

AACAP Mentorship Grants for Medical Students, supported by AACAP's Endowment Fund

The AACAP Mentorship Grants for Medical Students, supported by AACAP's Endowment Fund, provides the opportunity for medical students to receive a formal overview of child and adolescent psychiatry, establish mentor relationships with child and adolescent psychiatrists, and experience the AACAP Annual Meeting. Recipients receive up to \$1,200 of financial assistance to attend AACAP's Annual Meeting.

Nakul Aggarwal, PhD—University of Wisconsin, Madison

Esha Aneja, BS—California Northstate University

Deanna Chea, BS—University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Terry Derias, BS—University of Miami

Reni Forer, BA—University of Michigan

Loren S. Hardeman, MBA—Morehouse School of Medicine

John M. Imbrie, AB*—Western University of Health Sciences, College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific

Tahia Karim, MPH*—Kansas College of Osteopathic Medicine

Rachel G. Kasdin, MS—Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

Rushali Kothari, BS—Albany Medical College

Isha Kumbam, MS—Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

Zachary Lawrence, BS—Eastern Virginia Medical School

Austin D. Le, BA, BS, MS—University of Illinois, Peoria

Vishalli Loomba, MPH, MSc—University of California, San Francisco

Lydia W. Maliackel, BA—Drexel University

Meghan M. Mallya, BS—University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston

Evonne P. Nguyen, BS—Tulane University

Lily T. Nguyen, BS—University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston

Jake J. Son, BS—University of Nebraska Medical Center

Tevin S. Um, BS—Nova Southeastern University

Sai Supriya Vuda, BA—University of Missouri-Columbia

Jack Wright, BA—New Jersey Medical School

**Award partially funded through a generous donation from Muhammad Waqar Azeem, MD, 2023 AACAP Norbert and Charlotte Rieger Service Program Award for Excellence recipient.*

AACAP 2024 OCT 14-19 SEATTLE, WA

CHECK OUT THESE EVENTS & PROGRAMS!

MSR Committee
Diversity and Culture Committee
Training and Education
Committee

AACAP Mentorship Grants for Medical Students

Supported by AACAP's Endowment Fund

You are required to complete **seven programs** during the Annual Meeting. See below.

Choose **one (of two) Life Member Sponsored** Session(s).

Weds. Oct 16

8:00 - 9:45 am (Opening Plenary)
KARL MENNINGER, MD, PLENARY
[From Crisis to Compassion:
Rethinking Mental Health in Foster Care](#)

Thurs Oct. 17

7:30 - 9:30 am (RSVP Required)
[MSR Breakfast – Turning Points:
Defining Moments in a Psychiatric Career](#)

Friday Oct. 18

4:45 - 6:15 pm [Free ticketed event - 2 sessions]
[Mentorship Program for MSR - Part 1](#)

8:00 - 9:30 am (Invite Only)
[Young Leaders Awards Breakfast](#)

4:45 - 6:15 pm [Free ticketed event - 2 sessions]
[Mentorship Program for MSR - Part 2](#)

Complete **two additional required sessions** based on your individual interest; may include a program that you monitor, or in which you are serving in a chair, discussant or co-presenter role, or other academic/clinical programming of choice from the program schedule.

Also consider...

**Bringing the Village to the Children
Programming**

Honors Presentations
(dates and times vary)

Wellness Programs

Networking Events

- Medical Students and Residents (MSR)/ Early Career Psychiatrist (ECP) Meet Up
- Welcome Reception

ACCESS CONTENT BEYOND THE MEETING!

Purchase the Conference Enrichment Package (CEP) at Registration.



AMERICAN ACADEMY OF
CHILD & ADOLESCENT
PSYCHIATRY

WWW.AACAP.ORG

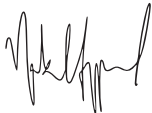
October 27, 2024

AACAP Executive Committee - MGMS EF
c/o AACAP's Research, Grants and Workforce Department
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Washington, DC. 20016

