



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 22, 2015

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2015 JOSEPH W. ST. GEME, JR. LEADERSHIP AWARD RECIPIENT ANNOUNCED

Washington, DC - The Federation of Pediatric Organizations is delighted to announce that Barry S. Zuckerman M.D., F.A.A.P. is the 2015 recipient of the Joseph W. St. Geme, Jr. Leadership Award. Dr. Zuckerman will receive this award on Saturday, April 25, 2015 during the Opening General Session of the Pediatric Academic Societies Meeting in San Diego, CA. A biography and photograph are attached.

On February 10, 2015, the Board of Directors of the Federation of Pediatric Organizations selected Barry S. Zuckerman M.D., F.A.A.P. to be the 2015 recipient of the Joseph W. St. Geme, Jr. Leadership Award. This award was created in honor of Dr. St. Geme to recognize a pediatrician who is a role model for others to emulate as a clinician, an educator, and/or an investigator. Recipients of this award have had a record of broad and sustained contributions to pediatrics that have had or will have a major impact on child health. Most importantly, the award recognizes those individuals who have “created a future.”

Dr. Zuckerman is widely recognized throughout the world for his tireless efforts to understand how social and environmental factors adversely impact children, and to create practical, scalable and sustainable tools that allow pediatric practitioners to intervene to improve developmental outcomes. Dr. Zuckerman is Professor and Chair Emeritus of the Department of Pediatrics at the Boston University School of Medicine and Professor of Public Health at Boston University School of Public Health. From 1993-2012, he served as the Chair of the Department of Pediatrics at the Boston University School of Medicine and Chief of Pediatrics at Boston Medical Center (the former Boston City Hospital). He has authored 250 publications, over 130 of them peer-reviewed, and edited 12 books, including a leading book on Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics, now in its third edition. His leadership and mentorship lead to the creation of Medical Legal Partnerships for Children, HealthLeads, Reach Out and Read and Healthy Steps, all of which focus on improving outcomes in our most vulnerable patients. This body of work has changed the face of pediatric practice, particularly in the places that care for our most vulnerable children, and makes him well deserving of the Joseph W. St. Geme Leadership Award.

The Federation of Pediatric Organizations (FOPO) is a national non-profit organization whose mission is to promote optimal health for children by uniting the efforts and expertise of its member organizations to accomplish shared goals.

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Barry S. Zuckerman M.D., F.A.A.P

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change the face of pediatric practice, particularly in the places that care for our most vulnerable children and makes him well deserving of the Joseph W. St. Geme Leadership Award.

Dr. Zuckerman grew up in Bound Brook NJ and graduated in 1968 from Rutgers University where he majored in Psychology. In 1972, he graduated from Georgetown University School of Medicine and completed his internship and residency at Boston City Hospital. He remained at Boston City Hospital for one year as a Fellow in Primary Care and Child Development, and then completed a Fellowship in Child Development at Boston Children's Hospital/Harvard Medical School from 1975 to 1977.

After finishing his training, Dr. Zuckerman joined the faculty of Boston University School of Medicine, first as an Instructor in Pediatrics from 1976 to 1977, then as an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics from 1977 to 1982, next Associate Professor of Pediatrics from 1982 to 1987 and finally full Professor in 1988. He was jointly appointed in the Boston University School of Public Health in 1985 and held a named chair (the Joel and Barbara Alpert Professor of Pediatrics) from 2000 to 2013. Throughout his career at Boston University School of Medicine, Dr. Zuckerman's leadership has been recognized. He was named Chief of the Division of Developmental Pediatrics upon joining the faculty in 1977 and became chair of the Department in 1993, serving in that role for 19 years before stepping down in 2012. Throughout this time, Dr. Zuckerman build a career and a Department that have focused on understanding the interaction of biology and environment that is at the core of child development, and developing scalable interventions to fight the impact of toxic stress of our most vulnerable children.

Dr. Zuckerman's research has focused on the effects of maternal health behavior, social environment and genes on newborns and children's health and development. A series of articles in the pediatric, obstetric, public health and general medical literature examined the effects of prenatal alcohol use and other substances on newborn health. His work in this area established the foundation for 20 years of NIDA funding to study the long-term neurocognitive outcome of children exposed to intrauterine cocaine. At a time when there was significant concern related to infants exposed to cocaine, Barry and his colleagues emphasized the far greater importance of the cumulative effects of factors associated with poverty and the quality of environment rather than exposure to prenatal cocaine. A subsequent article published in *JAMA* identified the significant influence of maternal genotype on the effects of maternal cigarette smoking on birth weight. His studies of childhood behavior have concentrated on effects of maternal depression and, recently, on individual and synergistic effects of maternal depression and exposure to violence. He has authored 250 publications, over 130 of them peer-reviewed, and edited 12 books, including a leading book on Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics, now in its third edition. Throughout his career, Barry's academic publications focus on the health challenges of vulnerable children; witnessing violence, the importance of early literacy, and benefit of legal intervention for patients have been well received and incorporated into the training of pediatricians.

As significant as his impact has been in the pediatric literature, Barry's steadfast advocacy and health care innovation is what highlights his remarkable career. In the midst of this outstanding scientific career, Dr. Zuckerman has conceived, implemented and disseminated program after program to improve child health and well-being, programs that are as effective as they are

innovative.

