



Dec 1, 2025

Dear Colleagues,

I am honored for the opportunity to serve as the current President of the Michigan Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (MAPD). The Board of Directors and I have the following updates to share with you:

PPA/State Budget: All items up for cuts were funded in the 2026 Michigan state budget including the GA reimbursement. Drs. John Deppen and Elizabeth Ralstrom will be representing us at the upcoming Pediatric Oral Health Advocacy Conference (POHAC) in Washington DC in March of 2026.

Board of Directors: We would like to welcome our newest board member Dr. Kasey Stark who joined the board as of our September CE event in Frankenmuth. She practices in Lake Orion, Michigan with Kids Tooth Team.

Constitution and Bylaws: There are no current proposals or changes to the bylaws. As a reminder, all elective officers must be an active member and in good standing with the ADA tripartite, AAPD, and MAPD throughout the six-year board membership.

Mission of Mercy: The MDA foundation is sponsoring a MOM dental treatment next year in Kalamazoo June 12-13 at the K-Wings Event Center. Dr Ashley Burke will be serving as the pedo lead for the event and the MAPD will send out a call for volunteers once registration is open.

Michigan Dental Association (MDA): We are grateful to the University of Michigan pediatric residents for providing two articles to be featured in the MDA journal highlighting children's dental health this coming February.

AAPD PAC: Please find attached the AAPD PAC donation form for your review. We strongly encourage all members who have not yet contributed to the AAPD PAC to consider making a donation. Your contribution, no matter the size, is invaluable in supporting our advocacy efforts and will make a significant difference in advancing the goals of the AAPD.

Lastly, we would like to extend our thanks to our Programs and Arrangements Committee for their continued efforts in promoting high quality meetings and CE events. We hope you will join us at our winter meeting Friday February 6th (PALS training) and 7th (CE Event) 2026-

Graduate Ann Arbor. Speaker: Dr. Laree Johnson, DDS, MS Topic: Pediatric Dentistry Pearls—Treatment planning, Local anesthesia (intraosseous injections), zirconia crowns, pediatric oral surgery and more.

Upcoming Events:

Fall 2026: Friday, September 18th, 2026- UM Golf Course Clubhouse Ann Arbor. Joint meeting with UM Easlick Society. Speakers: Dr. Marita Inglehart will speak on implicit bias & Dr. Sean Edwards (course content not defined yet).

Winter 2027: Saturday, February 5th, 2027- Royal Park Hotel, Rochester, MI- Speaker TBD

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Sincerely,

Stephen M. Ghezzi, DDS
MAPD President