Dear AACAP Executive Committee,

I would like to express my deepest gratitude for selecting me as an awardee of the 2024 AACAP Mentorship Grant for Medical Students, supported by the AACAP Endowment Fund. This award enabled me to attend the annual AACAP meeting for the first time, at a point in my career where it was particularly meaningful and impactful, as I apply to psychiatry residency programs with plans to pursue CAP fellowship training. I am dedicated to becoming an independent physician-investigator and child psychiatrist who strives for excellence in patient care, research, and education, and the AACAP MGMS award propelled my development in this regard. Furthermore, the award afforded me the opportunity to engage and learn from premier experts in my intended fields of pediatric psychiatry, translational neuroscience, and developmental psychopathology, as well as build collaborative relationships with fellow trainees and junior researchers. To conclude, the 2024 AACAP meeting – and the MGMS award activities in particular – served as a platform for me to refine my clinical and research related to the neurobiology of childhood psychopathology as I work toward my ultimate goal of promoting childhood mental health.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nakul Aggarwal', with a stylized, cursive script.

Nakul Aggarwal, PhD
MD-PhD Student
Medical Scientist Training Program
University of Wisconsin-Madison

11-12-2024

AACAP Executive Committee - MGMS EF
c/o AACAP's Research, Grants and Workforce Department
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Washington, DC. 20016

Dear AACAP Executive Committee,

Thank you so much for awarding me the AACAP Mentorship Grant for Medical Students. I am deeply honored to have been chosen to receive this award, which is invaluable in helping me pursue my passion for child psychiatry.

Attending the AACAP Conference has truly solidified my career aspirations in this field. I left the conference inspired by the renowned psychiatrists I had the privilege to meet and learn from, especially through the dedicated mentorship sessions. I hope to use my career in child psychiatry to support children with developmental disabilities, and the insights gained through this experience have only strengthened my commitment to this path.

Thank you again for this invaluable opportunity and for all your efforts in supporting medical students who hope to pursue child psychiatry. I am very grateful for your support.

Sincerely,

Esha Aneja

Medical Student, California Northstate College of Medicine

AACAP Executive Committee - MGMS EF
c/o AACAP's Research, Grants and Workforce Department
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Washington, DC. 20016

October 27, 2024

Dear Members of the AACAP Endowment Fund Committee,

I would like to express my deepest gratitude for the grant that allowed me to attend AACAP's 2024 Annual Conference in Seattle. It was an invaluable experience that significantly contributed to my development as a future psychiatrist.

The mentorship program was one of the most impactful aspects of the conference, offering the opportunity to connect with experienced physicians who provided insight into the field of child and adolescent psychiatry. Their guidance has been instrumental in helping me shape my career goals and refine my understanding of the diverse opportunities in this specialty.

The symposiums offered were both engaging and educational, particularly those focused on cutting-edge topics such as innovative treatments for treatment-resistant mood disorders in children and the influence of social media on adolescent mental health. These sessions enriched my knowledge and opened my eyes to the unique challenges and opportunities in child and adolescent psychiatry.

In addition, the meet-and-greet programs with residents and senior physicians were invaluable in learning more about the paths others have taken in the field. These interactions allowed me to network with leaders in child and adolescent psychiatry, gain advice on navigating residency, and understand more about the collaborative environment within this subspecialty.

Thanks to your support, I feel more confident and motivated in pursuing a career in child and adolescent psychiatry, and I am excited about the future. I am deeply grateful for this opportunity and the resources you have provided to help students like me grow and succeed.

Sincerely,

Deanna Chea

The logo for the Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine at UNLV. It features a red square background with the text "KIRK KERKORIAN SCHOOL OF MEDICINE" in white, uppercase letters. Below this text is a thin white horizontal line, and at the bottom of the square is the "UNLV" logo in white, uppercase letters.

KIRK KERKORIAN
SCHOOL OF
MEDICINE
UNLV

Deanna Chea
M.D. Candidate c/o 2026
Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
chead1@unlv.nevada.edu
Mobile: 702-290-9071

November 7, 2024

AACAP Executive Committee - MGMS EF
c/o AACAP's Research, Grants and Workforce Department
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Washington, DC. 20016

Dear AACAP Executive Committee,

I am writing to express my heartfelt gratitude for being awarded the AACAP Mentorship Grant for Medical Students. Receiving this grant has not only been a tremendous honor, but has also served as a pivotal experience in my journey toward becoming a child and adolescent psychiatrist.

