AACAP Educational Outreach Program for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Residents, supported by the AACAP Life Members 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 Life Members Fund, recipients receive up to $1,000 of financial assistance to experience AACAP’s Annual Meeting.

James D. Chambliss, MD, MPH—University of Illinois Hospitals
Chante K. Dickerson, DO—Creighton University School of Medicine, Phoenix
Hagar H.A. Kandel, MBBCh—Massachusetts General Hospital
Anthony Kulukulualani, MD—University of North Carolina
Ian C. Parsley, MD—University of Texas Southwestern
Olivia Shadid, MD—University of New Mexico School of Medicine
Yuji Wakimoto, MD*—University of Utah

*Triple Board/Post Pediatric Portal Resident
Dear Members of the AACAP Life Members Committee,

AACAP Life Members Committee - EOP CAP LM
Attn: Marilyn B. Benoit, MD and Ellen H. Sholevar, MD
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20016

I hope this letter finds you in the best of health and spirits. I am writing to extend my heartfelt gratitude to you and the entire AACAP Life Members Committee for your generous sponsorship of the Educational Outreach Program (EOP) for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Residents supported by the AACAP Life Members Fund. Your unwavering support has truly made a significant impact on advancing the goals and objectives of this vital initiative.

It is with great appreciation that I acknowledge the crucial role that the EOP plays in promoting knowledge, awareness, and professional growth within the field of child and adolescent psychiatry. Your dedication to fostering educational opportunities for mental health practitioners and trainees and promoting the well-being of our youngest generation is both inspiring and commendable.

The AACAP’s Educational Outreach Program has consistently demonstrated its commitment to delivering high-quality educational resources and training to professionals in the field. Your sponsorship enables the AACAP to further its mission of providing accessible and relevant information, which ultimately leads to improved care and support for children, adolescents, and their families facing mental health challenges.

The impact of your generosity reverberates far beyond the confines of this program, touching the lives of countless individuals who benefit from the knowledge and expertise shared through AACAP. Your commitment to bettering the lives of young people through educational initiatives resonates deeply with me and the entire community of mental health professionals.

Once again, I want to express my sincere gratitude for your invaluable contribution to the Educational Outreach Program. Your support fuels our collective efforts to create a brighter, healthier future for children and adolescents in need. Your dedication to this cause serves as an inspiring example for all of us who are committed to making a positive impact in the realm of mental health.

Please accept my heartfelt thanks for your unwavering commitment to advancing the field of child and adolescent psychiatry. I look forward to partaking in the AACAP conference with great help from the Educational Outreach Program, thanks in no small part to your generous support.

With warm regards,

James Chambliss
November 3, 2023

Dear AACAP Life Members Committee Members,

I'm Dr. Chante Dickerson, a PGY5 CAP Fellow from Creighton University- Phoenix. I am writing to express my deepest gratitude for the generous award that I was privileged to receive from the AACAP Life Members Committee. This $1000 award provided me with the invaluable opportunity to attend AACAP with child and adolescent psychiatrists across the country. Your support has had a profound impact on my professional development and my aspirations for the future.

The conference was an enriching experience that allowed me to learn from some of the brightest minds in the field. I had the privilege of interacting with mentors who shared their wealth of knowledge and expertise, opening doors to new insights and perspectives. Through this exposure, I gained a deeper understanding of the complexities and challenges within child and adolescent psychiatry, which will undoubtedly shape my future contributions to the field.

Moreover, attending the conference allowed me to explore various career opportunities within child and adolescent psychiatry. The exposure to different tracks, presentations, and networking opportunities broadened my horizons and ignited my passion for this specialized area of medicine. Your support has not only expanded my knowledge but has also given me the confidence to pursue new avenues in my career.

Once again, I extend my heartfelt thanks to the AACAP Life Members Committee for this remarkable opportunity. I am honored to have been selected as a recipient of your support, and I will carry the lessons and inspiration I gained from the conference with me throughout my career.

Sincerely,

Dr. Chante Dickerson
AACAP Life Members Committee - EOP CAP LM Program  
Attn: Marilyn B. Benoit, MD and Ellen H. Sholevar, MD  
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20016  

November 30, 2023  

Heartfelt Gratitude for the AACAP Education Outreach Program for CAP Fellows  

Dear Drs. Marilyn B. Benoit and Ellen H. Sholevar,

I trust this message finds you well. I am delighted to extend my sincere gratitude to the AACAP Life Members Committee for awarding me the Education Outreach Program award. Receiving this esteemed award has been a tremendous honor and a source of inspiration for me. I am truly humbled by the generosity and support extended by the AACAP Life Members Committee, and I am excited about the opportunities that lie ahead of me.

I would like to express my appreciation for the commitment and dedication that both of you, Dr. Benoit and Dr. Sholevar, have shown to the field of child and adolescent psychiatry. I understand the importance of mentorship in fostering personal and professional growth. During this mentorship experience, I’ve gained valuable insights and knowledge that have significantly contributed to my personal and professional development. The guidance provided by my mentors has been instrumental in shaping my perspective and approach in our field.

Please consider this letter as a token of my sincere appreciation for your support and for the opportunity to participate in the AACAP Education Outreach Program award for child and adolescent psychiatry fellows.

