due to unforeseen circumstances two years ago, Dr. Kilgus required time to be with his family and relinquished his chair position at our department.

I was proud to say that we could share the fruits of his labors with him at this year’s conference. We demonstrated our first collaboration between our fellowship program and VTCRI showing that Delayed Discounting predicts length of stay on an inpatient unit. Your travel award helped me be an active helper in several programs, such as the OWL mentorship program, MSR breakfast, and President’s reception. I was also able to spend time helping my medical student and residents get connected with programs that they were interested in. For the first time ever, we now have a Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine medical student participating in the Medical Student and Residents Committee. My extended stay also helped me keep up with my commitments to the AALI medical student education subcommittee and the rural psychiatry committee. The fact that Dr. Kilgus could witness the growth of his program in person made this year’s AACAP a memorable one.

Thank you again for supporting the representation of all our Child and Adolescent Fellowships across the United States with this endowment fund. It is my hope that Fellowship programs across the nation can experience the growth we had and become active contributors to AACAP. As we all know, “It takes a village to raise a child” and all of us have something to contribute towards the cause of providing mental health care for our children.

Sincerely,

Richard D. Ha, DO
November 7, 2017

AACAP’s Executive Committee
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20016

Dear AACAP Executive Committee,

Please accept my thanks for selecting me as a recipient of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP) Educational Outreach Program for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellows Award, supported by the endowment fund, for attendance at the 2017 AACAP Annual Meeting in Washington D.C. I feel very fortunate to have been chosen as a recipient of this award. Your generosity helped me continue my educational and professional development by providing me with additional financial support.

I greatly enjoyed the access to mentors, various networking opportunities and hearing about research opportunities. It was wonderful to be able to attend and present at my case conference on the “hidden curriculum” of training programs. As well as attend other lectures in my fields of interest. Thanks to your generous support, I feel that I am another step closer to achieving my goals.

Thank you again for honoring me with this award.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Hicks, M.D.
November 9, 2017

Endowment Fund
AACAP’s Executive Committee
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20016

To Whom it may Concern,

I am extending my sincerest gratitude to the Executive Committee for sponsoring this year’s AACAP Educational Outreach Program and for supporting the continuation of this award for Child & Adolescent Psychiatry Fellows. The financial assistance I received from this program allowed me to travel to the conference, and my experience was invaluable.

Last year was my first time attending the AACAP annual conference, and although it was informative, I experienced it on my own. I can sincerely say that being a part of the EOP greatly enhanced my experience this year. I had numerous opportunities to meet life members and mentors, attended an engaging workshop on Residents as Teachers, and networked with future colleagues. In a large conference such as this one, the opportunity to follow a similar schedule to my peers fostered an environment in which I was able to make new friends. A group of five of us from three different programs met at the first evening’s networking hour; throughout the week we continued to exchange ideas and shared career and wellness goals. We continue to keep in touch and look forward to reuniting every year at the AACAP conference.

Again, thank you so much for providing me the opportunity to travel, learn, share, and meet the kindest and most inspiring colleagues and mentors. It was an experience that will truly shape my future.

Sincerely,

Shawen Ilaria, MD, PGY4
Rutgers - Robert Wood Johnson Medical School
Department of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry
November 11, 2017

Endowment Fund  
AACAP’s Executive Committee  
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20016

Dear AACAP Executive Committee,

It was an honor to be selected as one of the recipients of the Educational Outreach Program CAP Grant. I want to thank you for the wonderful opportunity to attend the 64th Annual Meeting and learn from so many inspiring mentors and innovators within the field of child and adolescent psychiatry.

As a first year Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellow at Montefiore Medical Center this was the first time I was able to attend the annual meeting, and it will have a lasting impact on my career and professional development. It offered me the opportunity to obtain mentorship and collaborate with colleagues in the field. In particular, the mentorship program for medical students and residents, and the career development forum enabled me to gain wisdom from several mentors, as well as gain insight into what is needed to meet my career goals. I was able to learn about balancing family and career, early career psychiatrists, integrated care, academic psychiatry, and a number of other topics. In addition to the mentorship events, I was excited to attend several workshops, symposiums and plenary sessions to learn about cutting-edge research and ways to improve my clinical practice.

I want to express my deepest gratitude for awarding me this grant and for investing in the future generation of child and adolescent psychiatrists. I am very eager to attend future annual meetings and to be a part of this exciting field.

