

Amna Aziz  
8200 W Amarillo Blvd Apt 601  
Amarillo, TX 79124  
October 27, 2014

AACAP Life Members Committee  
AACAP Life Members Subcommittee  
Attn: John Schowalter, MD and Cynthia Pfeffer, MD  
3615 Wisconsin Ave, NW  
Washington, DC 20016

Dear John Schowalter and Cynthia Pfeffer, MDs:

I am a fourth year medical student and a recipient of the Life Members Grant. I wanted to personally thank you for the opportunity to enrich my education in child psychiatry by attending the AACAP annual meeting and the opportunity to meet several Life Members at the meeting.

I graduated from Stanford University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Anthropology and spent the next two years serving with AmeriCorps. Since I began school at TTUHSC, I have been involved with several student organizations, and volunteered with Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) of the South Plains, Family Support Services (a rape crisis center), and as a representative for the Texas Medical Association Committee on Child and Adolescent Health.

I had the opportunity to attend AACAP in October of 2012 as a result of a summer research scholarship, and was compelled by my experience with AACAP. Through the scholarship, I was able to spend the summer at the state youth psychiatric hospital in Washington and gained clinical experience working with many youth with extensive trauma and psychiatric histories. I also received feedback from child psychiatry faculty from the University of Washington, and gained useful insight to the state of psychotropic medication use in youth through my chart review. The combination of the summer experience, my time at AACAP, and my 3rd year clerkships encouraged me to pursue a career in child and adolescent psychiatry. I have since applied for Triple Board Residency Programs, as well a few Psychiatry/Child Tract programs.

During AACAP 2014, I was able to meet several residents, fellow, and child psychiatrists, as well as attend valuable sessions in my areas of interest. I am sincerely grateful for the opportunity to attend this meeting, and am looking forward to attending many more and becoming an asset to the wonderful field of child and adolescent psychiatry.

With deepest appreciation,

Amna Aziz

Texas Tech University Health Sciences, SOM 2015

Matthew L Baum  
12 Agassiz Park  
Unit 1  
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

AACAP Life Members Subcommittee  
Attn: John Schowalter, MD and Cynthia Pfeffer, MD  
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20016

Dear AACAP Life Members Committee,

Thank you so much for sponsoring me through this year's Life Members Mentorship Grants. It was truly a uniquely interesting and intellectually challenging experience to be able to attend the AACAP meeting.

The clinical perspectives and frontiers of research talks changed the way I think about patients and the development of mental disorders like autism, but the opportunity to interact with Life Members and hear their stories was by far the highlight of my experience. One of the most stimulating discussions I have had in months, for example, occurred at the Life Members dinner as a whirlwind spinning between heritability studies of schizophrenia in the 1960s, modern treatment of ADHD and curious observations about the decline in positive symptoms with old age in people with schizophrenia; It was a very special moment indeed when we both realized the serendipity of ending up next to each other – Dr. Wender who had participated in some of the earliest studies showing a genetic component of schizophrenia and me who is beginning a PhD with a group that, as part of the psychiatric genomics consortium, just found 108 loci that might undergird that heritability!

The other mentorship components of the program were also beneficial. The careers round tables, for example, helped dispel myths I have held about private practice, expand my understanding of academic medicine, and get practical tips about how to negotiate for a first job. In the 2-day mentorship event, it was fascinating to pick the brains of trainees and mentors who spanned the full range of life stages.

As I begin the PhD component of my MD-PhD, I think that many of the insights and conversations I had at the AACAP meeting will inform my research and choice of my future clinical training. I am truly grateful for the opportunity you have given me and I hope that you will continue your support of the Life Members Mentorship Grants so that other medical students can have the type of experience as I have had.

Thank you again and best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matthew L. Baum". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large, prominent initial "M".

Matthew L. Baum  
3<sup>rd</sup> Year Trainee  
MD-PhD program of Harvard Medical School and MIT  
Boston, MA

Jacqueline Buchanan  
M.D. Candidate, Class of 2018  
Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons  
50 Haven Ave, Mailbox #269  
New York, NY 10032

AACAP Life Members Subcommittee  
Attn: John Schowalter, MD and Cynthia Pfeffer, MD  
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20016

Dear AACAP Life Members Subcommittee,

Thank you so much for the privilege and honor of attending the 61<sup>st</sup> AACAP Annual Meeting in San Diego through the Life Members Mentorship Grant. I left San Diego no less exhilarated than I was upon my acceptance into medical school. I met many wise and inspiring residents, fellows, child and adolescent psychiatrists, and life members who revealed their understanding of a dual framework of medicine and psychology, a framework I am thrilled to one day learn. My experiences at AACAP through the mentorship events and in the broader meeting strengthened my conviction to become a psychiatrist and inspired me to strongly consider a career in child and adolescent psychiatry.

