

Update from the WV Chapter AAP members on Foster Care

This is an update for WV Chapter AAP members on what the academy is doing to improve the emotional as well as physical health of children in foster care.

Our WV Chapter has received a grant from the AAP to help pediatricians care for foster care families. Attached is their "Visit Discharge and Referral Summary for Family" for use as a template for office screening for trauma, traumatic stress reactions, developmental issues, medical issues, recommendations, resources and follow-up. Please review the form as we plan to be piloting it in offices next year as part of a quality improvement program.

Please take 5 minutes to complete our grant survey on foster care issues for pediatricians at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/WVInitiativeforFosterCareImprovement>. We are committed to getting responses from all members. A completed survey will make you eligible for winning a \$50 gift card of your choice at the Spring Meeting.

We are currently collaborating with the WV multidisciplinary Three Branch Institute Committee on mental health screening and psychotropic medication for foster care children. Remember to visit the AAP website for tools to improve care for children in foster care at:

- www.aap.org/traumaguide
- <http://www.aap.org/traumaguide>
- www.aap.org/fostercare
- <http://www.aap.org/fostercare>
- www.aap.org/mentalhealth
- <http://www.aap.org/mentalhealth>

You can email me at lewisj@marshall.edu to participate in the grant activities. We have parents of children in foster care working with us as local quality improvement teams throughout the state but need more pediatricians. The responsibilities will primarily be involvement in conference calls.

Thanks from the West Virginia Initiative for Foster Care Improvement Team