

## California Advocacy Network

for Children with Special Health Care Needs

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

### Children with Medical Complexity

#### National Initiative Launched to Integrate Health and Social Services for People with Complex Needs

A national demonstration project to promote innovative, person-centered strategies to improve care for adults and children with complex health and social needs was announced October 8 by the Center for Health Care Strategies. The multi-site *Advancing Integrated Models (AIM)* project seeks to better integrate delivery of health and social services by creating partnerships among organizations and meaningfully involving consumers. Each site also will collaborate with a state Medicaid or health plan partner to identify payment options. [Read more](#).

#### Webinar: What Matters Most in Driving Cross-Sector Partnerships for Complex Populations

**Date** Tuesday, November 5  
**Time** 12 p.m. Pacific Time  
**Sponsors** The Better Care Playbook and the Camden Coalition's National Center for Complex Health and Social Needs  
**Details** Good outcomes for patients with complex care needs are achievable when health care providers work locally and in tandem with community, government, and other partners. Webinar speakers will discuss why it is so challenging to build these collaborations and what it takes to establish partnerships that work for patients, providers, health plans, government, and community-based organizations. [Read more and register](#).

### Care Coordination

#### Using a Team-Based Approach to Improve Care Coordination

Care navigators are increasingly common in pediatric care. In an article for the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), two physicians who are members of the AAP Council on Children with Disabilities offer recommendations for how primary and specialty care practices could implement team-based care coordination and collaboration using care coordinators or navigators. [Read more](#).

Also See: [Achieving Care Integration for Children with Medical Complexity: The Human-Centered Design Approach to Care Coordination](#)

### California Children's Services

#### CCS Transition to Adulthood Workgroup to Meet

**Date** Wednesday, October 23  
**Time** 1 to 2:30 p.m. Pacific Time  
**Location** 1515 K Street, Sacramento – Suite 400  
**Dial-In** (888) 924-9621; Participant Code: 8500518  
**Details** See the [website](#) for details.

#### CCS Advisory Group Covers Broad Range of Issues

A number of complex topics were tackled by the CCS Advisory Group at its October 9 meeting. The group discussed findings from a family survey that is part of the Title V needs assessment; a presentation on how the Whole Child Model will be evaluated; and an explanation of how Medi-Cal pharmacy services will be handled under new regulations. See the [agenda and slides](#) (PDF), which provide details about each topic, and additional information about the planned [evaluation](#) (PDF).

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

**Date** Tuesday, October 29  
**Time** 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Pacific Time  
**Location** The California Endowment  
1414 K Street, Sacramento – First Floor Conference Room  
**Dial-In** (888) 606-5935; Passcode: 9283547  
**Details** See the [agenda](#) (PDF).

#### Advocates Webinar: Obtaining Durable Medical Equipment through CCS

**Date** Wednesday, October 23  
**Time** 2 to 3 p.m. Pacific Time  
**Sponsor** National Health Law Program  
**Details** Attorneys will provide guidance on the process for obtaining Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and medical supplies through California Children's Services, and the legal protections that apply. They also will provide advocacy tips and introduce a new issue brief for advocates. One hour General CLE available. This work was supported by our Foundation. [Read more and register](#).

### Family Engagement

#### Fast Facts to Champion Support for Caregiver Depression

Children's development can be adversely affected if their caregivers suffer from depression. A new report from the National Institute for Children's Health Quality (NICHQ) suggests strategies and actions that can be taken to better support families affected by caregiver depression. [Read more](#).

#### Save the Date: Family Voices of California Health Summit

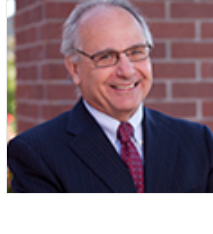
The 2020 Health Summit and Legislative Day is scheduled for March 15-17 in Sacramento. [Read more](#) (PDF).

#### In Brief

- [Navigating Retirement for Families of Children with Special Needs](#) – from National Public Radio

### Network News

#### Dr. Ed Schor Honored for Lifetime Achievement



Ed Schor, MD, former senior vice president at our Foundation, will be honored October 22 by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau with the 2019 Title V Lifetime Achievement Award. The award is presented annually to recognize outstanding contributions made to the field of maternal and child health over a sustained period. This award recognizes Dr. Schor's history of distinguished service with lasting contributions to maternal and child health, including children with special health care needs. [Read his reflections](#) on how best to continue efforts to create a system that works for children and families.

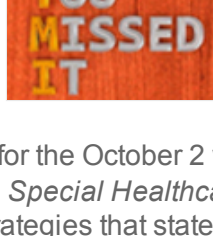
### Special Education

#### Family and Medical Leave Act Covers Individualized Education Program (IEP) Meetings

The federal Family and Medical Leave Act may cover a working family member's attendance at meetings in which their child's Individualized Education Program (IEP) is discussed, according to an "opinion letter" issued in August by the US Department of Labor. The letter notes that leave time is covered under attendance for conferences related to caring "for a family member with a serious health condition." [Read the letter](#) (PDF).

### National Policy

#### Webinar on Ensuring that CSHCN Receive All Services Required under Medicaid



The [recording](#) and [slides](#) (PDF) now are available for the October 2 webinar, *Keeping Medicaid's Promise: Strengthening Access to Services for Children with Special Healthcare Needs*. The webinar highlighted a new [issue brief](#) from Manatt Health that offers a checklist of strategies that state Medicaid agencies can implement to improve access to services and health care for Medicaid-enrolled children. Speakers also described examples from states that have successfully implemented the best practices.

#### In Brief

- [Courts Block Trump Public Charge Regulations](#) – from the National Immigration Law Center
- Open enrollment for 2020 health care coverage begins November 1. [Read about how to apply or make changes](#). For California, open enrollment began October 15 and runs through January. See [Covered California](#).
- [Social Security Benefits Increase in 2020](#) – Includes Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

### California Policy

#### In Brief

- [Newsom Signs Law Protecting Special Needs Students at Nonpublic California Schools](#)  
*Sacramento Bee, 10/8/19*
- [State Releases Developmental Screenings Policy Details for Children Covered by Medi-Cal](#) (PDF) – from the California Department of Health Care Services

### Resources

- [Helping Community-Based Organizations Be Prepared for Emergencies](#) – Information focused on people with disabilities and seniors from the Administration for Community Living, Department of Health and Human Services.
- *Complex Child* October Issue: [Siblings](#)
- [The Build Your Plan Tool](#) – A guide from The Arc to assist individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in planning for their future, with sections on housing, finances, employment, and relationships and friends.

### In the News

- [Victory for Disability Advocates: Supreme Court Won't Hear Domino's Pizza Accessibility Case](#)  
*USA Today, 10/7/19*
- [Study: 1 in 6 Children Has a Developmental Disability](#)  
*AAP News, 9/26/19*

#### 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.