I was particularly moved by the speakers at the awards breakfast, who candidly revealed their inner experiences in establishing careers in child and adolescent psychiatry. I was also energized to meet medical students like myself who are hopeful future child and adolescent psychiatrists, as they are relatively hard to find in medical school. My attendance at presentations in the broader conference also inspired me to explore specific areas of interest, such as white matter abnormalities in personality disorders. The thought of exploring this line of research occurred to me after monitoring the traumatic brain injury talk and learning that pervasive personality changes in children with TBI are associated with white matter tract deficits.

I feel very fortunate to have received a warm welcome into the field of child and adolescent psychiatry at the start of my medical career, and I am eager to maintain my involvement with AACAP in the near and long term. I plan to attend AACAP's annual dinner for medical students in New York in the spring and am currently looking into summer research opportunities in child and adolescent psychiatry. Your sponsorship allowed me to have many impactful experiences that will most certainly shape my future work in psychiatry and its subspecialties, and I am hugely appreciative.

Thank you again for your invaluable support and mentorship.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jacqueline Buchanan', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jacqueline Buchanan

M. Earth Hasassri  
1805 Quarry Ridge Pl NW, Apt 160,  
Rochester, MN 55901

November 21, 2014

AACAP Life Members Subcommittee  
Attn: John Schowalter, MD and Cynthia Pfeffer, MD  
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20016

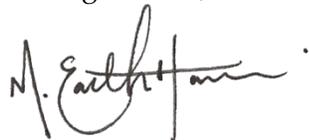
Dear Dr. Schowalter, Dr. Pfeffer, and AACAP Life Members Subcommittee:

I am honored to be writing you a letter with my gratitude for your support and donation. Because of your generosity, it was my privilege to attend the 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting in San Diego. This was a great honor to be introduced to the field of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry early on in my medical career as a second year medical student. My experience here was outstanding and I will look back on this moment as a pivotal point in my career.

When I first heard about this meeting during my Psychiatry block in my first year of medical school, my exposure to Child and Adolescent Psychiatry was limited. I am a second year medical student at Mayo Medical School in Rochester, Minnesota and psychiatry is the shortest portion of the curriculum. I was fortunate to have a great child psychiatry mentor, Dr. Sandra Rackley, who facilitated my small group discussions and patient interviews during the psychiatry block. She initiated my excitement in child psychiatry, but I had limited opportunities to interact with others in this field. This meeting helped invigorate my interests by connecting me with many role models in the field with various passions that exposed to me the diversity of medical practice within this field.

Thank you for your gracious donation and support by enabling me to attend the Annual Meeting. My appreciation for your investment in the career development of medical students goes beyond words. Thank you for welcoming me into this community.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Earth Hasassri". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a small dot at the end.

M. Earth Hasassri  
Mayo Medical School, Class of 2017  
[Hasassri.Earth@mayo.edu](mailto:Hasassri.Earth@mayo.edu)

November 9, 2014

Dear AACAP Life Members,

Thank you so much for sponsoring my attendance at the AACAP Annual Meeting this year as a 4<sup>th</sup> year medical student. I am incredibly grateful for the opportunity to interact with and learn from current leaders in the field as well as fellow students who share and support my passion for child and adolescent psychiatry. I am particularly thankful for the chance to connect with numerous mentors who will continue to provide me with the additional knowledge, guidance, and support that I will need to realize my career goals and fulfill my personal mission to serve those within my own community. I hope to become more involved in the AACAP and be able to serve the same role as an AACAP mentor in the future!

I am very excited to be entering this stimulating and dynamic field, and I look forward to reconnecting with the AACAP life members that I was fortunate enough to meet at future conferences and events.

Thank you again for this amazing experience!

Kindest regards,

Allison Hoff  
MD Candidate Class of 2015  
The George Washington University  
School of Medicine and Health Sciences

November 1, 2014

AACAP Life Members Subcommittee  
Attn: John Schowalter, M.D. and Cynthia Pfeffer, M.D.  
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20016

Dear AACAP Life Members Subcommittee,

I want to share my sincere gratitude for providing me with the opportunity to attend AACAP's 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting in San Diego, California. This meeting was invaluable, having given me the chance to freely explore the dynamic and multi-faceted field of child and adolescent psychiatry. I feel fortunate to have gotten to know such an impassioned community of medical students, residents, fellows, researchers, and attendings, all while engaged in a supportive and encouraging environment. The educational opportunities available at the AACAP meeting were abounding, and the many talks, poster presentations, and mentoring sessions left a great impression on my own personal and professional development.

The AACAP conference was a rich platform to gain a deeper understanding of the intricacies of child and adolescent psychiatry, and I especially valued the mentorship opportunities made available to the grant recipients. I was continually inspired by the physicians I met and learned a great deal from their own stories. The Life Members Reception Dinner was an incredible experience and I truly enjoyed spending time with such an inspiring and accomplished group of physicians.

