

President – 2026-2028 Term



Name: Jennifer Takagishi, MD

Primary City of Practice: Tampa, FL

Statement of Interest/Bio:

My name is Jennifer Takagishi and I would be honored to fill the role of President of the Florida Chapter of the AAP! After completing medical school at Tufts followed by a residency at Duke, I moved to Brooklyn, NY to begin my career as a general pediatrician in a small teaching hospital. Since my arrival in Florida in 2000, I have been a general pediatrician in Tampa at the University of South Florida. My clinical work revolves around the education of pediatric residents and medical students in an underserved area, predominantly with families of racial and ethnic diversity. Since 2020, I have held the role of Division Chief for General Academic Pediatrics. One of my specific interests involves assessing satisfaction and mitigating burnout within physicians. I was fortunate to complete a national leadership program for women, Executive Leadership in Health Care. This training has been instrumental in my journey to becoming an effective leader. I am also a strong believer in mentorship and direct our departmental faculty mentorship program. Within the AAP, I was previously on the Executive Committee of the Council on Early Childhood and have authored or co-authored several publications. My passion in this area has kept me involved as the state's Early Childhood Champion. I also am a member of the Council on Foster Care, Kinship Care and Adoption as well as the Section on Breastfeeding. I represented Region 3 and assisted in the creation of a webinar to assist families of children with medical complexity in preparing for disasters like hurricanes. I moved into the role of Vice President of FCAAP two years ago and have been actively involved in advocacy for physician payment especially in regard to Medicaid, autism diagnosis and treatment, and early literacy. I have focused much energy and attention to advocacy as part of the legislative committee, have lobbied with legislators in Tallahassee and completed multiple interviews especially in reference to maintenance of immunizations. I look forward to working with all of you to provide the resources that we as pediatricians, our patients and families need and deserve.

Vice President – 2026-2028 Term



Name: Brandon Chatani, MD, FAAP

Primary City of Practice: Orlando, FL

Statement of Interest/Bio:

Dr. Brandon Chatani graduated from Temple Medical School, then relocated to Miami to complete his Pediatric Residency and a Fellowship in Pediatric Infectious Diseases at Holtz Children's Hospital as part of Jackson Memorial Hospital and University of Miami Miller School of Medicine. Since joining the FCAAP in 2013, his involvement with the organization has been both meaningful, providing him with a deep understanding of its mission, structure, and the evolving needs of pediatricians and the children served across Florida.

Dr. Chatani practices as a Pediatric Infectious Disease specialist at AdventHealth for Children in Orlando. His work is grounded in prevention, collaboration, and systems-based care. He has led and contributed to initiatives that extend beyond individual patient care, including founding a statewide Infectious Disease case conference that connects pediatric providers across institutions and promotes shared learning and clinical collaboration. As Chair of the FCAAP Immunization Committee, he has been actively engaged in vaccine advocacy, participating in Children's Week and working closely with colleagues during the most recent legislative session to advocate against SB1756 in support of evidence-based public health policy.

These experiences align closely with the responsibilities of the Vice President. His statewide collaborative efforts have strengthened his familiarity with committees, programs, and diverse clinical environments, preparing him to effectively support and advise the President. His advocacy work and participation in regional and legislative meetings reflect his commitment to representing FCAAP and promoting its mission. In addition, his leadership experience positions him to support member engagement, mentorship, and organizational continuity.

As Vice President, Dr. Chatani aims to strengthen connections across committees, councils, and regions while supporting the strategic priorities of the chapter. He is committed to assisting chapter leadership, advancing advocacy initiatives, and fostering engagement among both current and future pediatric leaders. He remains dedicated to ensuring that FCAAP continues to be a strong, unified voice for children and families throughout Florida.

Secretary, 2026-2028 Term



Name: Rani S. Gereige, MD, MPH, FAAP

City of Primary Practice: Miami, FL

Statement of Interest/Bio:

Dr. Rani Gereige serves as FCAAP Treasurer. He earned his BS in Biology, with distinction, and MD from the American University of Beirut, Lebanon. He completed his pediatric and chief residency at USF/All Children's Hospital, earned an MPH in Maternal and Child Health from USF, and graduated from the USF Leadership Institute in 2010.

