



Healthy Foster Care America

In 2007, the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) created the Task Force on Foster Care (TFOFC) with the charge to increase the awareness, knowledge, and skills of pediatricians regarding the needs of children and teens in foster care. The ultimate goal is to improve the health and well-being of children and teens in foster care. The members of the TFOFC include 11 AAP members as well as 6 members from external organizations, including the American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry, the Child Welfare League of America, the Foster Care Alumni of America, the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, the National Foster Parent Association, and the National Medical Association.

Recently, the TFOFC launched the **Healthy Foster Care America** Web site to engage communities and their leaders in supporting children, teens, and their families with an effective, multidisciplinary, integrated, and comprehensive continuum of care. The Web site is now live and can be accessed at www.aap.org/fostercare/. Developed as a place where professionals and partner organizations can find the latest tools, resources, facts, and figures on the health and well-being of children and teens in foster care, the Web site has the following features:

- Expert information on the health issues and needs of children and teens in foster care
- Downloadable chapters from *Fostering Health: Health Care for Children and Adolescents in Foster Care*, 2nd Ed
- Easy-to-use search capabilities by keyword
- Subscription to the Healthy Foster Care America listserv (http://www.aap.org/fostercare/contact_hfca.html) to receive the latest information about the health issues and needs of children and teens in foster care
- Customizable forms for health care professionals
- Practical PowerPoint presentations on the latest facts and figures related to the health issues and needs of children and teens in foster care
- Direct links to www.HealthyChildren.org resources for parents
- *A Special Place for Children and Families* portal of resources for children and teens in care, parents (foster and birth) or kin

We look forward to providing you with the latest news, tools, and resources on the health and well-being of children and teens in foster care. Feel free to contact Aldina Hovde, MSW, Program Manager at 847/434-7119 or ahovde@aap.org if you have any questions.