



Maryland CHAMP
Maryland Child Abuse Medical Professionals

Maryland Child Abuse Medical Professionals (CHAMP)

2011 Annual Report

August 1, 2011

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Director, CHAMP Program
Professor of Pediatrics
University of Maryland School of Medicine

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CHAMP Program Manager

Funding for CHAMP is provided in part by the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
Center for Maternal and Child Health.

BACKGROUND

In 2005, the Maryland legislature approved House Bill 1341 “*Public Health – Child Abuse and Neglect Centers of Excellence Initiative.*” This authorized the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to help develop a network of expert physicians in the area of child abuse and neglect in Maryland. The initial priority was to help underserved counties have expert medical consultation to assist in the evaluation, treatment and prevention of child maltreatment. A three-year contract was awarded, starting on 9/15/06, to the University of Maryland School of Medicine to lead this initiative. The Initiative was renamed Maryland CHAMP in 2008 when 13-2201-2206, Annotated Code of Maryland was amended. This contract was renewed for another 3 years starting on 7/1/09.

CHAMP GOALS

The goals have evolved since the initiation of CHAMP. These are:

1. To ensure an optimal medical response to children in Maryland suspected of having been abused or neglected, and their families.
2. To develop a statewide network of physicians and forensic nurse examiners – pediatrics (FNE-Ps), to provide a variety of services regarding child maltreatment. In addition to training new physicians as experts in the field of child maltreatment, we wish to include in the network other physicians and nurses who have been active in this field.
3. To collaborate with those in other disciplines and agencies, particularly child advocacy centers (CACs).
4. To build efforts by pediatric health care providers regarding the prevention of child maltreatment.

GOVERNANCE

The project is orchestrated by the University of Maryland School of Medicine, specifically the Division of Child Protection within the Department of Pediatrics. The program director, Howard Dubowitz, MD, MS is Head of the Division of Child Protection. The program’s administrative assistant is within the Division, working 25% time on the project. During this year, CHAMP hired a program manager, Leslie Fitzpatrick, LCSW-C to coordinate the project. Financial management is handled by the administration in the School of Medicine, Department of Pediatrics at University of Maryland, Baltimore.

The project has a core faculty of 5 other pediatricians and one forensic nurse examiner, all experts in child abuse and neglect. These are: Mesa Baker, MD (Baltimore City), Mitchell Goldstein, MD, MBA (Baltimore City), Scott Krugman, MD, MS (Baltimore County), Wendy Lane, MD, MPH (Baltimore City and Howard Counties), Charles Shubin, MD (Baltimore), and Pam Holtzinger, RN, FNE-A/P (Frederick and Washington Counties). The faculty helps develop and implement CHAMP.

PROGRAM STRUCTURE

The CHAMP director and faculty are responsible for developing and leading the program. This includes:

- Providing a vision for CHAMP and developing strategies for achieving its goals
- Developing and providing initial and ongoing training of physicians
- Recruiting, training, and maintaining physicians
- Recruiting, training and maintaining forensic nurse examiners – pediatrics (FNE-Ps) in the network
- Providing peer review for network participants (TeleCAM)
- Ensuring CQI and high quality work
- Evaluating the program
- Developing policies and practice guidelines to improve the systems' response to children and families with concerns of possible abuse or neglect
- Providing expert medical consultation when child maltreatment concerns arise
- Collaborating with the Maryland DHMH, including inviting Ms. Joan Patterson, LCSW-C of DHMH to training sessions

In addition, much work is done through monthly faculty meetings (minimum of two hours) and electronic communications.

ACHIEVEMENTS: 7/1/10-6/30/11

Program Development

- Drs. Wehberg, Haworth and Porter continue to make progress. They have established themselves as the local child maltreatment medical experts within their communities and participate as members of multidisciplinary teams, providing a multitude of consultation services within their regions. These three physicians are extremely committed to this effort. They are funded by CHAMP; we refer to them as CHAMP practitioners. Their individual annual reports are at the end of this report.
- We have engaged 7 physicians as network participants. All have been working part-time in the child abuse field and participate in our regular training sessions: Drs. Paul Lomonico (Harford), Dianna Abney (Charles and St. Mary's), Evelyn Shukat (Montgomery), Fayette Engstrom and Kevin Karpowicz (Talbot), Karla Paylor (Frederick and Baltimore Counties) and Cynthia Rolden (Carroll). These physicians are not funded by CHAMP; we refer to them as physicians in the CHAMP network.
- CHAMP's nurse participation has grown significantly in the past year, indicating we have successfully engaged nurses working in the field of child maltreatment. Four nurses attended the October 2010 training, followed by a huge increase in participation in the February 2011 training with 20 nurse participants and another increase again by June

with 22 nurse participants. This is an exciting development for CHAMP as we grow the statewide network of child abuse medical professionals.