To have been a recipient of the AACAP Life Members Mentorship Grant was a true honor for me, and I will use this opportunity to spread the wealth of knowledge I gained at the meeting. I look forward to sharing my experiences with my classmates and hopefully igniting within them an enthusiasm for child and adolescent psychiatry. Thank you again for this experience.

Sincerely,

Heather McKently  
University of Central Florida College of Medicine  
Class of 2015

**Cordelia Y. Ross, M.S.**  
134 Centennial Court  
Burlington, VT 05401  
cordelia.ross@med.uvm.edu

To: AACAP Life Members Subcommittee  
Attn: John Schowalter, MD and Cynthia Pfeffer, MD  
3615 Wisconsin Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20016

November 1, 2014

Dear Drs. Schowalter and Pfeffer, and the Life Members of the Academy,

Thank you very much for the opportunity to attend the 2014 AACAP Annual Meeting in San Diego. The Life Members Mentorship Grant provided me with a unique and valuable experience. As a third year medical student, my week at the Annual Meeting was everything I could have hoped for: I was able to reunite with former mentors, colleagues, and friends; enjoy various networking and mentoring events; learn more about residency programs and career options as a child psychiatrist; and, best of all, attend fascinating presentations and workshops on the latest research and practices in child and adolescent psychiatry. I started each day excited to meet leaders in the field and eager to learn as much as I could, and I finished the days completely exhausted, content, and fulfilled.

My interest in child and adolescent psychiatry goes back to before medical school, during my freshman year in college. I attended a guest lecture on child psychopathology and was hooked; my experiences in medical school, including a rotation in child psychiatry, has only strengthened my passion. I owe my significant interest in the field to the wonderful mentors that have come into my life and encouraged me to pursue a field that works tirelessly to serve children and families and to advocate for children's mental health, despite the many obstacles in its way. Attending the Annual Meeting this year allowed me to connect with many more inspiring individuals who will serve as my mentors and guide me through the process of becoming a successful clinician, scientist, and advocate in child and adolescent psychiatry. I am very grateful to have had the opportunity to meet these people and to participate in the many exciting activities that the Annual Meeting had to offer, and I have returned to school more energized than ever to pursue and contribute to the field. Thank you very much again for making this possible.

Warmest regards,

Cordelia Y. Ross, M.S.  
M.D. Candidate, Class of 2016  
UVM College of Medicine

Kaitlin Budnik  
25 Lincoln Ave Apt 8  
Iowa City, IA 52246

November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014

AACAP Life Members Subcommittee  
Attn: John Schowalter, MD and Cynthia Pfeffer, MD  
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20016

Dear Life Members Committee,

I would like to express how truly grateful I am for having had the opportunity to attend this year's AACAP meeting in San Diego. It was a phenomenal experience and one that I would not have had without your generosity.

I am currently a fourth year medical student at the University of Iowa. At this point, I am in the process of embarking on a career in psychiatry, with a deep interest in child psychiatry. I left the AACAP meeting feeling freshly exhilarated to be entering such a wonderful field. The child and adolescent psychiatrists that I met, both those just beginning careers, and those who had been practicing for decades inspired me. The advice that I received from colleagues was so incredible and the networking opportunities were endless. As I am currently in the process of interviewing for residency and I would never have been able to afford attending this conference without your support. For this I am so thankful.

One of the most memorable portions of my week, and of my training to date, was sitting at the Life Members dinner next to Dr. Nurcombe and his lovely wife. We sparked a lively conversation and he was able to share with me wise advice that only comes from years of commitment to an organization as well as a specialty. I left that dinner feeling both honored to have met such an esteemed member of our world as well as such a genuinely dedicated mentor. It is physicians such as Dr. Nurcombe and the others I had the pleasure to meet at dinner that make me so proud to be entering the field.

I will forever look back on my first AACAP meeting with fond memories. I look forward to years of attending and hope to someday become a Life Member myself. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,



Kaitlin Budnik  
University of Iowa  
Carver College of Medicine  
Class of 2015

Rec'd 11/24/14

AACAP Life Members Subcommittee  
Attn: John Schowalter, MD and Cynthia Pfeffer, MD  
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20016

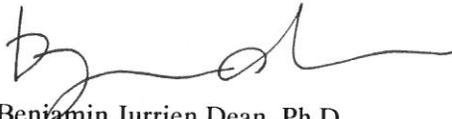
Dear AACAP Life Members,

I am writing to convey a florid thank you for helping to sponsor my involvement in the AACAP Annual Meeting and sharing your time with me and the other award recipients. I came to San Deigo, CA unsure of exactly what child and adolescent psychiatry was, but left inspired and optimistic about a future treating the psychiatric conditions of the pediatric population.

With my passion for research, it was amazing to see the breadth and sophistication of basic science being done by members of the AACAP. As well, to have dedicated time to speak with CAPs actively running laboratories, hear about their career paths and what they see as the challenges and possibilities coming down the road buoyed my aspirations. Beyond the clinical and research realms, it was exciting to get to know my fellow medical students (and envision future meetings we might all attend for decades to come) as well as some of the most senior members of the field. In particular, my seatmate Dr. Blinder was like sitting next to what I hope to become.

