The AACAP Educational Outreach Program provides the opportunity for general 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 the AACAP Endowment, recipients receive up to $1,000 of financial assistance to experience AACAP’s Annual Meeting.

Alexis Chavez, MD—University of Colorado, Denver
Shinn-Yi (Cindy) Chou, MD—University of Pittsburgh
Juliet B. Edgcomb, MD—University of California, Los Angeles
Heidi Geil, DO—Harvard South Shore
Matej Markota, MD—Mayo Clinic
Ozra Nobari, MD—University of Minnesota
Esther D. Rollhaus, MD—Montefiore Medical Center
Brooke Rosen, MD—University of California, San Francisco
Max S. Rosen, MD—Washington University
Cordelia Ross, MD—Massachusetts General Hospital/McLean Hospital
Jasmin C. Scott-Hawkins, MD, MPH—University of Southern California
Kevin Mauclair Simon, MD—Morehouse School of Medicine
Kunmi Sobowale, MD—Yale University
Katherine C. Soe, MD—Indiana University
Billy J. Zou, MD—Tufts Medical Center
AACAP Executive Committee:  
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20016

To the AACAP Executive Committee:

I would like to express my deep appreciation for your sponsorship so that I was able to attend the AACAP annual meeting. I was a recipient of an Educational Outreach Program (EOP) General Psychiatry Resident Award, and this was critical in my ability to attend the meeting. I had even taken off personal vacation days to be able to attend the conference.

It was my first time going to AACAP, and it was very memorable and engaging. I was accepted as a member of the Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Issues Committee to start at the conference. Through this, I was also appointed to be our liaison to the Medical Student and Resident Committee. In both of these committees, I was able to better understand the current focuses of AACAP. I met mentors on these committees, during the educational programming, and throughout the conference. I was fervently jotting notes down throughout the week; I believe it will take me another week to process all of the new ideas that came up during the conference! They include a wide variety of projects such as expanding access to healthcare for vulnerable populations, residency curriculum development, writing letters or articles for journals, and collaborating with other professional organizations. The EOP award allowed me to have these opportunities, and I took full advantage of the time I was given by scheduling scientific sessions, educational programming, committee meetings, and meetings with mentors for more than twelve hours each day.

On a personal level, the meeting was particularly special for me because Washington D.C. was the city in which I was first introduced to child psychiatry in 2007 through my work at the NIH. I was able to rekindle mentorships from that time during the conference. It is hard to describe how wonderful the AACAP experience was for me. I know that simply writing my thanks cannot convey my full gratitude, but hopefully my continued involvement in AACAP can demonstrate this.

With much appreciation,

Alexis Chavez
Shinnyi Chou
244 Hazelwood Avenue # 2
Pittsburgh, PA 15207
chous@upmc.edu

November 26, 2017

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

Dear AACAP Executive Committee,

Thank you for supporting the Educational Outreach Program through the AACAP Endowment. I am grateful to have been selected as a recipient this year. I first attended AACAP in San Antonio two years ago, and it helped solidified my interest in pursuing this field. I returned this year as an intern, with new perspectives and experiences, and once again AACAP further helped me identify my directions.

My biggest objective for attending this year’s meeting, in addition to having the opportunity to learn from great minds, is to attend the Diversity and Culture Committee’s meeting. There I met Dr. Annie Li, who had presented a workshop on Asian American youth mental health during the Annual Meeting. I was able to receive guidance and advice from her regarding ways to become involved, and have since engaged a group of medical students in creating some informational hand-outs targeting Asian American college students.

I believe that in ways such as this, the AACAP EOP gives interested trainees an opportunity to identify mentors, solidify career intentions, engage in projects and initiatives, and pay our gratitude forward through recruiting other trainees. I hope there continues to be opportunities for trainees to participate in the Annual meeting and mentorship program through the EOP, as it is truly an invaluable experience.

Thank you again.

Sincerely,

Shinnyi Chou
November 7th, 2017

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

Dear Members of the AACAP Executive Committee,

I am writing to express my gratitude for the receipt of an AACAP Educational Outreach Award (EOP) for General Psychiatry residents through AACAP’s Endowment. This award enabled me to attend the AACAP 2017 annual conference in Washington DC this year, an experience that was inspiring and formational as a trainee planning to pursue a career in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry.