With heartfelt thanks,

Hagar Kandel, MBBCh MSc
November 21, 2023

AACAP Life Members Committee – EOP CAP LM  
Attn: Marilyn B. Benoit, MD and Ellen H. Sholevar, MD  
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20016

Dear AACAP Life Members Committee,

I am writing to express my deepest gratitude for being a recipient of the AACAP Educational Outreach Program for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellows through the AACAP’s Life Members Fund. Your generosity allowed me to attend AACAP’s Annual Meeting in New York, New York for the first time. This experience was both rewarding and inspiring to continue making an impact on children, adolescents, families, and local communities as a child and adolescent psychiatrist.

The networking, mentorship, and learning at this conference was invaluable to my growth as a trainee and soon to be early career psychiatrist. I was able to connect with old friends while creating new friendships in my field. The workshops and trainings that I was able to attend also advanced my knowledge and inspired me to share that knowledge with my home institution. My attendance at the annual meeting has motivated me to become more involved with AACAP. Being able to meet the past, current, and future leaders and innovators within my field confirmed that AACAP is an organization that I could contribute my passions, leadership, and ideas to. I am excitedly looking forward to my continued involvement.

I extend a sincere thank you for this opportunity. Without this funding support, my attendance in New York would not have been possible.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Anthony Kulukulualani, MD

cc: Anneke Archer
Dear AACAP Life Members Committee,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to express my heartfelt gratitude for supporting me through the Educational Outreach Program at AACAP. By funding this award, you allowed me to attend the conference for the first time and helped clarify my career interests as I near the end of my child and adolescent psychiatry fellowship training.

Although I thoroughly enjoyed attending numerous sessions on a variety of topics, the aspect of this program that I valued the most was getting the opportunity to develop relationships with others in the field. Through the scheduled mentorship meetings and the Life Members Committee dinner, I was able to meet several wonderful people at various stages of their career. Establishing these connections not only inspired me to do more in my own career but gave me new contacts for people who can serve as mentors as I begin the pursuit of my first job as an attending psychiatrist.

Please accept my sincere thanks for your support and for the role you have played in my professional journey. The AACAP Life Members Committee’s commitment to fostering the development of early career psychiatrists is both admirable and critically important. I am honored to be a recipient of your support and hope to one day contribute to the committee’s mission in my own right.

Sincerely,

Ian Parsley
Dear AACAP Life Members Committee,

I’m Olivia Shadid, a second-year child & adolescent psychiatry fellow at the University of New Mexico and a recipient of this year’s EOP sponsorship. I have just returned from the Annual Meeting and want to express my sincere thanks for the work and advocacy you do to facilitate this program and foster excitement and dedication to child psychiatry in the next generation of child psychiatrists. I am leaving the meeting feeling excited for my future in child psychiatry and delighted to join such a generative, thoughtful, bright community of colleagues who share my passion for improving society by supporting the mental health of children and families. I am feeling particularly bolstered to continue this work in my own village of child psychiatrists as I more actively think about how to recruit, retain, and celebrate talent and dedication to child psychiatry. As a soon-to-be new attending, this is such a valuable experience to have: feeling initiated into this community and ready to give back and tend spaces where child psychiatrists can be their best and help families and communities be their best.

Thank you so much for your tending a culture of mentorship and support, inspiring me to join these efforts. Your model is important and trajectory-changing.

With great gratitude,

Olivia Shadid
Olivia Shadid, MD
PGY5, Child and Adolescent Chief Fellow
Department of Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences
University of New Mexico School of Medicine
Recipient 2023, AACAP Educational Outreach Program for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Residents, Supported by the AACAP’s Life Members Fund
November 4th, 2023

AACAP Life Members Committee - EOP CAP LM  
Attn: Marilyn B. Benoit, MD and Ellen H. Sholevar, MD  
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20016

Dear the AACAP Life Members Committee,

Thank you so much for your generous contributions and funding to support trainees such as myself attend the annual AACAP conference this year. I had an amazing experience being able to attend the AACAP conference for the first time in my training. I loved and appreciated the educational opportunities to advance my clinical knowledge in the various Clinical Perspectives, Institute, and other talks held at the conference. The plenary session was also an exciting component of the conference, being able to hear the progress we have made as a community thus far from the talk by Dr. Delphin-Rittmon, to the inspiring talk of Dr. Benton's career trajectory as the President Elect of AACAP, the whole session really made me feel proud to be a child and adolescent psychiatrist and to be a part of this greater professional organization.

In addition to the various talks that I was able to attend, as the Life Members funded trainee I was also able to attend the Life Members dinner reception on Thursday, October 26th. Through this dinner gathering, I was able to meet and interact with various legends of the field, and hearing about their life history was both awe inspiring as much as it was motivating for me to be standing on the shoulders of these giants, who have forged the path of child and adolescent psychiatry before us. At the same time, through this dinner reception, and later at the Young Leaders Breakfast event, I was able to meet and connect with other trainees and peers, with whom I hope to continue to contribute to the field of child and adolescent psychiatry and to continue to support the youth in this country and beyond.

Once again, I would like to express my gratitude and appreciation for your generosity and contribution to the travel grant funding. From the knowledge gained during the educational sessions, the inspirations gained from hearing from leaders in the field, to the lasting connections built with other peers in similar levels of training, I have no doubt that these experiences from the conference will have a lasting impact on my career. Thank you again for your support and making this a reality!

Sincerely,

Yuji Wakimoto  
University of Utah  
Triple Board Program, PGY-5