Sincerely,

Margarita Kats, MD  
First Year Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellow  
Montefiore Medical Center
Dear members of AACAP’s Executive Committee,

Please accept my thanks for selecting me as a recipient of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP) Educational Outreach Program for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Residents Award, supported by your group, for attendance at the 2017 AACAP Annual Meeting in Washington D.C. I feel very fortunate to have been chosen as a recipient of this award. Your generosity helped me continue my educational and professional development by providing me with additional financial support.

The award provided great opportunities for fellows and residents, and provided avenues to improve during our course of development. I had the opportunity to network with some of the experts in the field of child and adolescent psychiatry, and find mentorship during meeting this year. It was nice to be able to join and learn more about other award winners. I had attended different committee meetings during the conference and it was good learning experience to see the logistics of their mission. I attended the committees of Adolescent Psychiatry and International relations which was intriguing and helped me develop specific research interests. I attended various workshops and conferences which gave me an update on the recent advances. I had the opportunity to monitor the sessions and to develop better organization skills. AACAP is a good platform to be able to learn about up to date evidence based researches and topics. It is so wonderful that you are able to support this award.

Thank you for your generous support, I feel that I am one step closer to achieving my goals. This award is very meaningful not only financially, but emotionally as well, as it has strengthened my belief in myself and in the field of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry.

Thank you again for honoring me with this award. Your thoughtful and generous gift is greatly appreciated.

With Gratitude,

Lovejit Kaur, M.D.
November 17, 2017

Endowment Fund
AACAP’s Executive Committee
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20016

Dear Endowment Fund,

Thank you for choosing me as one of the recipients of the AACAP Educational Outreach Program (EOP) for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Residents Award. Without your help, I would not have been able to attend AACAP’s 64th Annual Meeting in Washington D.C. This was an invaluable experience for me. The mentoring sessions were especially informative, and I learned a lot of practical information about job prospects, contract negotiations and setting up a practice. Being an immigrant and the first in my family in the United States to become an M.D., I am not privy to most of the information that was discussed in those sessions regarding contracts and setting up a practice. While there is some diffusion of information between myself and peers, and my past residency program gave us some guidance, the practical information provided by the mentors was not there. Hence, this was an invaluable experience for me. I doubt that I would have been able to learn that information prior to becoming a junior attending without your program, which would have led to much difficult trial and error.

I was able to attend multiple educational sessions, the meeting of the Women in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Committee, and the meeting of the
Hispanic/Latino Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Caucus. Both of these groups are of great interest to me, and I look forward to continue being engaged in both throughout my career.

I met many likeminded individuals and mentors at the AACAP conference. For me this would have been impossible without your help. This is especially due to the fact that financially at this time money is very limited for my husband and I since the coming of our daughter. Therefore, I am truly thankful and appreciative for your acceptance and financial assistance.

I apologize I was unable to send this letter sooner, but once again due to time restraints as a mother and CAP fellow, as well as a recent illness, I was unable to write until now. Thank you again, I am forever grateful.

Sincerely,

Veronica Murphy, M.D.
Members of AACAP Endowment Fund,

I'd like to extend my sincere appreciation for your support of the Educational Outreach Program. As a recipient of this award, I had the opportunity to participate in this conference and share in the excitement of psychiatric providers from all over, coming together for the good of our children and adolescents. It allowed me to appreciate the contributions I can make now and in the future as a child and adolescent psychiatrist. Many thanks and I look forward to many more AACAP experiences.

Sincerely,

Gilardo Ortiz, MD
Bonny Patel  
November 3, 2017

Endowment Fund  
AACAP’s Executive Committee  
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20016

Dear Executive Committee:

My name is Bonny Patel and I am currently a 2nd year child psychiatry chief fellow at Northwell Health (previously known as Northshore LIJ) in New York. I am writing to say thank you for your generous sponsorship that allowed me to enjoy this AACAP meeting without worrying about the finances of it.

I have previously been to the Academy meeting, but feel like I got even more out of it this time. It is such an amazing place to not only learn new things from brilliant people that lead in their fields, but also to connect with like-minded individuals that have passion to do right by the children in this world. I am grateful for the opportunity. It has inspired me to prioritize AACAP as a part of my professional life moving forward.

Thank you again from the bottom of my heart.