Attending AACAP and being involved in the mentorship events through the EOP program was an extremely valuable experience. The first night of the conference, at the Life Member Mentors event, I was honored to meet some of the true pioneers in the field of Child Psychiatry. In the first small group, I was surrounded by three past presidents of AACAP. In subsequent groups, I met division directors, program directors, and senior researchers. In each group, everyone I interfaced with was kind, welcoming, and eager to share their advice and their stories with us trainees. Truly an amazing opportunity.

The week was ripe with other mentorship and didactic opportunities: learning about the cutting edge and future direction of the Academy at the opening plenary, developing skills as clinician educators in the career development forums, and participating in a two-day mentorship program. Each of these events was invaluable in establishing a mentorship network, understanding the direction of the field, and developing my professional identity as a future child psychiatrist.

In summary, I would like to give sincere thanks to all those involved in the creation and implementation of this amazing opportunity for trainees. I am immensely grateful for the financial support that enabled me to attend the meeting across the country. I am also indebted to the tireless work of the support staff who coordinated and organized the week’s events.

To the members of the AACAP Executive Committee. I greatly appreciate your time, effort, vision and generosity. Thank you for welcoming me into the field of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry.

Sincerely,

Juliet Edgcomb
To the AACAP Executive Committee:

I would first like to say that I am humbled by the generosity of the individuals contributing to this award fund and feel privileged to be among its awardees.

In the arduous process of residency, I have found solace in affirmations of the goal of my current pursuit: to become a stronger clinician and future child and adolescent psychiatrist of integrity and value. If my sense of inspiration flickers with uncertainty for a moment, it is rejuvenated at the congregation of like-minded individuals who are in or have previously passed through my circumstances and continue to challenge themselves to grow and become wiser and better as clinicians.

What an opportunity it was to attend AACAP for the first time! In my program, I am limited in terms of access to people practicing child and adolescent psychiatry. Typically, those who obtain fellowship in this field find their own course, frequently never returning again to the world of the VA and associated adult psychiatry with mentorship and guidance for those of us seeking to enter the fellowship of CAP. Thus, I wasn’t sure what the “real world” of child and adolescent psychiatry would contain, but this meeting gave me several days of concentrated information and relationship-building that I could not have otherwise easily obtained. Further, I feel that I have begun to establish friendships which will carry on through the next phases of my education and offer a mutually beneficial relationship for those whom I collaborate with in the future.

Thank you for your benevolent gift and your interest in my development as a psychiatrist and hopeful future CAP fellow.

Kind Regards,

Heidi Geil
PGY2
Harvard South Shore Psychiatry
November 3, 2017

AACAP Executive Committee
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Washington DC 20016

November 3, 2017

Dear members of the Executive Committee,

I am writing to express my deep gratitude for having been able to participate in the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Educational Outreach Program for General Psychiatry Residents. I found the program to be incredibly enriching and informative. Participation in this program certainly represents one of the most interesting periods of my training career.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity.

Sincerely,

Matej Markota, M.D.
Dear AACAP Executive Committee,

I am writing to thank for the endowment fund award that made my travel to AACAP annual meeting possible. Receiving this award from AACAP was a great honor. This award became a strong reason for me to rearrange my busy work/call schedule and commit myself to attend this amazing meeting. The meeting was phenomenon, giving me the opportunity to learn and connect to those people who are passionate about what I care the most. I left the annual meeting with the unique feeling of “finally feeling belonged to a professional society”.

I look forward to attending next year’s meeting and contributing to the ongoing success of this academy.

With best regards,
Ozra Nobari
UMN Psychiatry Resident
November 14, 2017

Brooke Rosen, MD  
Department of Psychiatry  
University of California, San Francisco  
401 Parnassus Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94143

Dear AACAP Executive Committee:

I am writing to extend my deep gratitude to you for sponsoring the Educational Outreach Program, which enabled me to attend this year’s American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Annual Meeting. The opportunity to attend this conference was invaluable, and I am so appreciative and honored to have received this travel award.

Thanks to your generosity, this was the first time I have been able to attend the AACAP Annual Meeting during residency training, and it provided terrific exposure to the field of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. As a third year resident in General Psychiatry training, I will be applying for a Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Residency next summer, so it was incredibly helpful and informative to attend this conference. I had the chance to meet other residents with an interest in the field as well as current child and adolescent fellows at programs around the country; to connect with early career child and adolescent psychiatrists and meet fantastic mentors; and to learn about the most recent research and clinical advances in the field.