Participating in the AACAP community, particularly as a mentorship grant recipient, has strengthened my commitment to a career in child psychiatry. This experience offered invaluable opportunities to connect with inspiring mentors, such as Dr. Alaa Elnajjar, whose work in Arab child mental health has been transformative for my understanding of culturally competent care. Dr. Elnajjar's guidance has provided me with unique insights and a role model for serving diverse communities.

Attending the first ever Arab Caucus was especially impactful; it connected me with like-minded peers and faculty who share a dedication to expanding mental health services in our community. These interactions encouraged me to pursue research initiatives aimed at addressing cultural nuances in mental health care, as well as join committees within AACAP focused on equity and inclusion in mental health. The opportunities for professional development and advocacy through this grant have allowed me to envision a career that is as community-focused as it is patient-centered.

Thank you once again for this remarkable opportunity, which has inspired and empowered me to pursue my goals in child psychiatry with a renewed sense of purpose. I look forward to contributing to the field in ways that honor the mission of AACAP and continue the impactful work I have begun with the support of this mentorship grant.

Sincerely,
Terry Derias
2006 SE 28th Pl
Ocala, FL, 34471
terry.derias@med.miami.edu

10/21/2024

AACAP Executive Committee
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20016

Dear AACAP Executive Committee,

I hope this letter finds you all well.

I am writing to express my gratitude for your generous sponsorship of the Mentorship Grants for Medical Students (MGMS) this year. Your support has made a difference in the lives of many medical students, including myself!

Through this program, I had the opportunity to meet multiple potential mentors at different stages of their training, both during official events run by the medical student and resident committee and informal gatherings. These interactions have been invaluable, providing connections that I hope to cultivate into true mentorships.

Additionally, I was able to learn about important and timely topics, such as the intersection of climate change and mental health, sex and sexuality, and gender-affirming care. These sessions were not only engaging but also directly applicable to my aspirations in child and adolescent psychiatry.

I hope you continue to support the MGMS awards, as it plays a crucial role in bridging the gap between generations of psychiatrists. Your commitment to nurturing the next generation of professionals is truly commendable, and I think it resonated with all of us who benefited.

Thank you once again for your support.

Warm regards,
Reni Forer
University of Michigan Medical School
Research Year (between M3/M4)

November 4, 2024

AACAP Executive committee-MGMS EF

C/o AACAP's Research, Grants and Workforce Department

3615 Wisconsin Avenue NW

Washington, DC 20016

Dear AACAP Executive Committee,

I am writing to express my sincere gratitude for the AACAP Life Members Mentorship Grants for Medical Students award, which enabled me to attend the AACAP Annual Meeting. This support not only made it possible for me to take part in this enriching event, but it also provided me with invaluable opportunities to grow professionally and personally within the field of child and adolescent psychiatry.

As a first-time panelist, I was both honored and excited to engage with the community in this role. Presenting and sharing ideas in such a collaborative setting deepened my understanding of current issues and innovative approaches in psychiatry. I also had the privilege of volunteering at the Medical Student and Resident (MSR) Breakfast, where I connected with fellow students, residents, and attending psychiatrists. Interacting with other young professionals at the start of their careers and hearing the journeys of lifetime members was incredibly inspiring, reaffirming my commitment to this field.

Additionally, the conference provided me with the unique chance to meet potential mentors and connect with peers who share my dedication to child and adolescent psychiatry. Establishing these relationships has been invaluable, as I now have a network

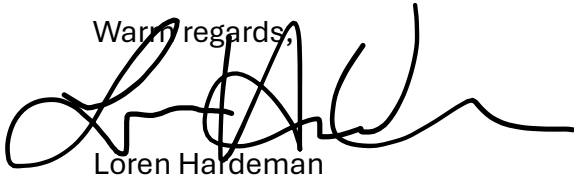
of mentors and friends who will undoubtedly support me throughout my medical training and career.

Attending this special annual meeting was a transformative experience, one that would not

have been possible without the generosity of the AACAP Endowment Fund. I am profoundly grateful for this support and am excited to continue contributing to the field, inspired, and motivated by the connections I made and the knowledge I gained.

Thank you once again for this incredible opportunity.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Loren Haldeman', written over the printed name.

