Albert Zachik Honored as Champion for Children in Maryland

Albert Zachik, MD, Deputy Director of Children’s Services at the Behavioral Health Administration, Maryland State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, was recently honored as a "Champion for Children" by the Mental Health Association of Maryland at a legislative briefing in Annapolis. Dr. Zachik received the association’s Paula U. Hamburger Award. In presenting the award, MHAMD Chief Executive Officer Linda Raines said that Maryland’s child-serving system is the envy of most states because the outlook for children from birth to adulthood has changed dramatically for the better under Dr. Zachik’s leadership. She said he has played a central role in expanding school-based services across Maryland, and forged partnerships with juvenile services and other child-serving agencies to tackle long-standing problems.

A child and adolescent psychiatrist and a member of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry’s Workgroup on Community Systems of Care, Dr. Zachik has worked toward developing a full system of care in Maryland for children and adolescents with mental health needs that integrates mental health services into all existing programs for youth, including schools and early childhood, juvenile services, and social services programs. He is a co-chair of the Early Childhood Mental Health Steering Committee and also is a member of the clinical faculty in psychiatry at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and the Georgetown University School of Medicine.