



Children & Youth with Special Health Care Needs

www.doh.wa.gov/cyshcn

COMMUNICATION NETWORK MEETING

January 12, 2023

CYSHCN Communication Network Purpose:

Provide for exchange of information among those programs and entities that serve children with special health care needs and their families and facilitate an opportunity to learn more about statewide policies, programs and issues critical to this unique population.

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Attendees

Due to continued social distancing requirements enacted by Governor Inslee, Communication Network will be conducted entirely in an online format.

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Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN) Program Update

www.doh.wa.gov/YouandYourFamily/InfantsChildrenandTeens/HealthandSafety/ChildrenwithSpecialHealthCareNeeds.aspx

Staff Updates

Sarah Burdette and Bonnie Burlingham have left DOH for new adventures within Public Health. Please email CHIF Inbox with CHIF related questions or Linda Ramirez with any other inquiries and she will direct you to the correct person.

Washington Statewide Leadership Initiative (WSLI) and DOH Family Engagement

Listening Session set for February 15th to hear from families of children and youth living with Type 1 Diabetes, planned in collaboration with Khim Schoenacker. ASL interpretation will be provided.

Exploring possibilities for a Parent Advisory Council to guide care coordination work done in partnership with HCA and PAVE.

For more WSLI or DOH Family Engagement information, contact Nikki Dyer at 360-236-3536 or nikki.dyer@doh.wa.gov.

CYSHCN Program Nutrition Updates

Training Module called “new Educator Course to best Support Development of Cooking Skills for Adolescent with Disabilities” is in development.

Type 1 Diabetes workgroup continues to hold monthly meetings with recently added members post survey that indicated need for more support with mental health in this population.

Work on P2P training specific to T1D with a statewide coordinator role underway.

WIC Office hours continue to be available for CYSHCN Nutrition support.

For more information, please contact Khimberly Schoenacker at 360-236-3573 or khimberly.schoenacker@doh.wa.gov.

Behavioral and Adolescent Health

Year 2 of Pediatric Mental Health Care Access grant has begun. Funding two new projects with PMHCA one year expansion funds, one at Seattle Children’s Emergency Department and one with the UW Medical Homes Project.

Working with Khim on mental health and Type 1 Diabetes. Looking at how other states are addressing the issue.

For more Behavioral and Adolescent Health information, contact Renee Tinder at 360-584-7665

Renee.Tinder@doh.wa.gov.

CYSHCN Communication & Early Childhood

Working with Child Health and Essentials for Childhood team on communication plan.

Purpose/Goal: Raise awareness and commitment to preventing child maltreatment and promoting safe, stable relationships and environments so that all children thrive.

For more information, contact Linda Ramirez at Linda.Ramirez@doh.wa.gov.

Essentials for Childhood (EFC)

No Updates at this time

For more information, contact Bella Mendez at bella.mendez@doh.wa.gov or at www.doh.wa.gov/efc.

Universal Developmental Screening (UDS)

No updates at this time.

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MCH LHJ Contracts Updates

No updates at this time.

For more information, please contact Kara Seaman at Kara.seaman@doh.wa.gov.

Guest Presentations

Blueprint for Change for CYSHCN

Monica Burke, DOH, CYSHCN Director

New Federal Blueprint for Change: <https://mchb.hrsa.gov/programs-impact/focus-areas/children-youth-special-health-care-needs-cyshcn/blueprint-change>

Guiding Principles for a System of Services for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN) and their Families:

- **Health Equity**
- **Family/Child Well-being and Quality of Life**
- **Access to Services and Supports**
- **Financing of Services**

Blueprint for Change's Overall Vision

Children and youth with special health care needs enjoy a full life, from childhood through adulthood, and thrive in a system that supports their social, health, and emotional needs, ensuring dignity, autonomy, independence, and active participation in their communities.

Currently only 14% of CYSHCN receive care in a well-functioning system.

More data: <https://www.childhealthdata.org/browse/survey/results?q=9440&r=49&g=1000&r2=1>

Underlying Assumptions

- Disability is a natural part of human experience and in a no way diminishes the right of individuals in or contribute to society.
- Racism is a social risk factor that has a profound impact on the health status of children, adolescents, young adults, and their families.
- CYSHCN require more and different types of services than those for typically developing children and youth, yet the current system is not ensuring access to these services, particularly for CYSHCN impacted by poverty and discrimination.
- CYSHCN are more severely impacted by the adverse effects of social determinants of health and inequities.

Critical Area 1: Health Equity

- Vision:
 - All CYSHCN have a fair and just opportunity to be as healthy as possible and thrive throughout their live (e.g., from school to the workforce), without discrimination, and regardless of the circumstances in which they were born or live.