- As the CHAMP network grows, so do its members' level of expertise. Therefore, CHAMP developed levels of affiliation: **CHAMP Affiliates** provide medical care for maltreated children and want to develop their skill set in this area. To maintain participation with CHAMP as an Affiliate, one must attend at least three CHAMP trainings every two years and perform at least three child maltreatment exams per year. **CHAMP Associates** provide medical care for maltreated children and have significant experience conducting maltreatment exams. To maintain participation with CHAMP as an Associate, one must actively participate in CHAMP activities, participate in at least 4 CHAMP trainings every two years and perform at least 10 child maltreatment exams per year or have significant experience conducting child maltreatment evaluations. CHAMP Associates must participate in peer review or be Board certified in Child Abuse Pediatrics. **CHAMP Practitioners** are medical professionals supported by CHAMP to provide medical resources related to child maltreatment for their jurisdiction. Professionals at CHAMP Practitioner status must have received training by CHAMP Faculty. CHAMP Practitioners are required to, initially, have all cases peer reviewed until practitioner has performed at least 50 evaluations. CHAMP Practitioners must attend at least four CHAMP trainings every two years, submit quarterly reports on activities, and submit quarterly invoices for services provided.
- Hiring CHAMP program manager, Leslie Fitzpatrick, LCSW-C has been extremely helpful in coordinating CHAMP activities, providing support to network participants and facilitating statewide outreach about CHAMP and the importance of medical expertise in the evaluation of child maltreatment.
- TeleCAM usage continues to grow and be noted to be an extremely useful resource. Through outreach and presentations about TeleCAM, more professionals are requesting access to this valuable resource.
- CHAMP successfully facilitated its first training Webinar. On June 9th, CHAMP offered the CHAMP training to medical professionals both onsite and offsite. Nearly 25% of the registered participants were off-site. We received extremely positive feedback on providing such a resource, thus increasing access to the CHAMP trainings for professionals who would otherwise not be able to attend.
- The CHAMP Website is ready to launch. We have begun incorporating information about this resource into CHAMP materials in preparation for its kick off. The Website will be an invaluable source of information for professionals working in child maltreatment. There is also a resource page for parents containing abundant information from therapeutic, parenting and educational resources to housing, food stamps, and legal aid.

- Awareness of CHAMP medical experts, statewide, has grown. When surveying key professional representatives working within child maltreatment in each county, all were aware of how to access child maltreatment medical experts when needed.
- CHAMP faculty has begun providing quarterly training at the Child Welfare Academy at the University of Maryland School of Social Work. Through this exciting opportunity, faculty is able to connect directly with social services workers, statewide. Training topics include: introductions to physical abuse, sexual abuse and neglect, advanced topics in physical abuse, failure to thrive, medical child abuse, sexually transmitted infections, drug exposed newborns and children, healthcare needs of foster youth and the medical home, and vicarious trauma.
- During the latter part of this year, CHAMP's program manager conducted a statewide needs assessment, talking with CPS directors and supervisors, law enforcement detectives and state's attorneys as well as CAC directors, health department representatives, and local medical experts. This needs assessment enabled CHAMP to gather information regarding the medical resources for children suspected of having been maltreated. We learned about barriers to resources as well as strengths in the teams and approaches to care within each county. In addition, the needs assessment provided a forum for promoting CHAMP resources to counties across the state. Reception was extremely positive and we have rich information about each county's needs and strengths, providing us with direction for CHAMP's next steps. A comprehensive report on the findings will be forwarded to DHMH shortly.
- We have had several excellent opportunities to present about CHAMP, including at an MCA Board Meeting, a DSS Affiliates meeting and a Healthcare Summit subcommittee meeting. Discussion and potential collaborations have grown as a result of these meetings.
- We were very pleased to be awarded a Healthy Tomorrows grant to develop a Baltimore Citywide Child Protection Team (BCCPT). This program aims to provide expert medical evaluations and access to health-related services for Baltimore City children with suspected abuse or neglect, as well as increase communication between CPS, Child Abuse Pediatricians and primary Care pediatricians through participation in multi-disciplinary team meetings and sharing of information. Procedures are being delineated at this time. This is a very promising development for a central Maryland region.
- CHAMP faculty met with Secretary Sharfstein and several key state representatives to discuss a vision for building upon CHAMP. We discussed three main ideas: standardization of practice and payment for physicians (and possibly nurses) who provide child maltreatment consultation services, improving access to quality mental health care, and an initiative to prevent child maltreatment. Work groups have formed and work toward the above initiatives has begun.