Loren Haldeman

To: AACAP Executive Committee - MGMS EF
c/o AACAP's Research, Grants and Workforce Department
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Washington, DC. 20016

To Whom It May Concern:

Thank you so much for funding my trip to the AACAP Annual Meeting in Seattle! I learned so much about psychiatry, youth, and myself. I met incredible mentors who will impact my future career as a psychiatrist. I'm thinking more seriously about working in child and adolescent psychiatry than ever. I didn't know that it was such a wide world; so many different perspectives, and young adults all the way through 26 fall under the purview.

Without your support, I would never have been able to come. As someone with Native American heritage, I particularly appreciated the events that discussed Bringing the Village to the Child, as the community is disadvantaged and at times isolated in reservations. Seattle was also such a special place, with its rich cultural heritage. The visit to the Native American cultural center was a particular highlight. Once again, thank you so much for making my trip possible. This was an indelible experience for me as a medical student, with so much mentorship, wisdom, and new knowledge.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Imbrie". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

John Imbrie, OMS-III

Western University of Health Sciences

College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific

November 8, 2024



11/15/24

AACAP Executive Committee – MGMS EF
c/o AACAP’s Research, Grants, and Workforce Department
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20016

Dear AACAP Executive Committee – MGMS EF,

I am writing to express my heartfelt gratitude for selecting me as a recipient of the AACAP Mentorship Grant for Medical Students (MGMS). It is an incredible honor to be part of a program supported by the AACAP Endowment Fund, and I am truly excited about the opportunities it provides.

The support of this grant has allowed me to attend the 71st AACAP Annual Meeting in Seattle, WA, this year. This invaluable experience allowed me to engage in mentorship programs, connect with distinguished leaders in child and adolescent psychiatry, and explore diverse specialties within the field. I was particularly inspired by the chance to participate in sessions co-sponsored by Life Members, who have shaped the discipline with their groundbreaking contributions.

As a medical student deeply interested in psychiatry, this grant represents more than financial assistance; it is an investment in my education and professional growth. The exposure to the AACAP’s mentorship events and the opportunity to learn from the esteemed members of the organization will undoubtedly shape my career trajectory and reinforce my dedication to working with children and adolescents.

Thank you for your generosity, vision, and commitment to fostering the next generation of leaders in child and adolescent psychiatry. I am profoundly grateful for this opportunity and your confidence in my potential.

With sincere appreciation,

Tahia Karim, MPH

KansasCOM- OMS-II

November 15, 2024

AACAP Executive Committee - MGMS EF
c/o AACAP's Research, Grants and Workforce Department
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Washington, DC. 20016

Dear Members of the AACAP Endowment Fund,

I am writing to express my sincere gratitude for the opportunity to attend the 2024 AACAP Meeting with the support of the Mentorship Grant for Medical Students. It was my first time attending the AACAP Meeting and I am so glad that I did. The experiences I had of meaningful mentorship, engaging sessions, and thoughtful dialogue surpassed my already-high expectations.

As a third year medical student, I have very much enjoyed exploring potential career paths in the setting of my clinical rotations. However, I also know that a career in academic medicine has a life outside of the clinical setting. I am so glad that I got to see the life of academic child and adolescent psychiatry outside of, in addition to within, the clinical milieu. I was struck by the passion, advocacy, scholarship, and community that exist within the CAP ecosystem. My experience at the AACAP meeting was a moving tribute to the world of child and adolescent psychiatry and will certainly impact my future career decisions.

Thank you again for your support and the wonderful opportunity. I am honored and grateful to have been selected to receive the MGMS award.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rachel Kasdin". The signature is fluid and cursive, written on a light-colored background.

Rachel G. Kasdin
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
Class of 2026

AACAP Executive Committee - MGMS EF
c/o AACAP's Research, Grants and Workforce Department
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Washington, DC. 20016

Dear AACAP Executive Committee,

My name is Rushali Kothari and I am a fourth-year medical student at Albany Medical College in Albany, New York. I am writing this letter to thank you for supporting my attendance at the AACAP 2024 Annual Meeting.

I have attended many conferences throughout my medical school career and this was by far, my absolute favorite. I sincerely enjoyed the opportunity to network with and meet peers and mentors that are just as excited and passionate about the field of child and adolescent psychiatry. I met medical students from around the world that I look forward to staying in touch with after the meeting, residents that I hope to collaborate with on future projects, and mentors that I intend to reach out to and learn from. And the Life Members have a wealth of knowledge that is so expansive; their eagerness to share it is incredible and appreciated. I am genuinely so thrilled that these are the people that are past, current, and future CAPs. We stand on the shoulders of giants and the future is bright for this field!

