

WHY JOIN THE INDIANA AAP?

We are all so busy now - our job as pediatricians, keeping up with new regulations, and the literature, our families, and all the other things in life!

Why should you even consider adding one more thing to this?

Because the IN AAP is specifically about why we became physicians and pediatricians. Our mission statement says that we are committed to the attainment of optimal physical, mental and social health for all infants, children, adolescents and young adults. Something each of us does all the time. We are also committed to supporting the professional needs of our member physicians.

But how often are we frustrated by all the barriers to carrying this out? How often do we come up against lack of insurance, prior authorization barriers or outright refusals for needed care, inadequate reimbursement for the extra time it takes to care for a special child, insurance denials or expensive delays, etc.?

As an individual we have very little power to change the environment that causes these problems. As a member of a group that is highly respected by both the public and by legislators, we have the ability to create change, to make things better for our patients as well as for ourselves.

The IN AAP has a committee and members who work directly with our legislators to introduce new bills affecting the health and well-being of our children. (Remember when Indiana's kids didn't have to use car seats or seat belts? Thank the IN AAP for that!) We employ a professional to watch out for and alert us to the introduction of bills that could adversely impact our children and our members. Members testify in front of our State Legislature and talk with our National Government Representatives and Senators and their staffs.

We are linked to, and strongly supported by the National AAP, but they can't work on our state's problems. Only we can.

Put your expertise and frustrations to work to create a better life for your patients and yourself. Don't wait for someone else to do it! You will feel better knowing that you are part of working towards a solution and not just complaining in vain.

Join the IN AAP if you are not already a member. If you are a member, get on the Board or join a committee. Check out our website, speak to your regional representative or a Board member to find where your participation could mean the most for you and our children. Take our upcoming local leadership development course and get yourselves ready to lead the IN AAP in its future challenges.