Thank you to all of the Life Members for supporting the Life Members Mentorship Grant for Medical Students. The impact of my experience will ripple into all my future years.

Sincerely –



Benjamin Jurrien Dean, Ph.D.

Vanderbilt University School of Medicine  
Vanderbilt Medical Scientist Training Program  
1161 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue South, #T1217  
Nashville, TN 37232

Rebecca Olufade  
2460 Peachtree Road NW, Apt 905  
Atlanta, GA 30305

October 25, 2014

AACAP Life Members Subcommittee  
Attn: John Schowalter, MD and Cynthia Pfeffer, MD  
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20016

Dear AACAP Life Members Subcommittee,

I am very grateful to have received the Life Members Mentorship Grant. It was a pleasure and a great opportunity to attend the AACAP 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting in San Diego, CA. I truly learned a lot while at the meeting and was able to network with seasoned Psychiatrists as well as, other medical students who are passionate about the field of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry.

I am a fourth year medical student at Morehouse School of Medicine in Atlanta, GA. I aspire to become an excellent Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist. I attribute much of my success to the support that I have received from my countless mentors throughout the years. My personal experiences have taught me that you become the person you are destined to be with the help of others. I am thankful for your contribution toward the future success of medical students such as myself. I enjoyed learning new things from the various symposiums. This meeting was an educational experience that also allowed for great networking opportunities. I enjoyed the Resident and Medical Student Networking Hour and the Career Development Forum, among other great events that took place.

I am truly grateful to have received the Life Members Mentorship Grant. Thank you very much for your support and contribution.

Alissa Petrites  
209 N. Huron St. #3  
Ypsilanti, MI 48197  
[apetrite@umich.edu](mailto:apetrite@umich.edu)

John Schowalter, MD and Cynthia Pfeffer, MD  
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20016

Dear Dr. Schowalter and Dr. Pfeffer,

Thank you so much for your incredible generosity in awarding me a Life Members Mentorship Grant to attend the 2014 AACAP annual meeting. This was an outstanding experience for me at a key point in my medical education; I'm currently in my fourth year of medical school and applying to general psychiatry residencies. I was strongly considering specializing in child and adolescent psychiatry before attending the meeting, but my experiences in San Diego cemented this intention. I loved gaining exposure to such a variety of topics within the field, from therapy to pharmacology to neuroimaging. I was able to increase my knowledge of areas in which I'd already had some exposure, particularly Autism Spectrum Disorders, and gain an introduction to areas that I hope to make a focus of my career, including global mental health. Perhaps most importantly, I thoroughly enjoyed connecting with the variety of people I met while in San Diego, and very much felt welcomed into the AACAP family.

In addition to coming away from the meeting with a long list of topics that I want to read more about, this experience dramatically changed the way I am approaching my residency interviews. I received invaluable mentoring on what to look for in both general programs and child fellowships. Furthermore, I am hoping to get involved with the AACAP medical student and resident committee to assist with future events like the ones that were so helpful to me. Coincidentally, while I was at the conference a first year student at my medical school emailed me with questions about the field of child psychiatry. I look forward to mentoring her and other students from my community in the process of discovering this great field.

I am truly grateful for the opportunity to have participated in this event, and hope it will be the first of many AACAP meetings that I attend over the course of my life.

Thank you again,  
Alissa

11/10/2014

AACAP Life Members Subcommittee  
Attn: John Schowalter, MD and Cynthia Pfeffer, MD  
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20016

Dear AACAP Life Members Subcommittee:

As a beneficiary of the AACAP Life Members Mentorship Grant for Medical Students, I just wanted to say thank you for making the AACAP Annual Meeting experience possible. Furthermore, I want to extend a heart-felt thank you to each member of the Life Members subcommittee for his or her commitment to making the experience so successful. As a first time participant in AACAP meeting, I am excited to grow in my role within the AACAP organization and continue to attend annual events.

It was the vision of the subcommittee Committee to provide a networking and mentoring forum for our members in a pleasant, comfortable environment. Your generous contribution helped me to make lasting professional connections. As I continue to grow as a child psychiatrist, please know that partnerships that I formed at annual meeting will be instrumental in my future success. You are truly appreciated. Thanks again.

Sincerely,

J.Corey Williams, MS4  
Johns Hopkins School of Medicine  
Jwill137@jhmi.edu

Dear Dr. John Schwalter & Dr. Cynthia Pfeffer,

My name is Eunice Yuen, one of the awardees of the Life members Mentorship Grant Recipient. Being a fourth year medical student, I am immensely interested in Psychiatry, especially in child & adolescent psychiatry. Attending AACAP 61<sup>st</sup> annual meeting truly inspired me that choosing this field as a lifelong career is an excellent choice. Throughout the meeting, I have not only learned so much about the cutting edge clinical perspectives & researches in child psychiatry, but also have built valuable networking with many senior academy members. The welcoming atmosphere in AACAP made me feel I am already part of this academic family.

