

This packet includes some sample posts to help you quickly post and promote your efforts during the Legislative Conference. They are grouped into distinct topic areas. Feel free to use it as you like. You are welcome to tweak and cater your posts to make them more unique and personal.

List of Congressional Twitter accounts | Find your representative's Twitter handle with [this guide](#) and find your Senator's Twitter handle with [this guide](#).

Hashtags to use:

#AACAPLC23
#captweet
#mentalhealth
#mentalhealthmatters

@ Twitter Handles for allied groups

@AmerAcadPeds @childmindinst
@APAPsychiatric @CAP_MSR
@AmerMedicalAssn @JAACAP
@hospitals4kids

Generic Sample Posts for Today



Today, more than 150 child and adolescent psychiatrists are meeting with Members of Congress to discuss Children's **#MentalHealth** Crises. **#AACAPLC23 #medtweet**



Child and adolescent psychiatrists are essential physicians uniquely trained to treat complex mental, behavioral, developmental, or emotional disorders. However, there aren't enough CAPS to meet the growing demand for mental health care for U.S. children and adolescents. **#AACAPLC23**



Child and adolescent psychiatrists are the most highly trained pediatric behavioral health provider. They go through 4 years of med school, 5 years of post-med school residency, and 10k-16k hours of total training. **#mentalhealth #AACAPLC23**



Child and adolescent psychiatrists practice in a wide range of settings and engage in multiple areas of employment such as consultants to schools, mental health centers, courts, and the foster care system. **#mentalhealth #AACAPLC23**

Workforce



There are not enough children and adolescent psychiatrists to meet the growing demand for **#mentalhealth** subspecialty care for children and adolescents in the U.S. **#AACAPLC23**
#childrenmentalhealthcrisis **#psychtweet**



There are only 14 child and adolescent psychiatrists for every 100k children in the U.S. The estimated need is 47 CAPS for every 100k children in the US.
#mentalhealthmatters **#AACAPLC23**
#childrenmentalhealthcrisis



91% of U.S. counties have a severe shortage of child and adolescent psychiatrists. **@AACAP** urges Congress to invest in programs that address subspecialty and **#childrenmentalhealth** shortages in U.S. communities.
#AACAPLC23



13-20% of U.S. children have been diagnosed with a mental health disorder. However, only 15-25% of U.S. children with a psychiatric disorder receive specialty care. **#AACAPLC23**
#mentalhealthawareness



Support "Mental Health Professionals Workforce Shortage Loan Repayment Act" by **@SenTinaSmith** & **@lisamurkowski** which establishes a loan repayment program for mental health professionals working in workforce-shortage areas.
#AACAPLC23 **#HealthEquity**



Support "Conrad State 30 and Physician Access Reauthorization Act." This will address the current mental health workforce shortage by allowing intl. docs to remain in the U.S. and practice in underserved areas. **#AACAPLC23**



Thank you **@SenTinaSmith** & **@lisamurkowski** for introducing the "Mental Health Professionals Workforce Shortage Loan Repayment Act." Together, we can heal our future generations.
#AACAPLC23 **#childrenmentalhealth**
#mentalhealthworkforce



Thank you **@amyklobuchar**, **@SenSusanCollins**, **@SenJackyRosen**, **@SenThomTillis** for introducing "Conrad State 30 and Physician Access Reauthorization Act." **#AACAPLC23**
#mentalhealthworkforce



@AACAP urges the House to introduce a companion bill to the Senate "Mental Health Professionals Workforce Shortage Loan Repayment Act of 2023."
#AACAPLC23

Access



Children and their families do not have adequate access to high-quality specialty child and adolescent behavioral **#healthcare**. **#AACAPLC23**
#mentalhealthcare



There is currently a shortage of inpatient child and adolescent psychiatric beds, making it more difficult for children to access the **#mentalhealthcare** they need. **#childrenmentalhealthcrisis**
#AACAPLC23



@AACAP asks Congress to support the integration of pediatric behavioral health care in all child-facing systems of care and reimbursement parity for the full continuum of pediatric mental health. **#AACAPLC23**



Medicaid fee-for-service rates for commonly billed psychiatry services are, on average, 81% of those in Medicare.
#access in **#mentalhealthcare**



Over 80% of states and 90% of counties in the U.S. have a severe shortage of child and adolescent psychiatrists. Urge Congress to pass "Helping Kids Cope Act," and "Better Mental Health Care for Americans Act" to ensure children can access the services they need. **#AACAPLC23**



@AACAP encourages insurance programs to increase children's access to **#mentalhealthcare** by covering a full range of evidence-based behavioral and developmental healthcare services including **#telemedicine** care.
#AACAPLC23



