

California Advocacy Network for Children with Special Health Care Needs

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

Network News

New Grants Build on Past Work to Promote System Changes

Four new grants from our Foundation will enable current grantees to build on their prior efforts to improve systems that serve children with special health care needs (CSHCN). The funds will support policy and program recommendations to enhance three key service systems for CSHCN: Medi-Cal, the California Children's Services Program, and California's Regional Centers. [Learn more about the grants.](#)

National Policy

CSHCN Could Benefit from Build Back Better Act; Advocates Urge Focus on Senate Vote

The U.S. House of Representatives has passed the [Build Back Better Act](#), which includes a number of items that affect CSHCN and their families, notably increased funding for home- and community-based services and a national paid leave program. The bill now goes to the Senate, where it is expected to face opposition. See The Arc's information on how to [contact your Senators](#) to share your views, or [find your Senators](#).

Related: [Seven Ways Proposed Improvements to Medicaid Home- and Community-Based Services Can Help Older Adults and People with Disabilities](#) – from the National Health Law Program

Children with Medical Complexity

Webinar: Making the Value Case for Complex Care

Date Tuesday, December 7
Time 9 to 10 a.m. Pacific Time
Sponsor The Better Care Playbook
Details Speakers will explore how individuals in the complex care field can incorporate a multi-faceted approach to measure and demonstrate value for diverse stakeholders, including funders. Two examples of programs that have successfully built the case for complex care will be included. Not pediatric-specific, but of interest. [Read more and register.](#)

Upcoming Webinar Reminders

- [A Family-Centered Research Agenda for Improving Health Care Transitions for Children with Special Health Care Needs](#)
Tuesday, December 7; 10 to 11 a.m. Pacific Time
CYSHCN Research Network, University of Colorado Denver, and Lucile Packard Foundation for Children's Health
- [Conversations with Families: Behavior/Child Mental Health](#)
Thursday, December 9; 10 to 11 a.m. Pacific Time
SickKids Learning Institute
The fourth webinar in the Collaborative Conversations with Families to Advance the Clinical Care of Children with Medical Complexities and Disabilities (C6 Series)
- [Strengthening Patient and Family Advisory Councils in Children's Hospitals](#)
Tuesday, December 14; 9 to 10 a.m. Pacific Time
Institute for Patient- and Family-Centered Care (IPFCC)
- [Optimizing Care Systems for People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities: A Workshop Series](#)
December 8, 10, and 14; 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Pacific Time
National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine

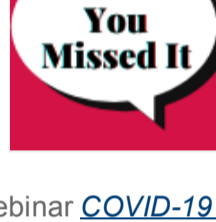
Health Equity

Guide to Promoting Health Equity Through Medicaid Managed Care

Population groups covered by Medicaid, including CSHCN, are often economically and socially marginalized. Many states are using Medicaid to integrate health equity into their population health management strategies. A new guide from State Health and Value Strategies offers a series of steps to be more intentional about advancing health equity in Medicaid, and specifically through Medicaid managed care programs. [Read the guide.](#)

Mental and Behavioral Health

Archived Webinar



The recording and slides from the November 10 webinar [COVID-19 Behavioral Health Policies Affecting CYSHCN: What to Keep, Modify, or Discard?](#) are now available, along with responses to questions that were not answered on the webinar due to time constraints.

In Brief

- [Pediatric Behavioral Health Integration in Primary Care – Understanding One Critical Component of Pediatric Mental Health Care](#) – A commentary from the Children's Hospital Association

Family Engagement

Family Voices Health Summit



The recordings of the [Family Voices of California Online Health Summit](#) are now available.

California Policy

Medi-Cal Children's Health Advisory Panel to Meet

Date Thursday, December 9
Time 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Pacific Time
Details The 15-member panel advises the Department of Health Care Services on policy and operational issues that affect children in Medi-Cal, which includes many CSHCN. [See the agenda and registration information.](#)

In Brief

- [Viewpoint: California Can't Leave Our Children Behind on Missing Medical Care](#) – from State of Reform

Resources

- The Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs' Innovation Hub has launched an [evidence-informed policy track](#) to identify and promote examples of maternal and child health policies that MCH professionals and policymakers can use as blueprints to inform future work.

In the News

- [Survey Finds Schools Failing to Offer Compensatory Services to Students in Special Ed](#)
Disability Scoop, 11/19/21
- [Justice Department Sues Uber for Disability Discrimination](#)
Disability Scoop, 11/11/21

We'd like to hear from you

Let us know what's happening with your organization or family. Email newsletter assistant editor Ali Rivera at Ali.Rivera@lpfch.org with your news or updates. Or contact newsletter editor: Eileen Walsh at Eileen.Walsh@lpfch.org.

[Join the Network](#)

To see past issues, visit the [Network Newsletter Archive](#).

The California Advocacy Network for Children with Special Health Care Needs is a collaborative organized by the Lucile Packard Foundation for Children's Health. Through grantmaking, advocacy, and communications, the Foundation promotes a system of care that improves the lives of children with special health care needs and their families.