Sincerely,

Bonny Patel, MD  
11/3/17
Dear AACAP Endowment Fund,

Thank you for your generous gift to the Education Outreach Program. Being able to attend this program greatly benefited my career as a general psychiatry resident applying for child & adolescent fellowship. Connecting with mentors and learning the career paths available to child and adolescent psychiatrists confirmed my interest in the field. Attending the seminars and lectures taught me not only facets of psychiatry, but it taught me the way of thinking. All of the above was possible with your generous gift. Thank you again for your help.

Sincerely,
Markian Pazuniak, M.D.
10/30/2017

Endowment Fund
AACAP's Executive Committee
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20016

Dear Sir or Madam,

Thank you very much for funding the Educational Outreach Program (EOP) which funded my trip to this year's AACAP meeting. This is an incredibly generous act for which I am very gracious.

With this award I was able to speak with some world-class researchers to get ideas for my own project regarding attention-deficit disorder. I also learned a great deal about cutting-edge genetic research in the study of autism. I could not have attended the meeting without your help.

Thank you again for your support!

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Ian Peters, DO, MPH
Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellow
Drexel University College of Medicine
November 14, 2017

Dear AACAP Executive Committee:

I am writing this letter to sincerely thank you for sponsoring this year’s Educational Outreach Program. As an EOP program recipient, I am very grateful for the opportunity to attend last month’s AACAP annual meeting in Washington, D.C. and I greatly benefitted from both the educational programs I took part in as well as the mentoring programs. It was wonderful to be able to meet people in the field at various stages of their training and careers. I was also struck by how many ways there are to get involved with AACAP even from the early part of one’s career. I very much hope you continue the Educational Outreach Program, so that trainees such as myself can solidify interest in the field while learning about the diverse opportunities that are available through AACAP. Beyond the reimbursement that eased the financial burden of travel, the events were extraordinarily well-done and poignant to trainees. It was great to see that so many established psychiatrists were more than happy to spend their extra time with trainees imparting wisdom and knowledge, offering continued support afterwards as well. Thank you again for this phenomenal opportunity.

Regards,

Ravi Ramasamy, MD
Chief Fellow
The University of Chicago Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
Dear Executive Committee,

I am so grateful for the opportunity to attend AACAP’s annual meeting with the assistance of the Educational Outreach Program award through the Endowment Fund. As I near the end of my training, this meeting was particularly special to me. I deeply appreciated the training level specific sessions to interact with peers and the ability to connect with mentors in the field. I had the opportunity to connect with residents and medical students as well and sharpen my ability to mentor and be an advocate. There were several opportunities in advocacy skill building which resonated with me and I hope to carry forward in my practice. This opportunity is unique and I had an overwhelmingly positive experience. Thank you so much for providing this opportunity for fellows.

Sincerely,

Shama Rathi
Dear members of the executive committee

I would like to thank you all for your support in giving me this award and making it possible for me to attend AACAP at DC this year. It was a wonderful learning experience and am so glad I could attend it.

I would also like to thank Ms Archer for organizing the various sessions for us to attend.

Yours sincerely

Anupriya Razdan
Endowment Fund  
AACAP’s Executive Committee  
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20016

Dear Members of AACAP’s Executive Committee,

My name is Lillian Reilly-Prado and I am a second year child and adolescent psychiatry fellow. I had the opportunity to attend this year’s AACAP conference in Washington DC, and this was made possible by my receiving the Education Outreach Award, sponsored by AACAP’s Endowment Fund. I likely would not have been able to attend the conference for the length of time I did, if it were not for the award. Not only did the award allow me to attend the conference but it provided me with invaluable opportunities for career development and mentorship, as a part of the Education Outreach Program itself. I learned so much from the senior members of my profession. There’s a certain level of anxiety inherent in 2nd year of fellowship, as your training begins to come to an end and one starts to contemplate going off on their own in child psychiatry. Being able to speak with mentors in my field helped me to feel more confident about my upcoming transition, and answered many of the questions and uncertainties I had. In addition to the career development and mentorship opportunities, I got to attend some amazing lectures on various topics in my field, and feel more knowledgeable and confident as a child psychiatrist.

I just wanted to extend my sincere gratitude for the sponsorship of this program and the invaluable opportunities it affords. I’m so grateful to have received the award. Thank you!

