

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

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

**Remember to Vote! Election Day is November 3.**

[Find Out How, When, and Where to Vote.](#)

### Network News

#### New Foundation Grants Focus on Transition, Family Engagement, COVID-19

Easing adolescents' transition to adult health care, developing guidance for effective partnerships between families and researchers, and assessing the impact of COVID-19 on children with special health care needs are the goals of three grants recently awarded by our Foundation. [Read about the grants.](#)

#### Foundation Website Refreshed

Our Foundation's website pages devoted to the Program for Children with Special Health Care Needs have been redesigned. See updated information about our focus areas for systems change, grantmaking work, publications, and more. Check out the [revised site](#).

### Family Engagement

#### Webinar: Demystifying Telehealth - What Families of Children with Special Health Care Needs Need to Know

**Date** Monday, November 9  
**Time** 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Pacific Time  
**Sponsor** Family Voices of California  
**Details** This webinar aims to enhance awareness and understanding about how families can use telehealth, its value for children and youth with special health care needs, and what policies are needed to ensure access and sustainability. Simultaneous interpretation in Cantonese and Español and closed captioning will be available. [Register.](#)

#### Fact Sheet: Family Engagement in California State Policymaking

To assess the extent to which the state meaningfully incorporates input from caregivers and youth in policy decisions, the California Research Bureau collected data from the 53 state boards and committees that are primarily focused on children. Read a summary of the [findings and recommendations](#), compiled by Children Now with funding from our Foundation.

### Children with Medical Complexity

#### Webinar: Deep Dive into the Complex Care Core Competencies

**Date** Tuesday, November 10  
**Time** 10 to 11 a.m. Pacific Time  
**Sponsor** National Center for Complex Health and Social Needs  
**Details** The complex care core competencies, which are the knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed by every complex care practitioner, were released this month. Learn about why they were developed, how they were developed, what they are, and how to start using them today. While not pediatric focused, this information may be of interest. [Read](#) about the competencies, and [register](#) for the webinar.

### Transition to Adult Care

#### Webinar: Medicaid Managed Care Contract Provisions for Pediatric to Adult Transitional Care: Recommendations and State Examples

**Date** Friday, November 13  
**Time** 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Pacific Time  
**Sponsors** National Alliance to Advance Adolescent Health/Got Transition, with funding from the Lucile Packard Foundation for Children's Health  
**Details** Speakers will discuss a new [report](#) that describes options that states can use or adapt to improve the availability of transition services for youth and families. [Register.](#)

### Care Coordination

#### National Standards for Care Coordination Available



The National Care Coordination Standards for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN) outline the core, system-level components of high-quality care coordination for CYSHCN. A new [report](#) on the standards and the recording and presentation slides from an October 21 webinar that introduced the standards are now available.

### National Standards of Care

#### Evaluation: States Now Using National Standards of Care for CYSHCN to Improve Their Systems

Eight years after their launch in 2012, the [National Standards for Systems of Care for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs](#) are becoming increasingly influential, including being used as a framework in multiple states to develop policies and to write managed care contracts. An independent evaluation, conducted by Issues Research and funded by our Foundation, synthesizes the views of 50 stakeholders and highlights examples of Standards usage in five states. [Read more.](#)

### Telehealth

#### COVID-19 Brought Changes to Telehealth Policies; Which Should Become Permanent?

In response to COVID-19, state Medicaid agencies have temporarily expanded their telehealth coverage and reimbursement policies in varying degrees, which has helped CSHCN maintain access to care during the pandemic. A new analysis from Manatt Health, funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and our Foundation, presents a table of key Medicaid telehealth policy domains that affect access to care, and discusses which policies could be made permanent to best support children and their families. [Read more.](#)

*Related:* [State Medicaid & CHIP Telehealth Toolkit: Policy Considerations for States Expanding Use of Telehealth](#) (PDF) – from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

### Durable Medical Equipment

- [For Medically Fragile Children, Pandemic-Induced Supply Shortages Continue](#) – from the California Health Report

### CSHCN and Equity

- [Child Health Care Transformation: Addressing the Triple Crisis of COVID-19, Racial Injustice and the Economic Downturn](#) – A blog from the Georgetown Center for Children and Families

### National Policy

#### Opportunity to Comment on Maternal and Child Health Bureau Plan for Improving Care for CSHCN

The federal Maternal and Child Health Bureau is encouraging public comments and suggestions to inform its *Blueprint for Change: Guiding Principles for Advancing the System of Services for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs and Families*. Comments must be submitted to [CYSHCN@hrsa.gov](mailto:CYSHCN@hrsa.gov) by **November 30**. [Read about the plan.](#)

#### Check Your Health Plans: Open Enrollment Is Coming

Open enrollment for 2021 health coverage begins on November 1 in most states and extends through December 15. See the [federal government page](#) for basic information, but use individual state plan pages for local deadlines and details.

### California Policy

#### New Date: Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) Stakeholder Meeting

**Date** Monday, November 2  
**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. To attend the webinar broadcast you must [register ahead of time](#).

### COVID-19 Information

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

### Resource

#### Future Planning 101

Planning for the future is an ongoing process for individuals with disabilities and their families. The free Build Your Plan tool from The Arc helps with thinking through important topics such as paying for basic needs, living arrangements, developing relationships, putting wishes in writing, and many others. [Read more.](#)

#### Training Opportunity

#### Operationalizing Your Title V Action Plan During Times of Uncertainty

Title V professionals and their partners are invited to participate in a free virtual Skills Institute in November, sponsored by the Maternal and Child Health Workforce Development Center. [Read more](#) and [register](#).

### In the News

- [Schools in L.A. County Can Reopen for Up to 25% of Their Students Who Need Special Services](#)  
*LA Times, 10/22/20*
- [Google Improves Tool to Help People Who Are Nonverbal](#)  
*Disability Scoop, 10/20/20*
- [Coronavirus Pandemic Challenges Those with Developmental Disabilities](#)  
*Disability Scoop, 10/13/20*

#### 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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