@AACAP supports mental health and substance use disorder parity implementation to ensure state insurance departments enforce compliance with **#mentalhealth** and substance use disorder. **#AACAPLC23**



Thank you **@RepLBR** & **@RepBrianFitz** for introducing the "Helping Kids Cope Act." Together, we can heal our future generations. **#AACAPLC23**
#mentalhealthworkforce



Thank you **@SenatorBennet** & **@RonWyden** for introducing the "Better Mental Health Care for Americans Act" Together, we can heal our future generations. **#AACAPLC23**
#mentalhealthworkforce

Equity



The current pediatric mental health care system does not serve the needs of racial and ethnic minority communities. We ask Congress to support research and training programs that address behavioral **#healthdisparities** among these groups.



Emergency department visits for pediatric mental health care have disproportionately increased among minority children. Minority youth are also less likely to receive adequate care for symptoms of anxiety, depression, and ADHD. **#equity** in **#mentalhealth**



Due to a long history of poor medical treatment, minority communities are less likely to trust the medical care system. Minority and rural communities are underrepresented in medicine, including in behavioral healthcare fields. **#AACAPLC23**



Congress must invest in the recruitment, training and broader distribution of a more diverse and representative physician workforce to promote a stronger and more culturally sensitive workforce.
#mentalhealthequity #AACAPLC23



We call on Congress to invest in research, education, and outreach programs that narrow the mental health quality and access gaps for racial and ethnic minority groups.
#mentalhealthequity #AACAPLC23



[Twitter handle of the rep you met with] Please support House bill "Pursuing Equity in Mental Health Act" which supports research and training programs that address behavioral **#healthdisparities** among racial and ethnic minority groups.



Urge Congress to support the "Pursuing **#EquityinMentalHealth** act" which will address the current health inequities in children's mental health by improving the pipeline of culturally competent behavioral health providers.
#AACAPLC23



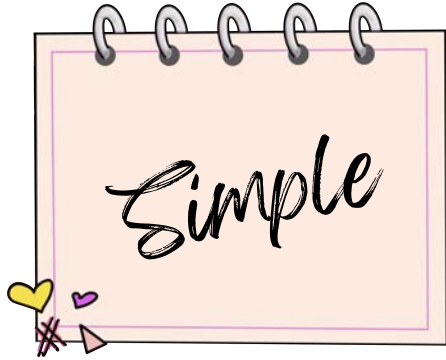
@AACAP urges the Senate to introduce a companion bill to the updated House "Pursuing Equity in Mental Health Act" to address current behavioral health disparities among racial and ethnic minority groups. **#AACAPLC23**



@AACAP requests appropriations from Congress to support the **@SAMHSA** Minority Fellowship Program to better equip health practitioners to support racial and ethnic minority groups.
#AACAPLC23 #healthcareequity

AACAP's 2023 Legislative Conference

Social Media Guide



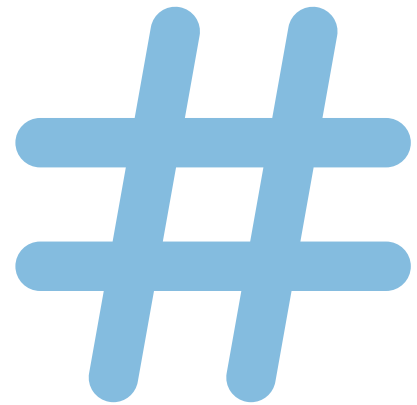
Keep It Simple | You have a 280 character limit on Twitter. Don't say in three sentences what you can say in one. Keep it pointed, and keep it precise.

Use your words wisely | What you say online stays online. Stay away from crude and ambiguous language, and whatever you do, don't feed the trolls!



Post a Pic | Tweets with images typically get 30% more engagement than tweets without. Post a picture of your advocacy activities throughout the day, especially if you're with a legislator, a colleague, or an AACAP Staff.

Use Hashtags | Hashtags help connect your content to others in the conversation. Use the leg con # to boost your tweets and connect with others, and don't be afraid to branch out: Use terms you think are relevant. For example, you might use **#Psych** or **#Advocacy** to boost your post to like-minded people. This year's hashtag is **#AACAPLC23**.



Tag Your Targets! Use the @ sign to tag people or organizations. Talking to a Senator and want to write about it? Mention her in a Tweet by tagging her handle! You can also tag your fellow CAP advocates!

Retweet | You don't have to come up with all the content yourself. If you see a Tweet you'd like to share, hit the retweet button to share it yourself, or retweet and reply to join the conversation!

