**The President's Corner**

Sign up for conference on our new system!... We did it for you and we truly hope you appreciate it! Please give us your feedback. The good news is that we already know that CMS has committed to an appearance, so we KNOW our agenda will be fulfilling for our members. You will find a link to registration for our 2010 NAME Conference in Williamsburg, VA below...

Michelle Lyons-Brown, (Alaska) President

**Education and Research Committee**

We need to hear from YOU!

We are ready to begin the analysis of NAME’s 2009 Biennial Survey, but we have states who have not replied at all or we have heard from only one agency who may not be able to answer all of the questions. If your work includes Medicaid payments for school based Medicaid Administrative Claiming or direct service billing for Individualized Education Program (IEP) covered services AND you represent a state agency involved in this process AND if your state has not yet responded, please click on the link above and complete NAME’s 2009 Biennial Survey. We are at a point to be able to develop trend data but without all states participating, the data will not be helpful. Even if you can’t answer all of the questions, answer what you can and submit the data and help us gain a better picture of what’s happening across the nation. [http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=dht8t9M00_2IFALVsgL50h3d_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=dht8t9M00_2IFALVsgL50h3d_3d)

If you have any questions, contact Denise Achin in Rhode Island at (401) 222-8997 or [denise.achin@ride.ri.gov](mailto:denise.achin@ride.ri.gov) or Cathy Griffin in Minnesota at 651-582-8263 or [cathy.griffin@state.mn.us](mailto:cathy.griffin@state.mn.us).

**In the Media**

- "The 4-year-old ... boy swallows bunches of pills.... undergoes a range of therapies, eats far from anything. His disorder has a long name, but in the ballpark of autism. His mother is convinced Christian improves because of his expansive, expensive care, because it’s unimaginable to settle for less,” [Advocating for autism](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=dht8t9M00_2IFALVsgL50h3d_3d).
- “A Missouri Senate committee on Tuesday split the difference between House and Senate versions of legislation mandating insurance coverage for children with autism.” [The costs of treating autism](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=dht8t9M00_2IFALVsgL50h3d_3d).
- “The symptoms of A.P.D. — trouble paying attention and following directions, low academic performance, behavior problems and poor reading and vocabulary — are often mistaken for attention problems or even autism.” [Better understanding and treatment](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=dht8t9M00_2IFALVsgL50h3d_3d).
- “Districts have a little more than two years to spend two pots of stimulus cash: one for schools in poor areas and another for special education. But with nearly half that time already passed, some districts aren’t anywhere close to having spent half the money. Schools that don’t use the money by fall 2011 will have to give it back to the feds.” [Use or lose stimulus money](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=dht8t9M00_2IFALVsgL50h3d_3d). “How much money does the state spend to educate one Kansas student each year? It’s hard to blame Kansas taxpayers for being confused about how much money is spent on and by public schools.” [Follow the money](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=dht8t9M00_2IFALVsgL50h3d_3d). “School districts around the country, forced to resort to drastic money-saving measures, are warning hundreds of thousands of teachers that their jobs may be eliminated in June.”[Massive teacher layoffs in store nationwide](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=dht8t9M00_2IFALVsgL50h3d_3d). “...some education officials believe that disparities in special-education enrollment will begin to diminish as charters develop plans and secure resources for educating students with special needs, and as more charters choose to specialize.” [Special education in charters](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=dht8t9M00_2IFALVsgL50h3d_3d).

**Save the Date**

**8th Annual Conference, September 22-24, Williamsburg, VA**

Registration is now open for the 2010 Annual NAME Conference to be held on September 21-24th in Colonial Williamsburg, VA. Check out our website with the exciting news and tentative schedule, [NAME 2010 Conference Page](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=dht8t9M00_2IFALVsgL50h3d_3d). The planning is already underway for our 2011 conference! We would like to know what you think about possible 2011 conference locations. Please take a moment to complete the survey at: [http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2011NAMEConferenceSiteSurvey](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2011NAMEConferenceSiteSurvey)

Keep yourself updated by frequently checking the developing conference schedule on the NAME website at:


Email: info@medicaidforeducation.org