I also found myself having my horizons widened and being constantly awed with every session, from learning about how green spaces affect mental health to the community efforts being held from coast to coast. I also had the opportunity to present myself as part of a workshop on navigating the open-note policy. While this was my second time at the conference, it was the first time I have presented— and never a workshop! So this was a wonderful opportunity to do so.

And to have the ability to experience all this in the wonderful city of Seattle during its peak autumn colors season was the cherry on top!

The whole week was filled with enthusiasm, inspiration, passion, and innovation. I am walking away feeling extremely validated about my decision to pursue psychiatry and so excited to be a part of this incredible group!

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for the opportunity to attend this meeting, have access to unique network opportunities, and ease the financial burden. I look forward to future AACAP meetings with sincere eagerness and excitement!

Warmly,
Rushali Kothari

10/28/2024

AACAP Executive Committee - MGMS EF
c/o AACAP's Research, Grants and Workforce Department
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Washington, DC. 20016

Dear AACAP MGMS EF Executive Committee,

I am writing to express my sincere gratitude for the mentorship grant awarded to me to attend the 2024 AACAP Annual Meeting. This invaluable support allowed me to attend and benefit greatly from this unique opportunity for growth and development in the field of child psychiatry. The experience enhanced my knowledge of current practices and innovative research, and it connected me with inspiring new mentors while strengthening existing relationships involved in AACAP. Moreover, engaging with experts in the field of child psychiatry has broadened my aspirations and reinforced my commitment to contributing to child mental health care as I continue my training. I am certain that I will continue to feel deeply humbled by the warmth and dedication I immersed myself in while I attended AACAP during the ongoing residency application cycle I have entered.

Thank you again for your generosity and commitment to supporting emerging professionals in child psychiatry. Your investment in my training will have a lasting impact on my career and, more importantly, on the well-being of the children and families I will serve as a future psychiatrist.

Warm regards,



Isha Kumbam

10/29/24

Dear AACAP Executive Committee,

I would like to express my gratitude for providing me with the opportunity to attend the 2024 AACAP Annual Meeting this past week. As a second-year medical student at EVMS with aspirations of becoming a child and adolescent psychiatrist, I found the conference both informative and inspiring.

I particularly enjoyed the lectures on social media usage and its effects on mental health. The research and data shared during these sessions gave me a new perspective on the risks of social media on adolescent development and health. I hope to utilize this newfound motivation to conduct research on this topic and potentially present at a future AACAP conference.

I also thoroughly valued the opportunity to network with other medical students, residents, and physicians. It was encouraging to meet and chat with others who share the same passion as me. These conversations reinforced my commitment to the field of child and adolescent psychiatry.

One of the most impactful parts of the conference for me was the opening plenary, "From Crisis to Compassion: Rethinking Mental Health in Foster Care." Hearing from experts in the field who are pushing for changes in the treatment of children in the foster care system was incredibly moving. The talk reminded me of why I'm pursuing this path: to help children and adolescents receive the care and support they deserve.

I want to thank you and everyone involved in organizing this year's conference. It was an unforgettable experience, and I'm looking forward to attending again in the future as I continue my journey in child and adolescent psychiatry.

Best,

Zachary Lawrence (he/him/his)
Eastern Virginia Medical School
MD Candidate | Class of 2027

11/12/24

AACAP Executive Committee – Mentorship Grant for Medical Students Program
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20016

Dear AACAP Executive Committee,

I am writing to express my sincere gratitude for selecting me as a recipient of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP) Mentorship Grant for Medical Students. I am deeply honored to have been chosen from such a competitive field of applicants and am grateful for this opportunity to further explore my interests in child and adolescent psychiatry, a field that holds deep personal and professional significance for me.

Attending the AACAP 71st Annual Meeting in Seattle was truly inspiring and transformative. As someone passionate about improving mental health outcomes for children and adolescents, particularly in underserved communities, the meeting gave me a valuable chance to connect with clinicians who share my commitment to tackling unique challenges—especially those faced by Asian American youth and those impacted by climate change. These connections reaffirmed my dedication to addressing the mental health impacts of cultural and environmental stressors on young people, an area I am increasingly drawn to as I progress through my medical training.