Dr. Gereige received teaching awards from residents and medical students, including 2003 Arnold P. Gold Foundation Humanism in Medicine Award. He joined Nicklaus Children's Hospital in February 2010 and serves as Executive Director of Medical Education and Designated Institutional Official, overseeing undergraduate, graduate, and continuing medical education, as well as faculty development. He remains involved in educating medical students, residents, and fellows and holds an appointment as Clinical Professor of Pediatrics at the FIU College of Medicine.

A fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics, Dr. Gereige has served on national AAP committees, CME Associate Editor for *Pediatrics in Review*, and is a member of the APA, APS, APHA, NADIO, and APPD. He serves on committees for the NBME, ABP, and ACCME.

His involvement with FCAAP dates back to residency. He served on the Chapter Committee on School Health (1997-2010), including as chair, and later as Alternate Regional Representative for Region 3 (2005-2006) and Regional Representative (2006-2010). He helped revive the FCAAP annual meeting and currently serves as Annual Conference co-chair and on the editorial board of *The Florida Pediatrician*. He hopes that as FCAAP Secretary, he can continue to work on advancing Florida child health issues, pediatric education, advocacy, and the future of pediatric workforce.

Dr. Gereige also served as Assistant Medical Director for CMS in Pinellas and Pasco Counties and worked on State Oral Health Fluoride Action Team and fluoride varnish train-the-trainer program through the AAP Preceptorship, advocating for Medicaid reimbursement for risk assessment and fluoride varnish in medical home. Board certified in pediatrics, he has numerous peer-reviewed publications and is co-editor of AAP School Health Policy and Practice Manual, 7th edition. His interests include oral health, school health, sports medicine, public health, EBM/QI, children with special health care needs, and medical education.

Treasurer – 2026-2028 Term



Name: Brittany Bruggeman, MD, FAAP

City of Primary Practice: Gainesville, FL

Statement of Interest/Bio:

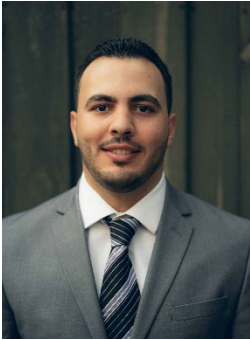
Dr. Brittany Bruggeman is a pediatric endocrinologist at the University of Florida. She has been deeply involved in FCAAP since first attending the Future of Pediatric Practice conference as a medical student. In fact, the only FPP she has ever missed was due to the birth of her first child- her two girls now look forward to visiting Dr. Minnie Mouse every Labor Day Weekend.

Dr. Bruggeman has served as FCAAP's Legislative Co-Chair for the past four legislative sessions, helping lead our organization's statewide advocacy initiatives. We have had some amazing wins over that time, including fighting off anti-vaccine legislation through a Herculean effort by all of Florida's pediatricians this year- thank you! Other priorities have been expanding health insurance coverage for Florida's kids, improving Medicaid payment to pediatricians, protecting the physician-patient relationship and adolescent confidentiality, maintaining access to child abuse pediatricians, improving access to comprehensive autism diagnosis and care, and ensuring that pediatricians can obtain state loan forgiveness, along with many other initiatives. Dr. Bruggeman was honored to receive the 2026 FCAAP Schiebler Advocacy Award, presented annually to a physician for diligent advocacy to improve the health and welfare of Florida's children.

Dr. Bruggeman has additionally served as FCAAP's Board Region 2 Representative over the past two years, the Alachua County Medical Society President in that same period, on the American Diabetes Association National Advocacy Committee, and as UF's residency advocacy rotation co-director. She looks forward to utilizing the skills she has learned as the president of her local medical society, including fiscal responsibility and member engagement in the role of FCAAP Treasurer.

As a member of the lowest paid (but deeply rewarding) specialty in all of medicine, Dr. Bruggeman is passionate about robust and fair reimbursement for the work that we do. She is active within the FMA and will use these connections to fight for common concerns. Most of all, she will work with the other members of the executive committee to promote the optimal physical, mental, and emotional health of Florida's children by empowering pediatricians with the resources to do what we do best.

Region 2 Representative – 2026-2028 Term



Name: Issa Hanna, MD, FAAP

City of Primary Practice: Jacksonville, FL

Statement of Interest/Bio:

Dr. Issa Hanna is a pediatric emergency physician practicing in Jacksonville, Florida. Born and raised in Syria, he earned his medical degree there before relocating with his family to the United States amid the civil war. Florida's welcoming atmosphere shaped his determination to give back to the community that embraced them.

