

FASD Maine

(Founders: Connie Mazelsky, Madonna Mooney, and Shannon Coray)

We are a self-funded group of professionals, adoptive parents, and siblings of loved ones affected by Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders. We advocate for FASD awareness, encouraging medical professionals to learn about FASD and to become proactive in screening and diagnosing this disability. We support and educate families who are looking for help and information on FASD.

Leveraging our personal and professional contacts, we have launched an aggressive outreach campaign (see below). We have attended FASD trainings through NOFAS, The PROOF Alliance, the State of Maine CDC/ DHHS, the Maine AAP, ARC of North Carolina, to name only a few. Currently, we are focused on the passage of the [FASD ReSPect Act S.2238, H.R.4151](#), on enrolling Maine FQHCs [in the HRSA funded SAFEST Choice Learning Collaborative/ FASD ECHO](#) training for clinic providers and staff, and encouraging Maine pediatricians to avail themselves of the AAP FASD Toolkit and [AAP FASD Live Webinars](#).

Outreach & Accomplishments:

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| July | 2017 | FASD Maine attended the Northeast Conference on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders at Colby College . |
| January | 2018 | Presenters from the Northeast Conference on FASD and an FASD Maine parent were interviewed on Maine Public by Jennifer Rooks, "Maine Calling" - Connie Mazelsky; Nancy Cronin, Executive Director of Maine Development Disability Council; Dr. Christopher Pezzullo, DO, State Health Officer and practicing pediatrician; Dr. Carl Bell, retired professor of psychiatry and Public Health and former director of Juvenile Research at University of Illinois, Chicago; Dr. Margaret Rieley MD, geneticist at Northern Light EMMC. |
| March | 2018 | Appeared on the radio show of Autism advocate and author, Derek Volk . |
| February | 2019 | Created the FASD Book Give-Away Program – the Maine AAP Foster Committee has been a recipient of our program. |
| September | 2019 | Established the FASD Maine Facebook Group to share information and facilitate community. |
| October | 2019 | Poster presentation on FASD at the Northern Light EMMC Perinatal Biennial Conference . |

- November 2019 Hosted one day training in the FASD Neurobehavioral Model approach, [Adrienne Bashista of FAFASD](#) for professionals, foster parents, and parents of children with FASD.
- March 2020 Organized the first FASD panel at the **Maine Autism Conference**.
- September 2020 FASD presentation at the **2020 Maine Maternal and Child Health SEI Conference (CDC/DHHS)**.
- September 2020 Secured [Dr. Douglas Waite, MD, AAP FASD REAL Champion](#) to present at the 2020 Maine AAP Annual CME (virtual) Conference; FASD Maine also sponsored a virtual information booth.
- December 2020 FASD presentation for **the Board of the** [Maine Association for Infant Mental Health](#).
- March 2021 Co-presented with [Dr. Douglas Waite, MD](#) on FASD to the **Maine AAP Foster Care Committee**.
- March 2021 Recruited the first clinic in New England to participate in the **2021 HRSA “Safest Choice Learning Collaborative”**. This is a partnership between Boston Medical Center and The PROOF Alliance to provide FASD ECHO training for clinicians and staff in Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) in New England and the Upper Midwest. St. Croix Regional Family Health Center in Princeton, ME is in the first cohort, June 2021.
- April 2021 FASD Maine and the National Organization of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (NOFAS) met with **Senator Susan Collins’** office to request her support for the bi-partisan bill, the [FASD ReSPect Act, \(S.2238, H.R.4151\)](#) co-sponsored by Senators Murkowski (AK) and Klobuchar (MN).
- May 2021 Facilitated the creation of a training video to assist [NOFAS](#) affiliate members in their presentations to legislators, requesting support for the FASD ReSPect Act.
- May 2021 Met with **Maggie Jansson, RN, BSN, CLC, MPH, Coordinator, MaineMOM** program at Mid Coast-Parkview Health to discuss maternal prenatal alcohol and drug use in Maine.
- July 2021 Presented on FASD to the **Maine Department of Education/ Child Development Services** -Waldo/Knox/Lincoln Counties.
- August 2021 [FASD Maine website](#) goes live – fasdmaine.org

August 2021 FASD Maine and the National Organization of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (NOFAS) met with **Senator King's** office, **and Representative Pingree's** office to request their support for the bi-partisan [FASD ReSPect Act, \(S.2238, H.R.4151\)](#) co-sponsored by Senators Murkowski (AK) and Klobuchar (MN)

September 2021 [Senator Susan Collins](#) and Representative Chellie Pingree announce their co-sponsorship of [S.2238 and HR 4151](#).

September 2021 [Maine Calling](#) FASD Maine and Dr. Douglas Waite MD interviewed re: the need for the passage of the [FASD ReSPect Act](#)

September 2021 Presented on FASD for [Community Concepts](#) – Lewiston, South Paris, ME Children's Services HEAD Start/EC Head Start

September 2021 Arranged for **Dr. Douglas Waite, MD** to present on PAE and FASD at the [2021 Maine Maternal and Child Health SEI Conference \(CDC/DHHS\)](#).

October 2021 [Senator Angus King](#) announces co-sponsorship of S.2238

October 2021 Presented on FASD to **Maine Dept. of Education/Child Development Services Downeast** – Hancock/Washington Counties

December 2021 Representative Jared Golden agrees to co-sponsor the [FASD Respect Act H.R.4151](#). Maine becomes the first state in the union whose full legislative delegation has agreed to co-sponsorship.

Additional Outreach:

- **Nancy Cronin**, Executive Director, Maine Developmental Disabilities Council
- **Dara Fruchter**, Project Manager, Infant and Maternal Substance Use Prevention Coordination, Maine CDC.
- [Anne Uecker, PhD.](#), Pediatric Neuropsychologist, Edmond N. Ervin Pediatric Center, Maine General Medical Center.
- **Maud van de Wiele, CNM** at MCMG Women's Health.
- **Deb Hagler, MD**, President of Maine Chapter AAP, and Medical Director of MCPH Community Health & Wellness Center.
- **Adoptive and Foster Families of Maine (AFFM)** – Travis Bryant, Bette Hoxie, Monica Bushey.
- **Carrie Woodcock**, Maine Parent Federation.
- **Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD), Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (LEND); Valerie Jones**, LMSW, UNE

assistant professor of social work; Jennifer Maeverde, M.A., NH-ME LEND Program at UMO.

- [The Maine Children's Home for Little Wanderers](#) - **Lindsay Bragdon**, LSW, adoption program director.
- **"FASD Strong" Documentary** – helped to fund production of FASD documentary by [Dr. Christie Petrenko PhD](#) Associate Professor of Psychiatry University of Rochester NY