

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS ABSTRACT

Project Title: New York State Medical Home Project
Project Number: CFDA #93.110F
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ABSTRACT

1. Organizational Setting

The New York State Medical Home Project for CSHCN is a collaborative effort among families whose children have special health care needs, District II of the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Academy of Family Physicians, the Bureau of Child and Adolescent Health (BCAH) of the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) and other key stakeholders. Within the New York State Department of Health is the administration of Medicaid, Medicaid Managed Care, and Child Health Plus (S-CHIP) programs, which all affect CSHCN within the State. The New York State Department of Health's Children with Special Health Care Needs Program resides within the Center for Community Health which administers the Maternal and Child Health Block Grant. Individuals who have extensive experience with CSHCN and medical home will staff the project. Christopher A. Kus M.D., M.P.H, Pediatric Medical Director, Division of Family Health and Nancy A. Kehoe, M.S., the Director of the Title V CSHCN Program, will be the Co-Principal Investigators.

2. Purpose

NYSDOH embraces the American Academy of Pediatrics definition of the Medical Home as "the provision of accessible, continuous, comprehensive, family-centered, coordinated and compassionate care..." To ensure that CSHCN in New York State benefit from a medical home, NYSDOH will:

- Engage key stakeholders to develop and implement a comprehensive statewide medical home plan for New York State.
- Ensure that all CSHCN, especially the hard to reach/serve populations, have access to medical homes in New York State.
- Implement the medical home plan in three major geographic regions of NYS, which will become mentoring projects during statewide implementation.

3. Challenges

New York State has many challenges to providing a medical home for all CSHCN. Geographical and cultural diversity presents issues that must be addressed. Data from the CSHCN Program indicates that approximately 25% of the CSHCN currently served report that they do not have a primary care physician. In rural areas of the state, access to physicians in the local community is often difficult; requiring families of CSHCN to travel long distances for primary, specialty and sub-specialty care. The same is often true for access to physicians who are acquainted with the cultural difference and language barriers presented by immigrant families. An estimated 80% of New York State's 40,000 children in foster care have one or more chronic health conditions, presenting other challenges than their peers with CSHCN. With over 15,000 children reported as homeless in New York State, concern exists that their families will not have access to their usual medical home. Both groups may not have a source of continuous, comprehensive, family-centered care and therefore, do not have an ongoing source of medical care and information. It may be more difficult for foster parents or families who are homeless to access necessary community supports.

4. Goals and Objectives

Goals:

To establish medical homes for children with special health care needs statewide by instilling the medical home concept in medical practices throughout New York State.

Objectives:

- Engage primary care providers, pediatric specialists and sub-specialists, families and other public and private partnerships to incorporate all aspects of the medical home concepts into a standard of care that is practiced for each child with special health care needs.
- Develop and implement an inclusive model that will serve the difficult-to-reach populations including practitioners and CSHCN located in urban and rural areas of the state, children in foster care and children who are homeless and their medical providers to ensure they receive the benefits of the medical home.
- Implement a statewide medical home plan through replication of medical home strategies.

5. Methodology

The New York State Department of Health proposes to build on its multiple initiatives to encourage the development of family-centered, continuous, comprehensive, coordinated, compassionate and culturally competent services for CSHCN as it develops its Medical Home Project. The following activities will support the goals and objectives of the Medical Home Project:

- Convene New York State Medical Home Advisory Group including key stakeholders to review and advise on a strategic plan for the NYS Medical Home Project.
- Provide Medical Home Training designed specifically for New York State for primary care providers, pediatric specialists and sub-specialists and families of CSHCN and other key stakeholders.
- Implement the project in medical practices that care for CSHCN, including children in foster care and children who are homeless, which represent the geographical and cultural diversity in New York State.
- Develop a strategic plan based on the principles from the implemented projects; including comprehensive care coordination and evaluation of its effectiveness in the Medical Home.

6. Evaluation

A subcontractor will be utilized as a consultant to incorporate evaluation into all aspects of the project; assessment and planning, implementation, monitoring and analysis/evaluation.

The New York State Medical Home Project will be evaluated utilizing the following methodology:

- Advisory Group activities will be evaluated through review of meeting minutes and the state plan.
- The regional training will be evaluated using pre and post training assessments.
- The implementation of the medical home concept will be measured by an assessment off the primary care providers and families of CSHCN involved in the project. The AAP and the Medical Home Improvement Project have evaluation tools that can be adapted to meet the needs of New York State.
- The evaluation of health outcomes will be conducted through analysis of information provided by medical home practice partners.
- The Advisory Group will utilize the results of continuous quality improvement activities during the grant to refine the state medical home plan.

7. Text of Annotation

CSHCN have complex health needs, which are best met through the provision of accessible, continuous, comprehensive, family-centered, coordinated and compassionate care. The purpose is to fund a statewide Medical Home project that develops, implements, trains, supports and evaluates medical homes for all Children with Special Health Care Needs, including the hard to reach populations, such as children in foster care and children who are homeless. Collaboration with the three state chapters of AAP in New York State, the American Academy of Family Physicians, Family Voices and other key stakeholders including state agencies is required. This project will develop the New York State Medical Home Project in three regional areas of New York State.

21. Key Words

Medical Home, Children with Special Health Care Needs, Foster Care, Homeless, American Academy of Pediatrics, American Academy of Family Physicians.