I deeply appreciate your generosity on the sponsorship of this award.

I will always remember my first AACAP meeting and how grateful I am for everyone's hospitality. I would like to say my biggest  
With sincere appreciation  
and warmest thanks to you.  
thank you & appreciations  
to you!

Warmest Regards.

Eunice Yuen, MS4, Ph.D.

State University of New York at Buffalo.  
yeyuen@buffalo.edu  
716 - 390 - 1105

131 Running Farm Lane, Apt #102  
Stanford, CA 94305  
trishnarula@gmail.com

Dr. John Schowalter & Dr. Cynthia Pfeffer  
AACAP Life Members Subcommittee  
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20016

November 2014

Dear Drs. Schowalter & Pfeffer,

Hope this letter finds you well. My name is Trishna Narula, and I'm a second-year medical student at Stanford. I have a background in public health, an interest in policy, and a passion for working with children. I was introduced to the field of child psychiatry through my mentor at Stanford, Dr. Shashank Joshi, but was still inclined towards pursuing a career in general pediatrics – until my experience with the AACAP conference persuaded me otherwise.

My time in San Diego exposed me to the wonderful people and opportunities included in the specialty. I found new mentors and friends from all different backgrounds and levels and pathways and practice settings, yet all with a common goal of prioritizing and advocating for the mental health and well-being of children around the world. I heard from so many why they chose to go into child psychiatry and what they liked about the field – many of which were reasons that truly resonated with my career goals and aspirations, for example spending quality time with children and families, and achieving a work-life balance.

I especially made it a point to attend policy-related workshops and speak with psychiatrists active in legislation; I hope to be more involved in these efforts, beginning by hopefully attending AACAP Advocacy Day in Washington, DC, in the spring.

Needless to say, none of this would have been possible without the generous support of you and the entire Life Members Committee. Thank you so much for this incredible chance and unforgettable experience that has changed my life, and no doubt many others. I appreciate it with all my heart, and hope to one day give back like you do.

Sincerely,  
Trishna Narula

Amanda Wallace  
123 York St. Apt.20G  
New Haven, CT 06511  
Yale School of Medicine, MS4

Dear AACAP Life Members,

I would like to thank you for your support and very generous donations that allowed me to attend the AACAP conference. This was my first time attending the conference and I had a wonderful experience.

As a medical student, it can sometimes be intimidating to be around such accomplished individuals. However, we all received such a warm welcome from everyone at the conference and really felt like we were apart of the AACAP community. One of my favorite parts about the conference was the multiple opportunities that we had to meet and network with individuals at different stages of their training. It was exciting to see the wide, range of options that are available to those choosing a career in child psychiatry. As I apply to adult residency programs, it is wonderful to know that I will continue to have the support of the AACAP community in exploring my child psychiatry interests.

This was by far the best conference I have ever been to and I want to thank you all again for you mentorship and financial support.

Sincerely,  
Amanda Wallace

Dear Drs. Schowalter and Pfeffer, and members of the Life Members Fund committee:

I am very grateful and privileged to have been selected as a recipient of an Educational Outreach Program Travel award for this recent AACAP conference.

I enjoyed attending the conference very much. I particularly enjoyed meeting the Life Members at the dinner, and the reception on the USS Midway, as well as presentations on pediatric delirium and internet-related psychopathology. I was able to network and met new friends and colleagues, and coincidentally, will be hosting another CAP fellow I met at the conference who'll be moving to Portland next year as she visits and interviews for jobs.

I look forward to continuing my involvement in AACAP, and attending annual meetings in the future.

Thank you very much for helping me attend this meeting.

Sincerely,

Christopher J. Brubaker, MD, PhD  
Child & Adolescent Psychiatry Fellow  
Oregon Health and Science University

Omaha,  
Oct 29, 2014

To  
AACAP Life Members Subcommittee  
Attn: John Schowalter, MD and Cynthia Pfeffer, MD  
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20016

Dear Life members,

Sub: Thank you for sharing your wisdom.

Thanks very much for the scholarship to attend the AACAP Annual Meeting in San Diego. This conference has helped me present, network and plan some collaborative projects. I received excellent mentorship throughout the meeting. In this era of dwindling educational funding, this scholarship has been a great opportunity. I earnestly appreciate your help.

Learning from life members has been one of the most educational parts of the meetings. It was indeed humbling to know the role you played in this field's evolution since its inception. I treasure meeting you pioneers! The experiences of the life time members and the manner at which they carried their roles as psychiatrists in promoting the psychiatric care of children is truly inspirational. It has been excellent opportunity learning from Dr Collins and the wonderful work she has been doing in Tanzania. It was real pleasure meeting with Dr Shrier and Dr Kestenbaum. Thank You! Life Members for sharing you wisdom.

It has been a real honor to meet you all.

