# Partner Engagement Spotlight: Pediatricians Supporting WIC

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## ABOUT THE AAP

Professional organization of 64,000 pediatricians

Dedicated to the health, safety, and well-being of infants, children, adolescents, and young adults since its founding in 1930

66 Chapters in U.S. & Canada

Made up of numerous organized committees, councils and sections

DC office founded in 1970

17 full-time employees serve as AAP's voice at the federal level through lobbying, coalition-building and raising public awareness

Engage pediatricians in federal advocacy

Work with all three branches of government to advance child health priorities



# PEDIATRICIANS AS ADVOCATES





#### PEDIATRICIANS AS ADVOCATES



- Credible
- Nonpartisan
- Firsthand experience with WIC
- Medical expertise
- Geographic diversity
- Care for patients who can't speak up for themselves

#### **AAP & NWA: PARTNERSHIP SPOTLIGHT**

- The need: To convince Congress to maintain the linkage between WIC & Medicaid eligibility, which was under threat
- AAP's value: Credible national brand, individual pediatrician voices to speak firsthand about WIC's value
- The message: Linking WIC (a preventive health program) to Medicaid (a health insurance program) just makes sense: WIC helps prevent nutrition related illnesses, developmental problems, and chronic diseases, which would be paid for by Medicaid

#### **AAP & NWA: PARTNERSHIP SPOTLIGHT**

The outcome: Positive op-eds, blogs and LTEs written by pediatricians in local and national media outlets promoting Medicaid-WIC adjunctive eligibility and defending WIC against other attacks



Marsha Raulerson 3:52 p.m. CDT August 7:2015

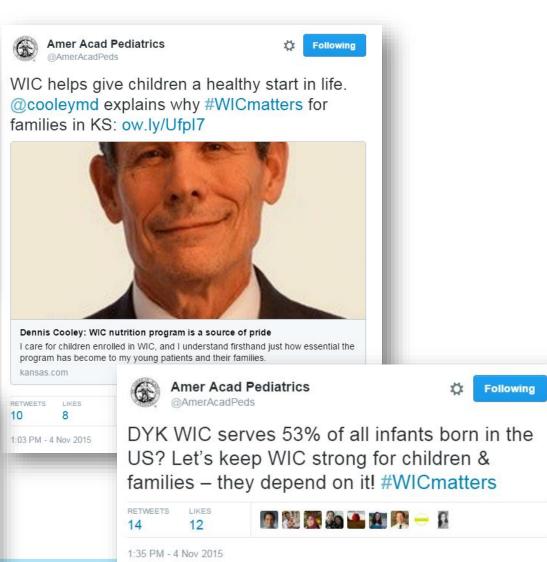
Tying WIC to Medicaid much healthier approach for state

Carolina children

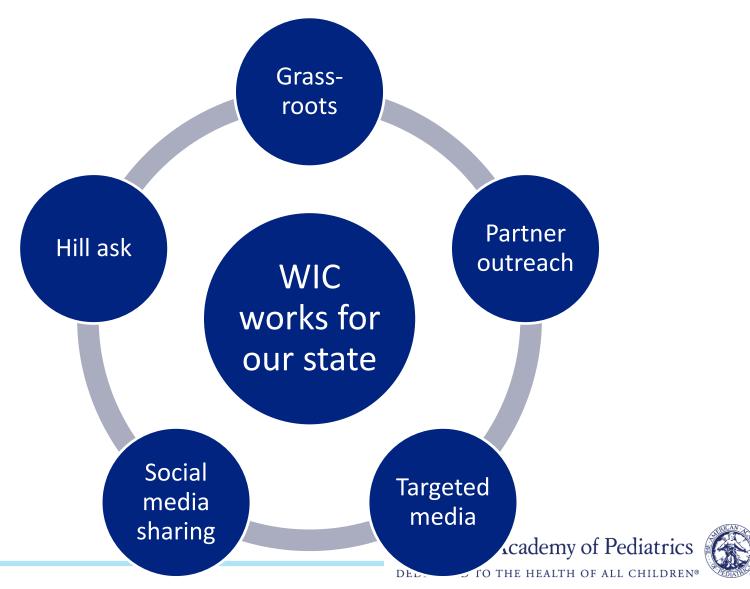
#### SOCIAL MEDIA AMPLIFICATION



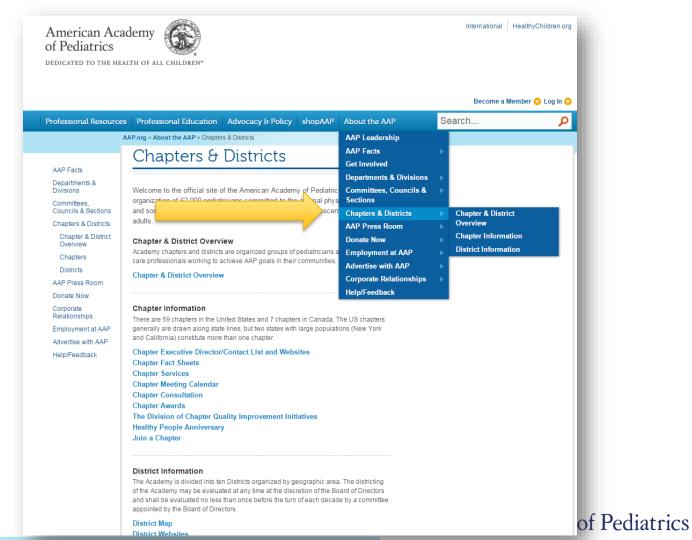




### **COMPLEMENTARY COMMUNICATIONS**



#### **CONNECT TO AAP**



# **QUESTIONS?**



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