- Feedback from physicians and nurses regarding CHAMP support and resources continues to be very positive. It is evident that ongoing peer review and case discussion is critical for improving skills and developing expertise.
- All participants in the CHAMP network are offered:
 - Consultation via TeleCAM
 - The CHAMP Handbook
 - The CHAMP CD
 - Half-day trainings, three times a year
 - Ongoing access to CHAMP faculty for consultation
 - Paid subscription to the Quarterly, a review of the medical literature on child maltreatment (physicians only).

Training

We held 3 half-day training sessions at the University of Maryland School of Medicine on 10/14/10, 2/10/11 and 6/9/11 – attended by 16, 34 and 38 participants, respectively. Trainings were very well received. Agendas are in the Appendix. In addition, we provided orientation sessions to TeleCAM immediately prior to the October and February trainings. We also met with the CHAMP practitioners to discuss “systems” issues in the mornings prior to the trainings.

Ongoing training also occurs via case consultation, TeleCAM reviews, email dialogue and intermittent conversations on systems issues.

Program Implementation

All the CHAMP physicians and FNE-Ps have a roster of faculty on call. We provide 24/7 coverage and ongoing consultation on request. Examiners are encouraged to post information on cases on a secure website, accessible to reviewers who can quickly provide feedback (TeleCAM). Several reviewers can comment and the primary examiner can pose questions back. A useful feature is a “discussion thread” that allows for an ongoing on-line conversation. Incorporating the TeleCAM resource into our work has provided Maryland child maltreatment medical professionals with crucial support and assistance.

Program Supervision, Monitoring and Evaluation

Supervision of newly recruited physicians is done via posting cases and images on TeleCAM, with at least two faculty members reviewing each case. We encourage use of this resource to all physicians and nurses participating in the CHAMP network, as part of CQI.

PROPOSED PLANS FOR THE COMING YEAR

We have continued to grow and progress. The program definitely appears sustainable as we continue to build upon CHAMP's solid foundation.

Plans for upcoming year include:

- Continue to support and nurture the programs in Allegany, Wicomico and Garrett Counties
- Continue to develop the CHAMP network, including other physicians and forensic nurse examiners – pediatrics (FNE-PS)
- Update and distribute consultation referral guidelines to law enforcement and CPS workers, statewide
- Begin efforts to have CHAMP physicians visit primary care practices in their county to help raise awareness of child maltreatment and explain the reporting process to child protective services
- Include neglect and prevention in CHAMP trainings and efforts
- Collaborate with the Maryland Children's Alliance in providing training at their annual conference
- Expand TeleCAM participation
- Provide quarterly training to statewide DSS workers via the Child Welfare Academy
- Organize three half-day trainings for CHAMP Network participants
- Offer all trainings via Webinar for offsite participation
- Work with DHMH on approach to standardize practice and payment for physicians providing child maltreatment consultative services
- Work with DHMH on improving access to evidence-based mental health care for children who have been maltreated
- Work with DHMH on a CHAMP initiative to prevent child maltreatment in Maryland

Maryland Child Abuse Medical Providers (CHAMP)

2011 Annual Report – Appendices

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Appendix A: Maryland CHAMP Training Sessions' Agendas