In 1993, Dr. Zuckerman recognized that child health problems often arise from situations that violate existing laws and regulations. Rather than simply noting this and moving on, he recruited a lawyer to become a member of his health care team. This simple idea grew into the Medical-Legal Partnership for Children (MLPC), now the Medical-Legal Partnership (MLP; <http://www.medicallegalpartnership.org>). The MLP provides legal assistance to patients and families; education and training for health care staff; and advocacy for health issues. Lawyers on health care teams may do something as simple as insist that housing regulations be followed to prevent acute exacerbation of asthma or as complex as pursuing cases of domestic partner abuse. Legal Aide becomes preventive medicine. The program began at Boston Medical Center and then six community health centers. It has since been disseminated to 260 sites around the country, including facilities for adults, with the assistance of the Robert Wood Johnson, Kellogg and Kresge Foundations. Each year the National Center for Medical-Legal Partnership brings together hundreds of leaders in health care, law, public health, social work and government to share ideas, insights and best practices about how the integration of legal care and health care can help address social determinants of health for vulnerable people. Medical and law schools have developed combined courses in medical-legal partnerships. The MLP has been endorsed by the American Bar Association, the American Academy of Pediatrics and the American Medical Society. The success of the program is also demonstrated by the bipartisan introduction in Congress of the Medical-Legal Partnership for Health Act of 2010.

Dr. Zuckerman's most widely known accomplishment is Reach Out and Read (<http://www.reachoutandread.org>), a program that promotes literacy and school readiness by utilizing pediatricians to provide books to parents and children at well child visits. Barry saw the positive reason books were taken by parents from the clinic waiting area and he was inspired to distribute books to patients and their families during preventive health care visits. The gratitude of families sparked Dr. Zuckerman and colleagues to start Reach Out and Read (ROR) in 1989. The program began at Boston Medical Center, but quickly spread to local health centers and, with support for federal funds from Senator Kennedy and First Lady Clinton, national dissemination was implemented. Published studies (listed on the ROR web site) demonstrate positive effects. As recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics, Reach Out and Read incorporates early literacy into pediatric practice, equipping parents with tools and knowledge to ensure that their children are prepared to learn when they start school. Today, Reach Out and Read partners with more than 5,200 clinical sites and distributes 6.5 million books per year while serving more than 4 million children and their families annually. It has special initiatives for Spanish-speaking children (as Leyendo Juntos), military families (at 12 facilities) and Native Americans (at 46 Indian Health Service facilities).

Dr. Zuckerman also played the lead role in the development of Healthy Steps (<http://www.healthysteps.org>), a pediatric program to promote early child development in primary care. Healthy Steps is one of eleven evidence-based programs with home visiting and the only pediatric based effort approved to use federal money by states to improve the health of young poor children. In 1997, Dr. Zuckerman developed Project Health with a Harvard undergraduate who won a MacArthur Genius Award in 2009 for this work. This volunteer organization started as a collaboration of Harvard University undergraduates and Boston

Medical Center's Department of Pediatrics. Now operating as HealthLeads, it consists of a network of college volunteers and clinician mentors that connect inner-city children and families to needed community resources. The student understanding of the health problems faced by low-income families has stimulated many of the HealthLeads volunteers to pursue careers in medicine. Today HealthLeads operates in 22 sites in 6 US cities. Dr. Zuckerman and colleagues developed training materials for residents and faculty at BMC and nationally for each program. As a result, pediatricians are much more informed and effective in promoting early literacy and child development and identifying unmet material needs that interfere with health.

Dr. Zuckerman has continued his important work as an advocate and his creative thinking and innovation has led to the stimulation of colleagues in our Department to develop comprehensive programs for the care of children with chronic disease, most notably patients with sickle cell disease as well as a comprehensive approach to children with special health care needs. In each of these instances, He has been a thoughtful leader and guided his colleagues to develop programs that push the boundaries of traditional health care. He has many mentees providing leadership at academic medical centers nationally. He continues to provide important mentorship to pediatric residents, fellows and junior faculty in General Academic Pediatrics and Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics.

Numerous federal agencies and foundations have sought Dr. Zuckerman's counsel as have numerous editorial boards of professional and lay publications. He has served on the National Commission on Children, Carnegie Commission on Young Children, NIH Consensus Panel, IOM Committee, and Federal Advisory Committee for Early Head Start. Dr. Zuckerman has provided leadership for pediatric education including chairing the Macy Conference on the Future of Pediatric Education and was one of the twelve founding members that started the Society for Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics. His awards include the APA Policy and Advocacy Award, the AAP C. Anderson Aldrich Award, the Robert F. Kennedy Embracing the Legacy Award (MLPC), the American Hospital Association Nova Award (MLPC), The Confucius Award from UNICEF (ROR) and numerous lectures and presentations, including over 28 named visiting professorships and lectures. He was awarded a Deland Fellowship at Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harris Foundation Fellowship as well as a Purpose Prize Fellowship. He has also consulted to UNICEF in Turkey and Bangladesh. His leadership was instrumental in the Department of Pediatrics receiving and APA Health Care Delivery Award at the 2014 PAS Meeting.

In summary, Barry Zuckerman F.A.A.P. is the perfect recipient of the Joseph W. St. Geme Jr. Leadership Award. He is an outstanding leader, innovator and educator, who, throughout his career, has focused on the needs of the most vulnerable children in our society. His ability to blend the science of child development with the advocacy has lead to programs and policies that that have improved the health and well-being of children throughout the world, and exemplify a true leader in pediatrics who is most well-deserving of the 2014 Joseph W. St. Geme Jr. Leadership Award.