Overall, I had a wonderful experience that greatly enhanced my education and would not have been possible without your support. Thank you again for providing this opportunity.

Respectfully Yours,

Brooke Rosen

Electronically signed by Brooke Rosen, MD on 11/14/2017, 9:47 AM

CC: Anneke Archer
Dear AACAP Executive Committee,

I would like to personally thank the entire AACAP Executive Committee for their extreme generosity in establishing and funding the Educational Outreach Program for General Psychiatry Residents. This was my first trip to the AACAP National Meeting, and I am sure I will be back for more. From the Psychopharmacology Institute to various Clinical Case Conferences an Autoimmune Encephalopathy and the use of ECT in catatonia, I have exponentially increased my understanding of child and adolescent psychiatry. While this was important, what I value even more has been the opportunity to seek out mentorship from the leaders in our field. The opportunities provided by this EOP travel grant were immense and both extremely enjoyable and valuable. From meeting the Life Members to meeting several different Program Directors, I have come away realizing how broad, diverse, and impactful the field of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry truly is.

Again, I have truly appreciated this honor and generous support from the AACAP Executive Committee.

Warm Regards,

Max Rosen, MD
Resident Physician
Department of Psychiatry
Washington University School of Medicine
I appreciate your generosity and all that AACAP has to offer. Thank you again for a wonderful experience.

With gratitude,

Cordelia Y. Ross
MGH/McLean Psychiatry, PGY-2
Child Psychiatry track

Dear Members of AACAP's Executive Committee:

Thank you very much for supporting me, an aspiring child & adolescent psychiatrist, with an Educational Outreach Program grant and for giving me the wonderful opportunity to attend the 64th Annual Meeting in Washington, DC!

Actually, this was my 4th Annual Meeting to date - I began my involvement in AACAP as a medical student and have not missed a meeting since.

It is so clear to me that AACAP values its trainees.
members of all levels, recognizes the value of early mentorship, and empowers trainees to become connected and thrive in this academy and field. Since becoming an AAPCAP member as an MS-3, I have joined committees, chaired events, and been privileged to meet inspiring mentors along the way. The most recent meeting was a fabulous opportunity to reunite with old friends, past mentors, and meet several new ones. I feel invigorated and challenged to continue to define my role as a resident and future CAP and find ways to contribute to AAPCAP. This would not have been possible without your support and sponsorship.
Dear Executive Committee,

Thank you deeply for affording me with the opportunity to attend the 2017 AACAP Annual Meeting! I had the opportunity to meet a number of wonderful individuals and to attend numerous sessions that have already begun to positively impact the way in which I practice medicine.

The programming provided for the Educational Outreach Program awardees was absolutely fantastic. I most enjoyed the Medical Student and Resident Career Development Forum held on Thursday afternoon. During this forum, we rotated through three stations, one of which was regarding advocacy. During this session, we were briefed on the legislative day held at the beginning of the annual meeting and subsequently were given the opportunity to role play going to Capitol Hill and advocating legislature for the advancement of our field. This experience was really remarkable because prior to this I had not received much exposure to what it means to advocate for legislature. It truly inspired me to work towards engaging in advocacy in the near future.

In addition to the programming provided for awardees, the conference was filled with countless opportunities for education and enrichment. I greatly enjoyed a session on Teen Pregnancy during which an expert panel discussed how we intervene when primary prevention is not enough. It was very eye opening to hear the current statistics regarding teen pregnancy and to delve into ethical dilemmas through case presentations. It was also inspiring to learn about models for prevention that have shown great efficacy, although, disheartening to learn that many of these programs have lost funding.

I enjoyed ending my evenings with a media presentation. I most enjoyed the presentation of the heart-wrenching film Room about a young boy and his mother held captive in their perpetrators garden shed for several years and their reentry into the world after their thrilling escape. Hearing experts discuss the implications of trauma and resiliency was phenomenal.

All in all, I had an exceptionally enjoyable time at the 2017 AACAP Annual Meeting and I owe many thanks to you, the Executive Committee. Your generosity allowed doors to open that I could not have otherwise imagined from mentor connections to future opportunities to further my training and education. Thank you from the bottom of my heart, I am very grateful!

