Hello to all,

We have arrived at spring and seem to have rapidly moved to summer. The blossoms and early farmer’s market produce always gives me hope. This is needed. The most recent school shooting is a reminder that in spite of calls for change from teachers, doctors and youth, there has been no change. On the discussion board, a posting related to resources is there to help you rapidly find information for yourself and for those in your care.

In this letter, I will give a few SDBP updates. I am happy to respond via the discussion board or by email if more info is needed!

Many thanks to our Communication committee for a great newsletter filled with updates on much of the Society’s work. If you have not already seen this, please check it out on our website.

Also check out the DBP workforce survey published in JDBP Feb 2018. This article was the culmination of a joint effort of SDBP, AAP and NAPNAP. Many thanks to all of the authors.

In April 2018, I was honored to represent SDBP at a meeting sponsored by American Board of Pediatrics and National Academy of Science, Engineering and Medicine (NASEM) to discuss pediatric training and behavioral health. We had groups representing many facets of training for pediatric and subspecialty trainees, parent and patient advocates and professional societies. I look forward to sharing information gathered and hope to have a forum at the fall 2018 meeting to move discussions related to SDBP forward. I will post to the discussion Board the pre-meeting questions and invite you to post your thoughts.

At the 2017 fall meeting, SDBP members were reminded of the work that we pursue due to active members working on behalf of the society and by donations. My goal is to encourage every member to help further the work of our society by continued membership, active engagement, attendance at our meeting and contributions. The Board is committed to using these donations to support the core goals of the SDBP Strategic Plan: Education, Practice and Research. As of March 2018, 20% of our members had made a donation in addition to renewing their membership. The majority of our donations come in at the time of membership renewal, annual meeting registration and year end. It is my hope that as members see the work made possible by their donations, by year end 33% of our members will make a contribution at whatever ability they have. We will be sending updates over the next few months to illustrate how donations have helped advance the work of SDBP.

The program committee is busy planning next year’s meeting. This is always an exciting time. In addition to the Research symposia, Education and other premeeting workshops, this year we are partnering with NAPNAP to present a special premeeting offering targeted to nurse practitioners and general pediatricians. Please spread the word about this new endeavor as one of our roles is to help ensure that more clinicians can assess and manage kids with developmental and behavioral concerns such as Autism and ADHD.
Make plans to come join us in California! Enjoy the warmer weather.
All the best, Nancy