

Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs NETWORK NEWSLETTER

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



Thank you for taking our survey!

Thank you to the 530+ subscribers who completed our survey last month and helped inform the future of this newsletter. We'll be sharing some of the results in our November issue. And, congratulations to Davelyn Patrick, winner of the raffle for the \$100 Amazon gift card.



Are you on LinkedIn?

Our Program for CYSHCN has a new LinkedIn page, where we'll post timely events and news stories that might not be shared in our newsletter, commentary and thought pieces from our program officers and other experts in the field, behind-the-scenes stories with our program team, and more. [Please follow us.](#)

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Register to Attend Virtual Family-Led Academic Grand Rounds Sessions in 2025

The University of Wisconsin and the Bluebird Way Foundation are working together to develop and host a series of virtual Family-Led Academic Grand (FLAG) Rounds with a focus on different aspects of ableism in pediatric health care and the impact on children with disabilities and/or medical complexity and their families. FLAG Rounds flip the traditional grand rounds model by embracing families and youth as primary medical educators. This work is supported by our Foundation.

[Register to attend today.](#) The FLAG Rounds are open to anyone, including medical students, residents, doctors, nurses, social workers, and families. Continuing Education Units are available.

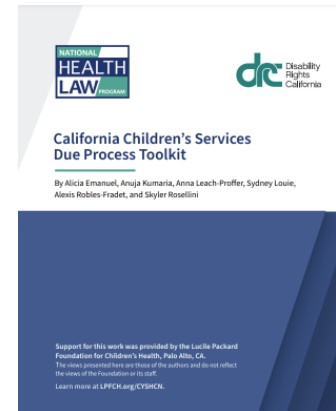
See also:

- [Parent-led Academic Rounds Tackle Ableism in Pediatric Care](#) (BLOOM Blog, 10/9/24)

CALIFORNIA POLICY

California Children's Services Due Process Toolkit

For families of CYSHCN, navigating state health programs can be challenging. The National Health Law Program (NHeLP) created the [California Children's Services Due Process Toolkit](#) to help advocates, CCS beneficiaries, and families understand how to access care through the program and how to file grievances and appeals when children have been denied services. Included in the toolkit are applicable laws, regulations, policy guidance, flowcharts, advocacy tips, and an index of acronyms. This work is supported by our Foundation.



[Access the toolkit](#)

See also:

- [Know Your Appeal Rights for the California Children's Services Program](#)
- [Helping Families Obtain Durable Medical Equipment and Supplies Through the California Children's Services \(CCS\) Program – Updated](#)

Summary of October California Children's Services (CCS) Advisory Group Stakeholder Meeting

Discussion at the October 9 meeting of the CCS Advisory Group included the monitoring of Kaiser's transition to Whole Child Model (WCM), updates on the January 2025 WCM transition (presented by Managed Care Plans and counties), WCM Managed Care Plan operational readiness, WCM program changes since implementation, recruitment for the WCM Family/Clinical Advisory Committee, transition of the Child Health and Disability Prevention Program (presented by Blue Shield of California Promise Health Plan), and revised CCS enrollment data, among other topics. Check the Advisory Group website for the [agenda and slide presentation](#). Save the date for the next meeting on January 8, 2025, which will be held virtually and in person and is open to the public.

[Learn more](#)

CHILDREN WITH MEDICAL COMPLEXITY (CMC)

CMC Virtual Café: Health Equity and Anti-Ableism Through Family Partnership

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.

Don't miss the next to last session in the [Future of Care for Children with Medical Complexity Virtual Café Series](#), which will focus on the need to address bias in systems of care and move from a medical to social model of care. Discussants will share ways families' lived expertise is essential to humanizing systems. Participants will also learn about strategies and resources for effectively partnering with families to make real progress in health equity and anti-ableism. This work is supported by our Foundation.

DATE/TIME: **Wednesday, October 30 | 1-2 pm PT**

DISCUSSANTS:

Nikki Montgomery of Family Voices and mother of a child with medical complexity

Dr. Michelle J. White of Duke University School of Medicine

[Register for the virtual café](#)

Missed previous sessions? [Access recordings, presentations, and other resources from all the virtual cafés on our Foundation's website.](#)

2024 Pediatric Complex Care Lifetime Achievement Awards

The 2024 Pediatric Complex Care Lifetime Achievement Awards presentation to [Nora Wells](#) and [John Gordon](#) recording is now available. The Awards honor individuals who have made lifelong, exceptional, long-lasting contributions to helping children with medical complexity.

[Watch the awards recording \(enter passcode @k3R250b\)](#)

CAREGIVING

State Medicaid Approaches to Respite Care for Children and Youth with Chronic and Complex Needs

Respite care for families of CYSHCN can provide crucial support and alleviate stress, but access to these services can be challenging. [A new issue brief](#) from the National Academy for State Health Policy identifies six strategies that states are implementing to support respite services for children and youth with chronic and complex needs through Medicaid.

[Read the brief](#)

NATIONAL POLICY

Tomorrow: What Medicaid Advocates Should Know About Projected State Budget Shortfalls

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Hosted by the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities and Georgetown University Center for Children and Families, this event is designed to inform and support state and federal advocates for Medicaid as states begin to face budget shortfalls.

DATE/TIME: **Friday, October 18 | 10-11:30 am PT**

[Register for the webinar](#)

See also:

- [Best Practices for Adhering to Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment \(EPSDT\) Requirements](#) (PDF)(Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, 9/26/24)
- [States Told Not to Skimp on Medicaid Coverage for Kids with IDD](#) (*Disability Scoop*, 10/14/24; *may require login*)

PHE UNWINDING

- [Child Uninsured Rate Increases Slightly: Full Impact of Medicaid Unwinding Not Yet Evident](#) (*Say Ahhh!* blog, 10/10/24)
- [NHeLP Hot Topics in Health Law & Policy Weekly Webinar Series: Medicaid Eligibility and Enrollment Post-Unwinding webinar recording](#) (National Health Law Program, 10/1/24)

HEALTH EQUITY

Webinar: Empowering Futures—Guaranteed Income and Health Equity for Children and Families

This webinar will examine the connections between income security, health outcomes, and racial equity, shedding light on how guaranteed income can break the cycle of poverty and improve health access and outcomes for children and families with low incomes, people of color, and immigrant communities. Part of the [2024 Children's HealthWatch Equity Series](#). *Note: Not specific to CYSHCN.*

DATE/TIME: **Thursday, October 24 | 9-10 am PT**

[Register for the webinar](#)

TRANSITION

- [Exceptional Parent Magazine Employment and Transition Issue](#) (*EP Magazine*, October 2024)

MORE NEWS

- [Alice Wong, San Francisco Disability Advocate, Wins MacArthur 'Genius Grant'](#) (KQED, 10/2/24)

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

Let us know what's happening with your organization or program. Send news and updates to Kristen Rogers, Assistant Communications Director, Programs & Partnerships, at info@lpfch.org. Thank you!

To see past issues, visit our [Newsletter Archive](#). If you were forwarded this newsletter and would like to receive it monthly, click the subscribe button below.

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