

**TOWARD EQUITY IN CHILD HEALTH: A JOINT COLLABORATIVE OF THE  
AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS AND THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF  
PAEDIATRICS AND CHILD HEALTH**

**T.F. Tonniges<sup>1</sup>, T. Waterson<sup>2</sup>, J. Goldhagen<sup>3</sup>**

*<sup>1</sup>Department of Community Pediatrics, American Academy of Pediatrics, Elk Grove Village, USA*

*<sup>2</sup>Community Child Health, Newcastle General Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK <sup>3</sup>University of  
Florida-Jacksonville/Duval County Health Department, Jacksonville, USA*

*[ttonniges@aap.org](mailto:ttonniges@aap.org)*

This session will discuss the proceedings from the September 2000 collaborative meeting in the United Kingdom of 50 pediatricians from the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH) and the collaborative international implementation activities currently underway as part of a follow-up meeting in April 2003. The goal of the initial meeting was to establish a sustainable international program to improve child health outcomes in the respective countries. This was the first such joint endeavor for the AAP and RCPCH and the first organized effort by the societies to recognize the global dimension of health inequities and disparities and the challenges that confront us all as pediatricians. This meeting was meant to go beyond a biomedical model of health to define the social, economic, political, and environmental determinants of child health. The goal of the meeting was to contribute to the political resolve in both nations to develop public policy and generate sustainable resources to tackle these health determinants and disparities. A mission and 4 "Implementation Groups" have been established to begin the process of translating these recommendations into practice. The mission of this joint AAP-RCPCH initiative is to reduce health disparities among populations of children in the United States and United Kingdom, in particular among children living in poverty and other groups of marginalized children. The goal is to sustain and expand the commitment and activities of the RCPCH and AAP to ensure this remains a fundamental tenet of the respective societies.

