

Healthy Beginnings 2024: An ACHIA Trauma Informed Care and Resiliency QI Collaborative Expert Faculty



E. Cason Benton, MD, FAAP
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ACHIA Director
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E. Cason Benton, MD, FAAP serves as the Director of ACHIA. Dr. Benton is Professor of Pediatrics at UAB in Academic General Pediatrics where she works with residents in the Primary Care Clinic. Dr. Benton currently serves on the AAP Maintenance of Certification Review Panel and the Leadership Committee for the National Improvement Partnership Network. She was the 2018 American Board of Pediatrics Paul E. Miles Fellow in Quality Improvement and 2019 recipient of the Marsha Raulerson Alabama Chapter AAP Advocacy award.



Elizabeth N Dawson, MD, FAAP

Dr. Dawson is a rural primary care pediatrician at Troy Pediatric Clinic & Collegiate Health in Troy, Alabama, and founder of the Troy Resilience Project (TRP). Her work is driven by her study of the pathophysiology of adversity and belief in the healing power of resilience.

Since 2019, the Troy Resilience Project has served families, engaged community members, and motivated leaders to support the continuous process of building a resilient community. TRP's services reach nearly 1,000 people annually. Dr. Dawson became the leader in trauma-informed pediatrics in Alabama by utilizing expertise gained through the AAP Trauma-Informed Pediatric Care and Resilience Project ECHO and certification in the Neurosequential Model of Therapeutics. Dr. Dawson uses these principles in her practice and in assisting in practice transformation statewide.

Dr. Dawson was born and raised in Montgomery, Ala. and earned her medical degree from the University of Alabama School of Medicine and completed pediatrics residency at Loyola, Chicago. She currently serves as Secretary/Treasurer and QI chair of AL-AAP. She received the March Raulerson Advocacy award in 2022 and the Ray E. Hefler, MD award for her contribution to the prevention of child abuse and neglect