I am especially grateful for the financial support provided through this award, which made my attendance possible. The Mentorship Grant not only allowed me to gain new insights and knowledge but also opened doors to conversations and collaborations that I believe will shape my journey in child psychiatry for years to come. I am inspired to continue advocating for youth facing adversity, knowing that organizations like AACAP believe in the next generation's potential to make a difference.

Thank you once again for your generosity and for investing in future child and adolescent psychiatrists. I am deeply appreciative of this meaningful opportunity, and I look forward to giving back to the field with the guidance and inspiration I have received from AACAP.
Warm regards,

Austin D. Le, MS
2nd year Medical Student
University of Illinois College of Medicine Peoria

October 29, 2024

AACAP Executive Committee - MGMS EF
c/o AACAP's Research, Grants, and Workforce Department
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20016

Dear AACAP Executive Committee Members,

I am writing to express my heartfelt gratitude for the generous support I received through the AACAP Endowment Fund, which allowed me to attend this year's AACAP Annual Conference in Seattle. It was my first experience at the conference, and I am profoundly grateful for the opportunity to immerse myself in this vibrant, educational setting focused on child and adolescent psychiatry.

Through the sessions, research presentations, and networking opportunities at AACAP, I gained invaluable insights that have further solidified my commitment to a career in child and adolescent psychiatry. Presenting my own research in this esteemed environment was an incredible milestone in my journey as a medical student, made possible only through your support. The opportunity to connect with mentors and colleagues who share a passion for improving mental health outcomes for young people has been both inspiring and reassuring as I look forward to residency and beyond.

Thank you once again for your investment in my professional development and for supporting students like myself to pursue and advance careers in child and adolescent psychiatry. Your dedication to fostering the next generation of mental health professionals is truly appreciated, and I am eager to contribute to this field in meaningful ways as I continue my training.

With sincere gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vishalli Loomba". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'V' and a long, sweeping underline.

Vishalli Loomba, MS MPH
MD Candidate, Class of 2025
University of California, San Francisco
(UCSF)

October 30, 2024

AACAP Executive Committee - MGMS EF
c/o AACAP's Research, Grants and Workforce Department
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Washington, DC. 20016

Dear AACAP Executive Committee - MGMS EF,

I am writing to extend my sincere gratitude for awarding me the Mentorship Grant for Medical Students to attend the 2024 AACAP Annual Meeting. This opportunity to learn from experts, engage with colleagues, and deepen my understanding of child mental health was invaluable to my professional growth and future career in psychiatry.

I developed new networking skills and learned about emerging practices and evidence-based approaches that will enhance my ability to provide comprehensive care to children and adolescents in the future. I was grateful to attend sessions specifically about ADHD, LGBTQ+ care, and diversity as these topics align closely with my interests and goals within the field.

Thank you once again for your generosity and confidence in my potential. I am deeply honored by this support and look forward to sharing what I learn with my peers and community.

Warm regards,
Lydia Maliackel

November 15, 2024

AACAP Executive Committee - MGMS EF

c/o AACAP's Research, Grants and Workforce Department

3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW

Washington, DC. 20016

I am writing to thank you for the opportunity provided to fund my attendance at the 2024 AACAP conference through the AACAP Mentorship Grant for Medical Students Program. The conference was an invaluable learning experience, where I was exposed to diverse perspectives and emerging developments in the field of child and adolescent psychiatry. The mentorship opportunities I was extended through the MSR and Life Members initiatives were wonderful – the mentors chosen took an interest in medical student education and gave me thoughtful advice on residency and fellowship, which have been helpful as I navigate this application cycle.

Through the grant, I was also able to attend ticketed events, such as the session on Family Assessments and mentalizing therapy. I also enjoyed sharing my research at the poster session and learning from people's important work. Beyond the educational aspects of the conference, attending the conference in person allowed me to connect with fellow medical students, residents, fellows, and practicing physicians who also share a passion for child psychiatry. These interactions have opened doors to potential collaborations and lasting professional relationships that I am sure will continue to shape my career positively.

Once again, thank you so much for this enriching opportunity! It has impacted my professional journey positively and I look forward to using the knowledge I gained moving forward.