After completing his pediatric residency and pediatric emergency medicine fellowship at the University of Florida College of Medicine in Jacksonville, Dr. Hanna chose to stay in the city he now serves. His focus is on improving the health of children and teenagers in his community.

Advocacy has been a core part of his career since medical school. During his internship, he witnessed a tragic vaping-related illness and immediately partnered with local leaders to launch a statewide campaign addressing the youth vaping epidemic. He continues to tackle substance-related issues that impact babies, teens, and families. His research focuses on vaping's effects on teenagers' health and on improving care for newborns with neonatal abstinence syndrome.

Dr. Hanna's journey with the Florida Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics began during residency. He served as the Chapter's E-cigarette Champion for two years, then became the chair of the E-Cigarette Task Force in 2023. He led the creation of Florida's first vaping education toolkit for healthcare providers, covering screening, diagnosis, and management of youth vaping.

On a national level, he served for 2 years as the executive coordinator for Fellows and Subspecialties in the Section of Pediatric Trainees (SOPT) and on the SOPT national leadership nomination committee. He has helped shape bylaws and collaborate with legislators to establish policies that protect Florida's children.

Dr. Hanna seeks to continue his service as the Region 2 Representative. With hands-on clinical experience, a proven record of advocacy, and a deep connection to the community, he is prepared to help shape a healthier future for every child in the region.

Region 4 Representative – 2026-2028 Term



Name: Shannon Fox-Levine, MD FAAP

City of Primary Practice: West Palm Beach, FL

Statement of Interest/Bio:

Dr. Shannon Fox-Levine is a general pediatrician in Palm Beach County at Bluebird Kids Health (formerly Palm Beach Pediatrics), where she has cared for children and families for more than 23 years. She earned her medical degree from the University of Maryland and completed her pediatric residency at Bellevue Hospital/NYU.

Throughout her career, Dr. Fox-Levine has been a dedicated advocate for children’s health, with a particular focus on improving access to care and integrating pediatric mental health into the primary care setting. As Medical Director of the Center for Child Counseling, she has spent the past decade advancing trauma-informed care and developing practical tools that empower primary care providers to identify and manage common mental health conditions in children and adolescents.

Dr. Fox-Levine has been an active leader within the Florida Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (FCAAP), serving as past Chair of the Pediatric Council and currently as Region 4 Representative on the Board. She also serves as Chair of the AAP Payer Advocacy and Advisory Committee, where she works to improve reimbursement models and reduce financial barriers that limit access to high-quality pediatric care.

Her advocacy efforts began with her involvement in the landmark “Docs vs. Glocks” case, which helped protect the physician–patient relationship. Since then, she has remained committed to ensuring that pediatricians have a strong voice in policy decisions affecting children and families.

Dr. Fox-Levine has been recognized for her leadership and impact. She and her practice, Palm Beach Pediatrics, won the 2023 Primary Care Practice Award from the Patient Care Collaborative. In 2023 she was named Physician Hero in Medicine of the Year by the Palm Beach Medical Society and one of the 100 Most Influential People in Palm Beach County. In 2023, she was also recognized with a Special Achievement Award from the AAP.

If re-elected, Dr. Fox-Levine will continue to champion pediatricians, advocate for fair payment, and advance innovative care models—ensuring that every child has access to the comprehensive, high-quality care they deserve.

General Pediatrician At Large Representative – 2026-2028 Term



Name: Jennifer Hipp DO, MPH, FAAP

City of Primary Practice: Jacksonville, FL

Statement of Interest/Bio:

Dr. Hipp is the current Chair of the Membership Committee of FCAAP. She graduated with a D.O. degree from Nova Southeastern University College of Osteopathic Medicine. She completed her residency at the University of Florida College of Medicine- Jacksonville. Dr. Hipp has been on faculty at the University of Florida College of Medicine- Jacksonville since graduating residency. She is the director of the UF San Jose Outpatient Pediatric Clinic. She also currently serves as the Associate Program Director for the Pediatric Residency Program, Director of the Longitudinal Outpatient Experience for the pediatric residents, and Associate Clerkship Director for the medical students. Her interests within outpatient pediatrics include underserved and refugee care, early intervention, advocacy, and medical student and resident education.