All the best,

Jasmin C. Scott-Hawkins
LAC+USC Psychiatry PGY-2
December 7th, 2017

Kevin M. Simon, M.D. – PGY3
General Psychiatry Resident
Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences
Morehouse School of Medicine
Atlanta, Georgia

Dear AACAP Executive Committee,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support of the AACAP Educational Outreach Program – General Psychiatry award. As one of this year’s recipients, I am grateful for the opportunity this award provided me in attending the 2017 AACAP Annual meeting – Washington D.C. Receiving this scholarship helped reduce my financial burdens and provided assistance for me as I continue pursuing my psychiatric training.

Becoming a part of AACAP, striving to improve mental health services, and collaborating with thought leaders within the field of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry has been a goal of mine since medical school. Mentors and psychiatrist I respect have routinely spoke highly of AACAP annual meetings and with your support I can confirm after my first meeting that the organization and its committees are fervently working towards solving many of the problems within mental healthcare.

On a personal note, after residency, I aspire to complete a clinical fellowship in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and a one-year fellowship in Health Policy. The combination of training will prepare me for leadership roles in formulating and promoting health policies and practices that improve access to high-quality care at the national, state and local levels for vulnerable populations. As I envision my career, I recognize that collaboration, research and practical use of research findings are essential ingredients to informing system change. I am thankful for your support in helping me fulfill a personal mandate to serve underserved populations. Lastly, this award is serving as a catalyst towards improving mental health services for future communities of patients.

Sincerely,

Kevin M. Simon, M.D.
Dear members of the Executive Committee,

I am honored to be one of the recipients of the 2017 AACAP Travel Award! Thanks to your generous support, I was able to attend my first AACAP annual meeting.

During my time in residency, I have looked for opportunities to explore my interest in child and adolescent psychiatry. I have been fortunate to have influential child and adolescent faculty at my home institution. Also, through my research, I have explored mental health in adolescents in East and Southeast Asia.

Despite these experiences, I have never attended an AACAP meeting or been involved with organized child and adolescent psychiatry. Receiving this award, allowed me to meet new colleagues and mentors at the annual meeting. I learned quite a bit from current fellows about different programs. In addition, I received advice on a research career in child and adolescent psychiatry and specific project from lifelong members as well as other attendees. The travel award made this experience possible.

Thank you again for your generosity and kind spirit in providing me this award. I will continue to pursue my interest in this field. I look forward to future meetings and staying an active member.

Sincerely,
Kunmi Sobowale
October 30, 2017

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

Dear AACAP Executive Committee,

Thank you very much for your generous sponsorship of AACAP’s Educational Outreach Program Award, supported by AACAP’s Endowment Fund. I am honored to have received this award, which offered me the incredible opportunity to attend AACAP’s 64th Annual Meeting this year—my first AACAP meeting, hopefully the first of many. I learned so much at this meeting, from patient care, to career opportunities, to how to advocate for our patients on Capitol Hill, which we did! The extensive variety of sessions from which to choose piqued so many of my interests, it was difficult to decide which to attend. All motivated me to ceaselessly learn and advocate for my patients in multiple forms, from the local to national level.

The networking and mentorship experiences at this meeting are also invaluable. The passion and dedication of those I met, from fellow trainees to distinguished and highly accomplished child psychiatrists, including AACAP Life Members, is inspiring. The mentorship opportunities, including reconnecting in person with many other Triple Board trained members, opened my eyes to the innumerable potential career trajectories before us. This experience energized me to get more involved in the organization, and to stay in touch with some of those I connected with throughout the meeting. I look forward to attending future meetings and jumpstarting my involvement with AACAP, which this award helped make possible.

Thank you again for your generous support of the Educational Outreach Program Award, and for supporting the training of future child and adolescent psychiatrists.

Sincerely,

Katherine Soe, MD  
Pediatrics/Psychiatry/Child & Adolescent Psychiatry Resident  
Indiana University School of Medicine  
Indianapolis, Indiana
Dear AACAP Executive Committee,

Thank you very much for your support in allowing me and many other students, residents and fellows to attending this year’s conference. I gained invaluable experience through forums, committee meetings and symposiums and enjoyed getting to know many of the people in the CAP community. I was also able to present my research poster and had stimulating discussions on the subject including with experts in the field.

Sincere thanks,

Billy Zou, MD
General Psychiatry Resident, PGY-2
Tufts Medical Center