- Principle 1:
 - Structural and systemic causal barriers to health equity are eliminated, including discrimination, poverty, and other social risk factors.
- Principle 2:
 - Sectors, systems, and programs that fund, deliver, and monitor services and supports for CYSHCN are designed and implemented to reduce health disparities and improve health outcomes for all CYSHCN.

Critical Area 2: Family and Child Well-Being and Quality of Life

- Vision:
 - The service system prioritizes quality of life, well-being, and supports flourishing for CYSHCN and their families.
- Principle 1:
 - Families, regardless of circumstance, can access high-quality, affordable, community-based services that support the medical, behavioral, social, and emotional well-being of the child or youth and whole family.
- Principle 2:
 - Health systems place value on the measurement and use of both child and family well-being and quality-of-life outcomes and health outcomes.

Critical Area 3: Access to Services

- Vision:
 - CYSHCN and their families have timely access to the integrated, easy-to-navigate, high-quality health care and supports they need, including but not limited to physical, oral, and behavioral health providers; home and community-based supports; and care coordination throughout the life course.
- Principle 1:
 - All services and supports at the individual, family, community, and provider levels are easy for families and professionals to navigate when, where, and how they need them.
- Principle 2:
 - The workforce is trained to meet the needs of CYSHCN and their families, reflects the families and communities they serve, and is culturally responsive.
- Principle 3:
 - Service sectors increase the ability of CYSHCN and their families to access services by addressing administrative and other processes that hinder access.

Critical Area 4: Financing of Services

- Vision:
 - Health care and other related services are accessible, affordable, comprehensive, and continuous; they prioritize the well-being of CYSHCN and families.
- Principle 1:
 - Health care and other related services for CYSHCN and families are financed and paid for in the ways that support and maximize an individual's values and choice in meeting needs.
- Principle 2:
 - Health and social service sector investments address social determinants of health to increase family well-being and flourishing.
- Principle 3:
 - Payers and service sectors adopt value-based payment strategies that support families, advance equity, and incorporate continuous quality improvement by enhancing team-based integrated care.

CYSHCN Strategic Planning Goals

- System of Care
 - Funding
 - Equitable Access
 - Concrete Supports for Well Being
 - Family Navigation & Care Coordination

Questions:

Q: Are LHJ's able to access Administrative Match funding to fund more PHN's at the local level?

A: Yes, example Benton-Franklin Health District uses Administrative Match funding, and it has been working well for the health district.

Q: How do will this data make a difference at a state level? Is this an opportunity federally for some response for increased funding?

A: The data has provided a roadmap at the federal level, that have been highlighted a lot of the gaps that we know exist.

Q: As we all know there are massive gaps for CYSHCN- workforce shortages, waitlists, etc.- is anyone collecting data regarding the gaps families face and communicating these to legislators?

A: state agency folks we cannot advocate directly to legislators, but we do collect information on gaps and communicate that to leadership at DOH and to HCA and other state agencies

Q: Population based funding creates inequity to rural and remote areas because we don't have population but still have needs- looking at the strategic plan- wondering what this plan will look like for rural equity?

A: Rural areas would be a population of focus in our plan. This is necessary in order to have equitable access to the system of care for CYSHCN. We have several projects we are working on that are focused on expanding access to services in rural and frontier areas of the state and plan to expand these efforts.

Q: What are the ages Department of Health Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs serve?

A: Through age 17 for new clients and through age 20 for existing clients.

Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

Todd Woolen, Department of Children Youth and Families

What is SSI vs SSA Benefits

- SSI is a federal program that provides benefits to low-income children and families. Children must meet medical eligibility criteria. The Social Security Administration looks at income, resources and assets, living arrangements and medical impairments.
- SSA is a federal program where a child may be eligible for Title II benefits if client is the biological child, adopted child, or dependent stepchild of a parent who is disabled, retired or deceased and insured because they worked enough credit hours to qualify for these benefits. Benefits stop when the child reaches age 18 unless child is a student or disabled.

Who determines SSI eligibility?

