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Minnesota Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Presents Distinguished Service Award and Child Advocacy Awards

June 11, 2014 (St. Paul, MN) – The Minnesota Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (MNAAP) is presenting three awards to individuals advocating for children's health issues at its annual meeting on the evening of Friday, June 13, 2014 at the Hilton in Bloomington.

The 2014 Distinguished Service Award will be presented to Daniel Broughton, MD, FAAP, a past president of MNAAP who has been a tireless advocate for abused and neglected children. Dr. Broughton was a founding member and eventual chair of the board of directors for the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. He was also instrumental in starting and becoming the medical director of the Mayo Clinic Children's Advocacy Center and the Mayo Clinic Family Advocacy Program.

The 2014 Child Advocate Legislator of the Year Award was presented to Representative Kim Norton (Rochester), who served as the chief author of the newborn screening restoration bill, MNAAP’s top legislative priority. The bill, which was signed into law May 6, will preserve newborn screening data so that it remains available to parents and physicians for future health-related testing. Under the old law, such data was destroyed soon after birth, putting babies and families at risk.

A special 2014 Newborn Screening Parent Advocate Award will be presented to Korissa Olson, Stacey Nugent and Paula and Andrea Bastian, who boldly shared their stories with House and Senate committees, the media, and anyone else who would listen. Ms. Nugent was shocked to learn that her 2-year-old daughter’s test results had been destroyed shortly after she died from SUDS. At the urging of privacy extremists, Ms. Olson nearly declined newborn screening for her son Everett, who was later diagnosed with a life-threatening disorder. Newborn screening detected PKU in Ms. Andrea Bastian, who is now a healthy adult with a bright future ahead. She and her mother are vocal supporters of newborn screening. The bill passed, in large part, because they courageously stepped forward to speak on behalf of thousands of other families in the state.

With more than 1,000 pediatrician members, MNAAP is committed to improving the health of all children and teens in Minnesota. For more information about the award winners or MNAAP, visit www.mnaap.org

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