Yours sincerely



Venkata Kolli, MBBS, MRCPsych  
Creighton-Nebraska Psychiatry Residency  
985582 Nebraska Medical Center  
Omaha, NE 68198-5582  
Email: kollivb@googlemail.com. Phone: 4025479040.



Behrouz Namdari M.D.  
Duke University Medical Center  
2301 Erwin Road  
Durham, NC 27701  
November 4, 2014

Dear AACAP Life Members

Thank you for your honoring me with the educational outreach award this year. I hope I can live up to the award's merits and continue my development in becoming an advocate and a provider for my patients. I greatly appreciate your support which has allowed me to attending this year's annual meeting. As a result of my attendance, I have expanded my clinical knowledge at symposiums, gained insight into the politics of mental health at the Karl Menninger, MD Plenary, and received crucial mentorship to help guide my career.

Thank You

Behrouz Namdari



November 13, 2014

AACAP Life Members Fund  
Attn: John Schowalter, MD and Cynthia Pfeffer, MD  
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20016

Dear Doctors Schowalter and Pfeffer,

I offer my deepest gratitude for support to attend the 61st Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. I particularly enjoyed meeting several of the Life Members during the reception and dinner on Thursday night.

While I have attended a few of the previous AACAP meetings, it was affirming to attend as a new Child and Adolescent Psychiatry fellow. I am certain that I have chosen the best career and specialty. I look forward to growing as a Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist within the Academy.

Sincerely,

*Artha Gillis, MD, PhD*

Artha Gillis, MD, PhD  
Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellow

November 5<sup>th</sup> 2014

Dear Life Members Committee,

I wanted to take a moment to express my gratitude for the assistance I received to attend AACAP as an EOP awardee. It was wonderful to be given the chance to attend the meeting, and to participate in all the great events specifically for trainees. The opportunity to meet mentors from a variety of locations and backgrounds was immensely valuable, and I appreciated the warmth and support demonstrated by everyone that I met. I feel lucky to have gotten the chance to learn more about the Academy, as well as career options in child and adolescent psychiatry. I look forward to reuniting in San Antonio next year!

Sincerely,

Jennifer Creedon, MD

Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellow PGY-5

Tulane University School of Medicine

Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Health

University of Pittsburgh's Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic  
3811 O'Hara Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

October 26, 2014

AACAP Life Members Fund  
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20016

Attn: John Schowalter, MD and Cynthia Pfeffer, MD

Dear AACAP Life Members,

I would like to thank you all for the generous support which allowed me to attend the 61<sup>st</sup> annual AACAP meeting in San Diego, CA. It was an honor to be selected for the award and to be recognized as a young leader by the AACAP Life Members. I enjoyed meeting several Life Members at the dinner held on Thursday evening. I have always been impressed with how welcoming and eager Academy members are to share their knowledge and passion for the field of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. While attending the dinner it was evident as I met the various Life Members that the culture I have come to associate with AACAP stems from this group of individuals who have given to the Academy and the field of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry for many years of their professional lives.

Attending the annual meeting afforded me the opportunity to seek out mentorship and guidance on ways to cultivate a career combining psychosomatic medicine and clinical research. I was inspired to write an article for *JAACAP Connect* as well as apply for an AACAP sponsored research grant. Additionally, I was encouraged to apply for the NIH Loan Repayment Program that I had considered previously, but ultimately feared I would not be a competitive applicant compared to my PhD colleagues. Lastly, during this meeting I had the unique opportunity to present a Clinical Perspective with respected physicians from across the country. With each passing year I find new and exciting ways to become involved in AACAP and look forward to seeing you all again at the 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual meeting.

Sincerely,  
Heather Joseph

Heather (Liebherr) Joseph, DO  
PGY-4, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellow  
Chief of the Psychiatry Research Pathway  
liebherrh@upmc.edu

## Courtney McMickens

397 Talbot Ave Unit 1 • Boston, MA 02124  
Phone: 617-575-5209 • E-Mail: cmcmickens@challiance.org

October 26, 2014

AACAP Life Members Fund  
Attn: Dr. John Schowalter and Dr. Cynthia Pfeffer  
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20016

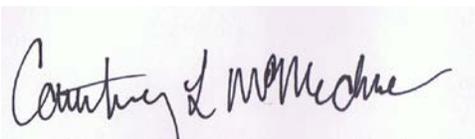
Dear Drs. Showalter and Pfeffer,

I am honored to have been a participant in the AACAP Educational Outreach Program (EOP) for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellows, which is supported by the AACAP Life Members Fund. Thank you for your sponsorship, which made it possible for me to attend the 2014 Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP).

I am currently a second year fellow at the Cambridge Health Alliance. Participating in the EOP provided me with an opportunity for career mentorship and expansion of my knowledge base of the ongoing research and advocacy in the field of child and adolescent psychiatry around the world. Though the meeting included many great presentations, the highlight of the meeting was the Life Members reception and dinner, which provided trainees the opportunity to engage with distinguished leaders in the field of child psychiatry who were more than happy to provide career advice and share their experiences. I was truly impressed and enriched by my experience.