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Lillian Reilly-Prado DO
Aaron J. Roberto, MD
Yale School of Medicine

11/6/2017

Dear AACAP Executive Committee//Endowment Fund Selection Committee,

Thank you so much for allowing me the opportunity to participate in the Educational Outreach Program Award for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellows. Attending my final conference as the Resident Representative on the AACAP Council and co-Chair of the Medical Student and Resident Committee was an amazing experience, especially as I transition from trainee to practicing Child, Adolescent, and Adult psychiatrist and in the role of mentoring younger trainees, and this conference in particular aided me in preparing for this transition. I can’t thank you enough for your generous support and thank you for considering me and confering this honor upon me in my final year of training. Thank you very much again for your generous support.

Kindest regards,
Aaron

__________________
Aaron J. Roberto, MD
Yale Addiction Psychiatry Fellow
Yale School of Medicine
previous: Child/Adolescent Psych Fellow: Harvard Medical School/BCH
prior - co-chair: AACAP Committee on Medical Students and Residents: 2016-2017
AACAP Jerry M. Wiener, M.D. Resident Member of Council: 2015-2017
November 3, 2017

Endowment Fund
American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP) Executive Committee
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20016

Dear Members of the AACAP Executive Committee,

My name is Katy Rockefeller, and I recently had the good fortune to participate in the AACAP Educational Outreach Program for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Residents. I write this email to express my gratitude to AACAP’s Executive Committee for sponsoring this year’s program.

Without this award, I simply would not have had the ability to join in AACAP’s 64th Annual Conference. Through this award, I was able to spend a week becoming a part of a community of both new and seasoned, but ever-enthusiastic child and adolescent psychiatrists from across the country. The mentorship opportunities were particularly valuable, as I was able to pick the brains of Life Members and other leaders in the field, learning from their mistakes and triumphs in establishing careers, from their establishment of a niche, and from their efforts at work and life balance. I also appreciated opportunities to speak with and share my own triumphs and challenges with residents and medical students who may be heading into the field of child and adolescent psychiatry. Another highlight of the conference for me included Dr. James Hudziak’s Lawrence A. Stone, MD Plenary: This is Where We Build Healthy Brains, a talk that will fuel my enthusiasm for and expand my sense of possibility for this career for years to come. The location of the conference in Washington, D.C. afforded me the opportunity to meet with United States Senator Angus King to discuss the needs for child and adolescent psychiatrists in the state of Maine.

Thank you again for making these valuable and memorable experiences possible for me.

Sincerely,

Katy Rockefeller, MD
November 2, 2017

Dear AACAP Executive Committee:

Thank you for sponsoring this year's program and supporting the continuation of the Educational Outreach Program. On a fellow's salary, I would not have been able to attend the AACAP meeting on the opposite coast without your generous contribution. This was my first time at AACAP, and I had an amazing experience. It was so valuable to meet other Child & Adolescent professionals from all over the country and I will definitely be back as an early career CAP.

Very Respectfully,

Hannah Sweet, MD
11/21/17

Dear AACAP Executive Committee,

I wanted to say thank you for awarding me the educational outreach program funds so that I could be a part of AACAP this year. It was a great pleasure to receive the mentorship and support from you while I attended the conference for the entire week. This was my first time going to the conference, and certainly, a memorable and invaluable learning experience! I did a podium presentation for Clinical Perspectives as well while at the conference, and I felt that the support from this program made it all the more worthwhile. Thanks again for making this possible and I look forward to returning to the AACAP conferences in many years to come.

Sincerely,
Stephen Tourjee
December 10, 2017

AACAP’s Executive Committee
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20016

Dear Executive Committee:

I feel fortunate to have been able to attend AACAP’s annual meeting for the third year in a row. Each year, I come away feeling motivated, not only to strive for my own excellence but, also to make an impact within the mental health community. This year was especially motivating as I had the unique opportunity to meet with various AACAP members during the “Meet Life Member Mentors.” The people that I met during this event afforded me the wisdom and knowledge that they have gained during their expansive careers. I was grateful to have the opportunity to speak with such accomplished individuals in a candid manner, to discuss issues that are important to me. Such as, balancing career and life, incorporating research into a private practice, and contract negotiation.

Having attended this year’s conference I was able to walk away with a wealth of knowledge that has already served me well during my first year of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellowship. I am thankful to the Executive Committee for providing me with the opportunity to attend this year’s meeting as it would not have been possible without the funding I was awarded. I am excited to share with my colleagues all that I have learned this year during AACAP’s annual meeting and looking forward to attending again next year in Seattle.

Sincerely,

Amy Woods, MD