

October 15, 2020

## California Advocacy Network for Children with Special Health Care Needs

News, policy updates, resources, events, and advocacy opportunities

### Care Coordination

#### Webinar: Improving Care for Children with Chronic and Complex Needs: A Look at the National Care Coordination Standards for CYSHCN

**Date** Wednesday, October 21  
**Time** 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Pacific Time  
**Sponsor** National Academy for State Health Policy  
**Details** Working with a group of national experts, including state Medicaid agency officials, health services researchers, families, and others, the National Academy for State Health Policy, with funding from our Foundation, has developed standards designed to help states create high-quality care coordination programs for CYSHCN. This webinar will cover the need for care coordination standards as well as their core elements. The standards will be made public on October 20. [Read more and register.](#)

### Transition to Adult Care

#### Report: Options of Medicaid Managed Care Contract Language to Expand the Availability of Pediatric-to-Adult Transitional Care

A new report from the National Alliance to Advance Adolescent Health/Got Transition, [Medicaid Managed Care Contract Language to Expand the Availability of Pediatric-to-Adult Transitional Care](#), offers options that states can use or adapt to improve the availability of transition services for youth and families. A webinar on Friday, November 13, will offer more information. Funding was provided by our Foundation. [Register.](#)

### National Standards of Care

Archived Webinar: [Integrating the National Standards – Strategies for Building Equitable Systems of Care for CYSHCN through the Title V Needs Assessment](#)

### Family Engagement

#### Take the Family Voices Telehealth Readiness Quiz for Families – English or Español

As health care providers ramp up the use of telemedicine, Family Voices is interested in improving families' access to and use of telehealth. They are asking families to complete a survey describing their access to telehealth, and their confidence in and concerns about virtual services. Take the anonymous survey in [English](#) or [Español](#).

#### Webinar: Housing Rights for Families with Special Needs Children

**Date** Wednesday, October 21  
**Time** 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Pacific Time  
**Sponsor** Golden State Pooled Trust  
**Details** Speakers will discuss federal and state protections against disability discrimination in the home, and offer methods for getting needed alterations and accommodations. [Read more and register.](#)

### California Children's Services

#### CCS Advisory Group Considers Whole Child Model, Prescription Drug Policy

Data about the functioning of the Whole Child Model were on the agenda for the October 7 meeting of the CCS Advisory Group, along with an update on the state's plan to move all Medi-Cal pharmacy services from managed care to fee-for-service. The group also discussed updated guidance regarding the Medical Therapy Program, Whole Child Model referrals, and processing of Service Authorization Requests. Members also considered how to add new members to the Advisory Group. [See the agenda and slide presentation.](#)

#### Department of Health Care Services Stakeholder Advisory Committee to Meet

**Date** Wednesday, October 28  
**Time** 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Pacific Time  
**Location** Via webinar  
**Details** Topics include a Medi-Cal enrollment update and discussion of how structural racism should be addressed in the health care delivery system. Find meeting materials and instructions on how to register in advance on the [website](#).

### Children with Medical Complexity

- Issue Brief: [State Roles in Preventing and Improving Foster Care Placements for Children with Medical Complexity](#) – from the National Academy for State Health Policy
- Reminder: The [Putting Care at the Center 2020 Virtual Conference](#) is scheduled for October 27-28. It will offer some information on children with special health care needs, including a presentation on innovative hospital discharge standards.

### CSHCN and Equity

#### Online Event from *Health Affairs*: Children's Health – Improving Equity and Access

**Date** Wednesday, October 21  
**Time** 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Pacific Time  
**Details** Child health is the single topic of the October issue of *Health Affairs*, and the publication is sponsoring an online briefing that will feature some of the articles' authors. Speakers will discuss the persistent racial and ethnic disparities that affect the health of children, which includes those with special health care needs. [Read more and register.](#)

### Mental and Behavioral Health

- Archived Webinar: [Communication Strategies to Improve and Prevent Challenging Behaviors for Minimally Verbal Children](#) – from the Child Neurology Foundation

### COVID-19 Information

#### Webinar: Supporting Children and Youth with Special Healthcare Needs During COVID-19

**Date** Tuesday, October 27  
**Time** 12 to 1 p.m. Pacific Time  
**Sponsors** Manatt Health, the American Academy of Pediatrics, Family Voices, and the Georgetown University Center for Children and Families; funded by the Lucile Packard Foundation for Children's Health and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation  
**Details** Speakers will explore how child advocates and families can work with state Medicaid agencies to enforce coverage requirements and make permanent the temporary regulatory flexibilities that have expanded access to services during the pandemic. [Read more and register.](#)

*Related Report:* [Keeping Medicaid's Promise: Strengthening Access to Services for Children with Special Healthcare Needs](#)

#### Webinar: The Impact of COVID-19 on Children with Special Health Care Needs

**Date** Thursday, October 29  
**Time** 10 to 11 a.m. Pacific Time  
**Sponsor** Health and Human Services Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response  
**Details** As part of a series on how the pandemic may affect children, this webinar will focus on children with special health care needs. Panelists will discuss the impact of COVID-19 and social determinants on this population of children, behavioral health/psychological effects, child neglect/abuse, and secondary disaster preparedness planning considerations. [Read more and register](#) (PDF).

Please find additional resources and information on our [COVID-19 web page](#).

- [COVID-19: Caring for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs](#) – [Healthychildren.org](#) offers advice on coping with COVID-19 from a parent of a child with special health care needs and a physician.

### California Policy

#### Regional Center COVID-19 Waivers Extended

The Department of Developmental Services has issued a letter to all Regional Center directors extending for another 30 days all the COVID-19-related waivers, modifications, and directives previously put into effect. The directives affect early start, respite care, and more. [Read the letter](#) (PDF).

#### Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) Stakeholder Meeting

**Date** Monday, October 19  
**Time** 2 to 3:30 p.m. Pacific Time  
**Dial-In** (888) 946-7603; Passcode: 7752374  
**Details** EVV is a system that electronically verifies that in-home service visits occurred. The federal government requires that all states implement EVV for Medicaid-funded personal care services. [Read more](#) (PDF) and [register](#).

### In Brief

- ['Left Behind': Newsom Vetoes Unemployment Benefits for Family Caregivers](#) – This bill was championed by a mother of a child with special health care needs.
- The State Council on Developmental Disabilities is [seeking comments](#) on its 2022-2026 State Plan. Comment forms are available in a range of languages.

### National Policy

- [Feds Extend Public Health Emergency Medicaid Protections for Beneficiaries and States](#) – from Georgetown Center for Children and Families

### Resource

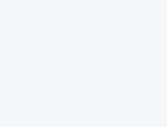
- *Complex Child* – [October Issue](#)

### In the News

- [Special Education Funding Should Be Less Isolated, Have More Accountability, Report Finds](#)  
*EdSource, 10/5/20*
- [Ed Department Reminds Schools of IDEA Obligations During Pandemic](#)  
*Disability Scoop, 10/5/20*

**We'd like to hear from you**

Let us know what's happening with your organization or family. Email newsletter editor Eileen Walsh at [Eileen.Walsh@lpfch.org](mailto:Eileen.Walsh@lpfch.org) with your news or updates.



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