Best wishes,

Meghan Mallya, MS4, UTMB

November 1, 2024

AACAP Executive Committee - MGMS EF
% AACAP's Research, Grants and Workforce Department
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Washington, DC. 20016

Dear AACAP Endowment Fund Committee,

I would like to take the opportunity to personally thank you for choosing me as one of the recipients of the Mentorship Grants for Medical students and granting me the experience of attending the AACAP Conference this year. Before attending the conference, I had a strong interest in child psychiatry, but was not confident in what my path would look like. By giving me the opportunity to attend this conference, you've given me the space to confirm my path in child psychiatry and expand my knowledge of different pathways in psychiatry. I was able to talk to both life members who were able to give me years of different experiences, and also younger mentors who were paving new paths in the field. I can't recount the amount of times I sat in a room at the conference and was in awe of the accomplishments and passion of the people who surrounded me. I was also able to learn about a plethora of topics that introduced me to different ideas and deepened my knowledge about others. Specifically, learning about the foster care system, children who are exposed to war, and being able to be a part of the asian american caucus were some of the few highlights of my time. I truly thank you all for this opportunity. It was something that I would not have been able to afford on my own and was the highlight of my year. I am excited to get more involved in AACAP and hope to work alongside all of you.

Sincerely,

Evonne Nguyen
Tulane University Medical School
3rd Year Medical Student

October 29, 2024

AACAP Executive Committee - MGMS EF
c/o AACAP's Research, Grants and Workforce Department
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20016

Dear AACAP Executive Committee,

I am writing to express my sincere gratitude for being selected as a recipient of the AACAP Life Members Mentorship Grant for Medical Students. As a fourth-year medical student preparing to embark on my residency training in psychiatry, I am deeply honored to receive this recognition from the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry.

Throughout my medical school journey, my passion for child and adolescent psychiatry has only grown stronger, particularly through my clinical rotations and volunteer experiences in this field. This mentorship grant represents a pivotal opportunity in my professional development. The program's resources and guidance will be instrumental as I prepare for residency and further develop my understanding of evidence-based approaches in child and adolescent mental health care. I met many leaders of the field during the mentorship program, which will allow me to learn from experienced practitioners and gain insights that will shape my future practice.

Your investment in my medical education through this grant will have a lasting impact on my career trajectory in child and adolescent psychiatry. I am committed to maximizing this opportunity to enhance my knowledge and skills as I prepare for residency training.

Thank you again for your generosity and support. I am honored to be associated with AACAP through this grant and look forward to contributing to the field of child and adolescent psychiatry.

Sincerely,
Lily Nguyen
Fourth-Year Medical Student
University of Texas Medical Branch

Jake Jungwoo Son

Institute for Human Neuroscience
14090 Mother Teresa Ln,
Boys Town, NE 68010

AACAP Executive Committee

AACAP Executive Committee - MGMS EF
c/o AACAP's Research, Grants and Workforce
Department
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Washington, DC. 20016

Dear Members of the AACAP Endowment Fund and Funders,

I am writing to express my sincere gratitude for the generous funding I received to attend the 2024 AACAP Annual Meeting. Your support has been instrumental in furthering my professional development and has provided invaluable opportunities for networking, learning, and growth as I continue on my path to becoming a child and adolescent psychiatrist.

During the conference, I attended several Clinical Cases, Clinical Perspectives, and Symposia that highlighted pressing issues and recent advances in child and adolescent psychiatry with a focus on trauma-informed care. Specifically, I attended Workshop 16: Development of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Leaders in Child Trauma: Core Concepts of Child Trauma Training, allowing me to engage in problem-based learning with leaders in the field for community education and treatment. Overall, these sessions deepened my understanding of cutting-edge treatments and evidence-based practices, which I am eager to incorporate throughout my clinical training and into my future work. I also participated in the poster sessions and learned of how complex trauma and early adversity can impact mental illness and neurodevelopmental outcomes.

The networking opportunities were equally enriching. I had the chance to meet and engage with experienced professionals and peers in the field, including sessions with Life Mentors and psychiatrists at various levels of training, all of whom offered valuable insights and advice. The informal conversations and mentorship opportunities were particularly impactful, and I now feel more connected to a community of child and adolescent psychiatrists who are passionate about improving the lives of children and adolescents and their families.