October 14, 2010

11:00 TeleCAM training
12:30 Lunch
1:00 Case Presentation
3:00 Case discussion
4:15 Cases and issues for discussion
5:00 Adjourn

February 11, 2011

11:00 TeleCAM training
12:30 Lunch
1:00 Forensic Photography Presentation and questions
2:30 Hands-on training with cameras
3:00 Break
3:15 Case Presentations—discussion with CHAMP faculty
5:00 Adjourn

June 9, 2011

12:30 Lunch
1:00 Testifying in Child Maltreatment Cases
2:30 Break
2:45 Testifying in Child Maltreatment Cases
4:15 Q & A with Rami Badawy, Sr. Attorney
5.00 Adjourn

APPENDIX B: Annual Reports from CHAMP Practitioners

**ANNUAL REPORT- MARYLAND CHAMP PROGRAM
Fiscal Year 2011
Wicomico County**

Jennifer Wehberg, M.D.
Wicomico County Child Advocacy Center
926 Snow Hill Road Cottage 400
Salisbury, Maryland 21801

This is a report of the cases from July 2010-June 2011

Sexual abuse cases: 33
Physical abuse cases: 14
Neglect cases: 1
Pornography cases: 3
Case review, physical abuse: 1

Other activities:

Court appearances 1
FEM family meeting
Brief consultation for child mal-treatment
Meeting with Assistant States Attorney to discuss case 2
Presentation at SAFE nurse training
Routine quarterly training at University of Maryland Hospital with CHAMP faculty

Available for consultations for Wicomico, Somerset, and Worcester County

I hope to continue to offer CHAMP services to the Eastern shore.

Thank You,
Jennifer Wehberg, M.D.

ANNUAL REPORT- MARYLAND CHAMP PROGRAM
Fiscal Year 2011
Allegany County

Allen Haworth, D.O.
Allegany County CAC
One Frederick St.
Cumberland, MD 21502

FY2011 has been a year of successes and failures for our CAC in Allegany County. We started the year with a new director of the non-profit aspect of our CAC called Jane's Place. The Jane's Place board secured a new location for the CAC which is proving to be quite adequate for the CAC. It is roomy and conveniently located with free parking which makes accessibility for clients much easier. My space for doing medical exams is very workable and the other rooms used for interviews and waiting areas are working nicely. However, the director failed to generate funds for the CAC and was subsequently let go from that position and as yet, no one has been hired to fill that needed position. Therefore, things are currently in limbo, due to lack of funds. There are very capable people from DSS working on grants to try to keep things going, but the main person is one of the CPS case workers and she has the responsibility of a CPS case load as well. She is quite capable and therefore the outlook is hopeful things will pick up speed again. There are several fund raisers planned which will not only help with funds, but also with community awareness.

I continue to serve on the Allegany Child Abuse Task Force Board as well as the Allegany County Sexual Abuse Response Team (SART). I continue to have an excellent working relationship with our local hospital's SAFE nurses and review some of their pediatric cases. I had a total of 18 cases that came through the CAC or were reviewed by me during FY2011. I feel this is a low number of cases and there are probably cases that should be referred to the CAC but have not been, for reasons I am not aware of.

I continue to look forward to another year working with the CHAMP program and appreciate the help and support of the faculty. I plan to continue to attend the training sessions they offer in Baltimore.

ANNUAL REPORT- MARYLAND CHAMP PROGRAM
Fiscal Year 2011
Garrett County

Richard Porter D.O.
Wellspring Family Medicine
311 N. Fourth St. Suite 1
Oakland, MD 21550

This year has been a changing year for me. It started off frustratingly because my computer crashed. But it ended on a high note. I was able to attend the San Diego International Conference on Child and Family Maltreatment. Through the last year I attended the majority of our monthly CAC meetings. I worked closely with Heather Cooper, FNE-P. I have enjoyed attending CHAMP's meetings. We conducted 10 exams this year (3 for physical abuse and 7 for sexual abuse) as well as three other consultations/reviews. Each year the team here works closer together and Heather and I are expanding our experience. The practice I am a part of is hiring two more physicians and this will free up more of my time for child abuse work. This coming year I am excited about working with the CHAMP team, Leslie, Heather, local CAC, and other physicians.