Once again, I want to thank you for making this program possible and for your generosity toward providing trainees with the opportunity to attend the annual meeting. Participating in EOP has helped shape my vision of the career I would like to have in child and adolescent psychiatry and motivated me to continue to be an active member of AACAP.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Courtney McMickens". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Courtney McMickens, MD, MPH  
Fellow, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry  
Cambridge Health Alliance

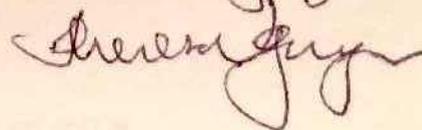
Friday, November 22, 2014

Dear AACAP Life Members Committee,

I would like to express my deepest appreciation to all of you for sponsoring me in the Educational Outreach Program, which offered me financial assistance and rich opportunities to receive a formal overview of child & adolescent psychiatry, establish mentorship relationships with distinguished life members, and experience the AACAP Annual Meeting for the first time. Thank you again for your generous contribution, which has impacted my training and career development. I plan to remain active in AACAP and to join in the support of future trainees who will benefit from this program as I have.

Sincerely Yours,

Theresa Nguyen



AACAP Life Members Fund  
Attn: John Showalter, MD and  
Cynthia Pfeffer, MD  
3615 Wisconsin Ave, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20016



Liberty  
FOREVER

Dear Members of the AACAP Life Members Fund,

I want to thank you for the opportunity to attend the AACAP meeting through the assistance of the Education Outreach Program. Attending this meeting provided an opportunity for me to not only learn from national leaders in child psychiatry, it also allowed me to network with many potential mentors. For example at the Life Members dinner I had a chance to meet with members who had made political advocacy a significant part of their career, which was inspiring as this is something I hope to accomplish as well. This scholarship also allowed me to develop my own skills as a teacher and presenter as I was able to do a presentation on collaborative efforts. I was also able to attend the assembly and my committee meeting through Health Care Access and Economics.

The scholarship provided by the Life Members Fund helps to strengthen the relationship many of us trainees have with AACAP, thus ensuring future life members. It is this focus on trainees by the Life Members and all of AACAP that makes me proud to be a member and recognizing the importance of continuing my involvement. Many of us trainees are swamped with debt and other expenses, making traveling to these important conferences difficult, and that is why I am so appreciative of the Life Members Fund for making it possible for many trainees to attend.

I know I will bring back all I learned to my program to share with my colleagues and to help with my own continued career development. Thank you so much for this opportunity.

Justin Schreiber, DO MPH  
PGY-4  
Triple Board Resident  
University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine



Boston Children's Hospital



Harvard Medical School

300 Longwood Avenue, Boston, MA 02115  
617-355-6000 | bostonchildrens.org

To:

AACAP Life Members Fund  
Attn: John Schowalter, MD and Cynthia Pfeffer, MD  
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20016

November 1, 2014

Dear Drs. Schowalter and Pfeffer,

My name is Arya Soman, and I am currently a 2<sup>nd</sup> year CAP fellow at Boston Children's Hospital. I am writing to express my gratitude to the AACAP Life Members, whose generosity contributed towards my educational outreach program funding and, therefore, to my ability to attend this year's annual AACAP conference.

Attending the conference certainly helped to enrich my understanding of various topics in child and adolescent psychiatry and also provided me with an opportunity to present. Most importantly I appreciated being able to network and to benefit from the myriad levels of experience and wisdom that members have to share with each other at these gatherings as well, which I believe is an invaluable experience of attending these conferences.

I look forward to continuing to attend AACAP conferences for many years to come!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Arya Soman".

Arya Soman, MD  
Chief Fellow  
Child and Adolescent Psychiatry  
Boston Children's Hospital  
Harvard Medical School  
arya.soman@childrens.harvard.edu

Life Members

AACAP Life Members Fund  
Attn: John Schowalter, MD and Cynthia Pfeffer, MD  
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20016

Dear Life Members:

Thank you so much for the opportunity to attend the annual AACAP meeting in San Diego this year. This was the first AACAP meeting that I have attended, and I would not have been able to do it without your help. I greatly enjoyed the seminars, career development sessions, and meetings with tutors. I learned a lot about research, clinical psychiatry, and the importance of networking. I also greatly enjoyed meeting many of you at the Life Members Dinner, and I want you all to know that I truly appreciate your generosity. Thank you so much.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Laura Willing".

