REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS - GLOBAL VACCINE ADVOCACY PROJECTS

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) has been awarded a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) to support advocacy for effective pediatric global immunization. In partnership with the International Pediatric Association (IPA), we hope to work collaboratively with national pediatric societies to educate and mobilize their leadership in vigorous support of global immunizations, including polio, measles, pneumococcal, and rotavirus priorities. This work has great potential to assist the international community’s achievement of child survival goals set forth by WHO/UNICEF in the Global Immunization Vision and Strategy (2006-2015) and the Decade of Vaccines Collaboration (http://www.dovcollaboration.org/).

A previous request for proposals focused on countries that commit funds in support of global immunization advocacy and through commitments to the GAVI Alliance. This request for proposals focuses on countries that have high rates of vaccine preventable diseases. As part of this project, we will award national pediatric societies small grants of up to $5,000 (US) to support projects that increase support for immunizations – including polio, measles, pneumococcal, and rotavirus - by pediatric organizations and national governments.

Program Goals: to increase commitment to global vaccine priorities, including support for polio and measles/rubella eradication and for expanded access to effective vaccines in countries affected by high disease burden.

- Mobilize sustainable pediatric or pediatrician engagement in advocacy for policies that will accelerate polio eradication and achieve better vaccination of children.
- Support and build capacity among pediatric leaders in selected countries for implementation of advocacy and education strategies.
- Focus national leaders on achieving high vaccination rates with all WHO recommended vaccines

Eligibility: Applicants must be national pediatric societies or coalitions of national pediatric organizations in countries experiencing a high burden of vaccine preventable disease.

Selection criteria will include the capacity and experience of the national pediatric society, the commitment of the society leadership to immunization advocacy activities, the specificity and feasibility of the proposed activities, and the likelihood of sustainable and/or successful advocacy. Periodic progress reports will be required of successful grantees.

Applications (up to 5 pages, see following pages for content) are due to AAP by March 1, 2013. Initial applications will be reviewed by AAP and IPA project leadership and members of the project advisory committee. Applicants may be asked to respond to questions seeking additional information, and may be asked to participate in one or more conference calls or meetings to discuss their proposed activities. Funds will become available on or before June 1, 2013.
Applicant societies should demonstrate their:

- Ability to identify one or more leaders as vaccine advocacy champions
- Commitment to vaccine issues
- Commitment to advocacy
- Capacity to support public stakeholder advocacy/education
- Relationships to other key stakeholder groups within their country and/or region
- Relationship to the IPA and/or to regional pediatric societies

AAP will provide:

- Expert faculty in child health vaccine advocacy as visiting scholars and/or speakers able to provide technical assistance and mentorship to help accelerate the participating societies’ advocacy efforts for polio eradication and opportunity for pediatric. AAP will support an expert visit to the national society during the project.
- Support for participants from each selected country to participate in an international and/or regional project meeting.
- Collaboration to help funded countries identify specific needs and create advocacy training and delivery resources and tools to support vaccine advocacy activities.

Examples of projects include (but are not limited to):

- Identify undervaccinated areas of the country and advocate for resources to be directed to vaccination programs in those areas
- Train local pediatric leaders in effective national advocacy methods to improve immunization coverage and access
- Advocate with national government to apply GAVI funds to implement rotavirus and pneumococcal vaccination programs
- Engage your pediatric society to host an event, meeting, or roundtable discussion with high level health ministers and members of parliament to advocate for allocation of funds to immunization programs and/or polio eradication in country

Completed applications must be submitted by email to:
Terrell Carter, MHS, Manager, Global Immunization Programs
tcarter@aap.org  direct: +1-847.434.4319

For more information or for any questions please contact Ms. Carter or contact:

Jonathan Klein, MD, MPH  William Keenan, MD
Associate Executive Director  Executive Director
American Academy of Pediatrics  International Pediatric Association
Email: jklein@aap.org  Email: keenanwj@slu.edu
Phone: 1-847-434-4322  Phone: 1-847-434-7507
1) **Cover sheet – contact information** (1 page)

Name of Pediatric Society:

Society Contact Information:

Name, E-mail and Phone Number of President or Chief Elected Office-holder:

Name, E-mail and Phone Number of Executive Director or Chief staff contact:

Project Director(s) role in the Pediatric Society and contact information:

Who is the primary contact for any questions about this application?:

2) **Society description**

(Recommended length – less than 1 page – attachments or website links are permitted)

Please BRIEFLY address each of the following items:

- Pediatric society background
- Pediatric society goals/strategic priorities
- Membership
- Leadership structure
- Country’s national immunization priorities
- Current Immunization committees/sections and activities

3) **Program description**

(Recommended length - 2 pages)

**Briefly** describe what your society would do with the funds. You should address:

a) Your society’s immunization committee and or international health committee, and the champion(s) who would help lead this project
(You may include biosketches or CVs)

b) Previous efforts (if any) your pediatric society has undertaken around national immunization or other health advocacy issues

c) Other groups that are stakeholders in children’s health and vaccines in your country; discuss whether you will involve them in this work, and why or why not
d) Your preliminary thoughts about how to best use available expert consultation/or technical assistance visits by project advisors with your society’s leadership

e) Capacity of your society to support this project

f) Critical assessment of your pediatric society – How good is your
   a. access to key governmental stakeholders/decision makers
   b. effectiveness at achieving child health policy successes

g) How you will evaluate your work on this project

h) Your willingness to participate in multi-country meetings to share experiences with other project grantees

4) **Budget and budget justification** (1 page)

Expenses may include salaries for staff, consultants, supplies, travel and meeting expenses, and educational events. The grants cannot fund construction, equipment, indirect costs, alcoholic beverages, or political lobbying.