

American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN™



Mississippi Chapter

Mississippi Chapter

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January 15, 2019

Mississippi Chapter Executive Committee

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To Whom It May Concern:

Our organization is a professional membership organization for Mississippi pediatricians and would like to offer our support for the Growing Up Knowing organization's *My Body, My Boundaries* abuse prevention program.

Treasurer

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Unfortunately, pediatricians know and see the tragic consequences of abuse, and therefore we support efforts to help children avoid abuse. *My Body, My Boundaries* targets elementary age children (kindergarten through fifth graders) and their parents/caregivers. This curriculum teaches children and their parents/caregivers about their bodies and provides the knowledge and tools to stay safe. The program partners with schools, religious institutions, afterschool programs, and other community organizations to implement *My Body, My Boundaries* throughout Mississippi, at no cost to the partnering organization. *My Body, My Boundaries* focuses on abuse and bully prevention and increasing communication between children and their parents. Trained facilitators are used to impart this evidence-based curriculum in a safe and trusting environment. The curriculum has also been translated into Spanish to meet the needs of a diverse population.

Immediate Past President

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The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends "parents teach children early and often that there are no secrets between children and their parents, and that they should feel comfortable talking with their parents about anything -- good or bad, fun or sad, easy or difficult." Therefore, the focus of Growing Up Knowing's program for families with three-and-four-year-olds is then to strongly encourage age-appropriate discussions about sensitive topics including the correct anatomical names, physical boundaries, and respect for their bodies. *My Body, My Boundaries* for Early Childhood Families will soon be available statewide.

Chapter Executive Director

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We encourage your strong consideration for helping support and further these worthwhile programs.

Chapter Web site

www.aapms.org

Sincerely,

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Chapter Executive Director

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