Laura Willing

Child and Adolescent Fellow at the University of North Carolina



**Robert E. Accordino, M.D.**  
*Fellow, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry*

**Massachusetts General Hospital**  
55 Fruit Street, Yawkey 6A  
Boston, Massachusetts 02114-2696

E-mail: [raccordino@partners.org](mailto:raccordino@partners.org)

November 1, 2014

AACAP Life Members Fund  
Attn: John Schowalter, MD and Cynthia Pfeffer, MD  
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20016

Dear Drs. Schowalter & Pfeffer:

I am tremendously grateful for the Education Outreach Award I received through the AACAP Life Members Fund and thank you for your leadership that has made this possible. In addition to being able to participate actively in the 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting, I very much enjoyed the additional events with the Life Members and mentorship activities through the education outreach program.

My particular interest in child psychiatry is children and families impacted by autism spectrum disorder. I was very excited to be a part of two rich learning experiences at the annual meeting by presenting as co-chair of a Clinical Perspectives on The Medical and Psychiatric Evaluation of the Nonverbal Child and chair of the Special Interest Group, Volunteers as Therapeutic Agents for Children with Special Needs.

Tremendous thanks again for your generous support in my attending this year's annual meeting.

Warm wishes,

*Robert E. Accordino*

Dear AACAP Life Members,

I cannot thank you enough for your generous financial support such that child and adolescent psychiatry fellows like me were able to attend the AACAP annual meeting in San Diego this year. It was my first AACAP meeting and it will definitely not be my last! Everyone at the meeting was so welcoming and eager to share their experiences and wisdom with me, which means so much to me at this stage in my career. I was inspired by the variety of opportunities in our field and the passion and creativity of my colleagues. Attending the Life Members Dinner was such a special opportunity for me to get to know influential people in our field with a wealth of life experiences. The mentorship event where we rotated tables to discuss specific topics, such as negotiating careers, was really helpful to me, especially at this stage as I am getting ready to graduate from fellowship. I received great advice on how to navigate interviews for jobs and how to think about what I want out of my career. I particularly enjoyed the research poster sessions where I could ask questions directly of people doing research in my different areas of interest. It was a fantastic experience that showed me how continued involvement in AACAP can really help me to remain motivated and inspired by my colleagues so that I am able to give the best of myself to our field. Thank you so much for making this experience possible!

Sincerely,



Stacy Greeter, MD

Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellow

Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago

Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine

Rec'd 11/24/14

November 5, 2014

Dear Life Members Committee,

Thank you again for allowing me to join you all for another great AACAP Annual Meeting. I truly appreciate your generosity and support for Educational Outreach Program. While it is nice to be finally earning a salary as a First-year/Intern Triple Boarder, finding a way to fly out and stay in San Diego would have been considerably more difficult without this program if not impossible for me this year. As a result of being able to attend, I was able to help conduct a workshop with several veteran child psychiatrists and learn all of what is involved in such preparation and collaboration. We felt the program was so successful that we are going to try to adapt its material – helping child psychiatrists help parents deal with their children's social media usage - to reach a broader audience next year.

I also can say in all honesty that attending the annual meeting and getting to spend time with you all provided me with the kind of recharge and motivation during the dark months of intern year which it seems many of my intern-colleagues are lacking on the pediatrics wards. While they describe feelings of being burned out or unhappy in their lot, I feel that by speaking to many of you, I not only see the light at the end of the tunnel but have been able to imagine ways to better take advantage of what is going on now in my training and how to appreciate it for what it might provide me down the road.

Once again thank you all so much for the privilege of joining you. I am already looking forward to seeing you all next year.

Many thanks,

George 'Bud' Vana

To the members of the Life Members Fund,

Thank you so much for awarding me with an Educational Outreach Program grant and allowing me to travel to the AACTP annual meeting. Because of your generosity, I was able to attend many events at AACTP, including lectures, networking events, and committee meetings. I also very much enjoyed attending the Life Members Dinner, and getting to know some of the Life Members. I hope to continue to share your commitment to AACTP in the many years to come. Thank you again.

Sincerely, Camie Vaudreuil (MGH)

AACAP Life Members Fund  
Attention: John Schowalter, MD and Cynthia Pfeffer, MD  
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20016



November 8, 2014

Dear AACAP Life Members, Dr. Schowalter and Dr. Pfeffer:

Thank you for the wonderful scholarship opportunity your Life Members' Fund so graciously granted and allowed for me to attend AACAP's Annual Meeting in San Diego. I had a terrific experience learning more about the field of Child Psychiatry. I am so thankful for the chance to be able to meet and collaborate with other people in the field of Child Psychiatry with similar interests as me as I was able to learn so much from them. The planned activities, including the very helpful and insightful mentorship events, particularly the Life Members' course and Life Members' appreciation dinner, were among my favorite events at AACAP as I was able to meet other trainees as well as have the unique opportunity to meet and speak with various AACAP Life Members. It was an honor to be sitting with various AACAP Life Member psychiatrists during dinner and learn more about them and their work and experience throughout their long and fruitful careers.

Thank you again for your generous scholarship which helped me to attend and participate in AACAP's Annual Meeting. I truly appreciate it, and also hope to someday belong to the AACAP Life Members.

Thank you again,

Harmony Abejuela, M.D.