This experience has strengthened my commitment to pursuing a career in child and adolescent psychiatry. The exposure to the latest research, treatment strategies, and the diverse perspectives of experts in the field have given me the tools and inspiration to continue my training with renewed enthusiasm and focus. I am especially excited about the possibility of incorporating what I learned into my future practice and contributing to the advancement of the field as a future physician-scientist.

Once again, thank you for making this opportunity possible. Your support has made a significant impact on my professional journey, and I am deeply grateful for your ongoing support for trainees and the future of psychiatry.

Sincerely,

Jake Jungwoo Son

AACAP Executive Committee – MGMS EF
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20016

October 24, 2024

Hello AACAP Executive Committee,

I hope you are doing well. This "Thank You" Letter is not just a requirement for me; it is a genuine expression of my gratitude to the committee for selecting me as a grant recipient. Providing these opportunities for trainees is an invaluable resource to many, especially for myself. Although I would have come to the AACAP conference without the grant's support, the grant has significantly reduced the financial and emotional burden that I would have had to endure without your support. I am confident many other recipients would agree with that statement.

I have learned so much from this year's conference, including nuanced topics such as ASD in very young children and AI in CAP. Additionally, I have formed new connections with many friendly, knowledgeable, and passionate child psychiatrists. Mentorship has been an integral part of my career, and I would have never considered attending AACAP last year in New York if it were not for my mentors, who are also very involved in AACAP's Asian Caucus (Specifically, Dr. Jacklyn Chua and Dr. Shinnyi Chou). This was also my first time in Seattle, and I am incredibly grateful to have had the opportunity to visit such a beautiful city through this conference.

Again, thank you so much for your support. AACAP has been integral in shaping both my career and personal life, and I am excited to continue to stay involved in this life-changing organization!

Sincerely,
Tevin Um

Tevin Um

OMS-IV, Class of 2025 | D.O. Candidate

President, PsychSIGN 2022-2023

Vice President, Student Cardiology Association, 2021-2022

M1 Psychiatry Representative, Neurology and Psychiatry Club, 2021-2022

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Sai Supriya Vuda
Springfield, Missouri 65809

November 1, 2024

AACAP Executive Committee - MGMS EF
c/o AACAP's Research, Grants and Workforce Department
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Washington, DC. 20016

Dear AACAP Executive Committee,

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude for the opportunity to attend the 2024 American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP) conference in Seattle. The experience was truly enriching, offering invaluable insights into the field and connecting me with a network of dedicated psychiatrists and fellow students whose work inspires my own journey towards a career in psychiatry.

Throughout the conference, I attended several sessions that deepened my understanding of innovative approaches to child and adolescent mental health, particularly in the global space. I especially appreciated the discussions on the psychiatric needs of children and adolescents in humanitarian crises around the world. These sessions were fire to my fuel and reinforced my commitment to advancing mental health care for the youth. I am so excited for the future of child and adolescent psychiatry and its instrumental role in healing our nation and the world.

I am deeply thankful for the chance to learn, grow, and contribute to our shared mission of improving mental health outcomes for children and adolescents. My only wish is that more medical students who come after me continue to be afforded this incredible opportunity. Please extend my gratitude to all who made this exceptional experience possible.

Warmest regards,



Sai Supriya Vuda
Medical Student, Class of 2025
University of Missouri-Columbia School of Medicine

To: AACAP Executive Committee - MGMS EF
c/o AACAP's Research, Grants and Workforce Department
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Washington, DC. 20016

November 10, 2024

Dear AACAP Executive Committee,

I am deeply honored to have been awarded the Life Membership Grant, and I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to each of you for this invaluable opportunity. Attending the AACAP event allowed me to immerse myself in an environment that truly felt like a family. The warmth, camaraderie, and commitment shared among AACAP members has only further solidified my dedication to a career in child and adolescent psychiatry.

Being able to connect with experienced and passionate professionals in the field was incredibly inspiring and has deepened my understanding of the essential role we play in advocating for the mental health of children and adolescents. This experience has strengthened my resolve to contribute meaningfully to this field, and I am excited to bring the insights and inspiration I gained into my own practice and future endeavors.

Thank you once again for this wonderful opportunity and for making me feel a part of the AACAP community.

Warm regards,
Jack B. Wright