- The Social Security Administration receives the application and determines if the claimant is financially eligible for SSI. SSA looks at all income, resources, assets, living situation of the claimant. Once determined financially eligible the medical case is sent to the state agency for medical determination.
- The Disability Determinations Services determines the medical decision on the case and reviews all available **medical, mental health, school and other lay information in determining eligibility.**

What may qualify a child for SSI

- Mental Health Diagnosis- Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, Attention Deficit Disorders, Mood Disorders, Personality Disorders,
- Developmental Delays, Learning Disability, Borderline Intellectual Functioning, Down' Syndrome
- Emotionally/Behaviorally Disturbed-Sexually Aggressive Youth, Oppositional Defiant Disorder, Conduct Disorder
- Delays in functional domains: acquiring and using information, attending and completing tasks, interacting and relating with others, moving about and manipulating objects, caring for yourself (self-care), and health and well-being.
- Medical Conditions- Diabetes, Epilepsy, Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, Crohn's Disease, Congenital Heart Anomaly
- Physical Health Diagnosis-Low birth weight, Cerebral Palsy, Neurological disorders, Visual or Hearing Impaired

Gather Information for Application

- Review medical records or reports including well-child visits, evaluations, discharge summaries, intakes.
- Review mental health evaluations, clinical visits or quarterly reports.
- Review school records including IEPs (with evaluation), 504 plans, detentions suspensions.
- Complete functional report for age-appropriate child.

Complete SSI On-line Disability Report

- Go to SSA website and complete child disability report.
- Make sure you have all provider information with dates seen, addresses, phone numbers to include in the on-line application.
- You will also need to include all medications with provider information and dosage.
- Complete the on-line report.
- [Supplemental Security Income | SSA](#)
- SSA will contact claimant once they receive the on-line disability report with any additional information they need.

Once SSI application is completed Social Security will likely need more information

- It's important to read all correspondence from SSA and DDS and respond accordingly.
- DDS will likely need updated functional information from caregiver.
- A Consultative Exam (CE) may be needed if there is a lack of current medical evidence.
- It's very important to confirm CE appointment and take claimant to CE exam.
- The initial application can take several months before a decision is made. Many decisions get denied when there is lack of cooperation from claimant or family.

The SSI Decision

- Once medical decision made the claim will either be allowed or denied and sent back to Social Security.
- If the claim is allowed, SSA will complete a PERC with the caregiver and SSI will go into pay.
- If the claim is denied, SSA will close out the file and send a Notice of Denial to family.
- Claimant has 60 days to appeal the denial decision and request a reconsideration.

SSI Process

- It's very important to be in good communication with SSA or the DDS adjudicator during the SSI application process.
- Notify DDS of any changes to medical treatments or school supports.
- Attend any appointments that SSA/DDS requests for claimant.
- The SSI application process can take several months up to a year for a decision.

Final Thoughts

- Must be income eligible.
- Have a physical or mental Diagnosis expected to last 12 months or result in death.
- Make sure you complete the disability report with all dates, addresses and diagnoses to the best of your ability.
- Families who have MCO they can contract Centauri: They can place a referral with third party, which is totally free for the member, and they will assist the member in applying for SSI.

Questions

Q: Is there any trends of why families are denied- etc. missing paperwork?

A: Not providing not all information requested, updated documents, and responding in a timely manner to the request from SSI.

Q: How far does SSI back pay go?

A: Initial file date, ext. file in June 2022, back pay will go back as far as of June 2022.

Q: Is there presumptive listing and compassionate allowances for children? If so, are the lists same for adult and children?

A: Yes, there are. There are presumptive or compassion allowance listings.

Q: Is there any desire to make communications with families clearer to understand?

A: Information is unknown, if social security has plans to make better access.

Q: For an 18-year-old application, how far should the school, Mental Health and medical go back?

A: For an adult application, it depends. SSI is going to weigh school information once they're considered an adult, not as strong. It's most important to have medical and mental health information, that goes back a year to a year and a half.

Q: For a parent with an intellectual disability is it possible to have this information completed and follow up correspondence directed to a case manager to help support the application process?

A: Yes, if you go on the SSA's website and you fill out the online disability report there is a question of who's filling out the report.

Q: How can an individual with a disability report wages if they are working a couple of hours per week?

A: Once you have your paystub, individual needs to report it to social security. Any income or resource that a youth has they have to report to social security.

Q: How long does an SSI overpayment waiver take?

A: A request for a waiver of overpayment can take a few months before Social Security makes a decision on the request. We've seen it take several months before a decision was made and SSA made an adjustment to the benefits. Also, in my experience every SSA District Office is different in processing their own work.

Q: What is the income and resource eligibility?

A: The resource limit is \$2,000 and income eligibility is located [Supplemental Security Income \(SSI\) | Benefits.gov](#)

Q: Are babies born with an extreme low birth weight still eligible for SSI? If so, do you still see Social Workers in the hospitals submit the SSI application?

A: Social workers used to submit an SSI application in the hospital when children were born failure to thrive and/or low birth weight, which is an eligible for SSI.

Q: Is there presumptive listing and compassionate allowances for children? If so, are the list the same for adults and children?

A: There are compassion allowances.

Q: Are our Apple Health Medicaid plans still providing the assistance for the SSI application process? If so, does the parents call their plan for that assistance?

A: I'm not familiar with the insurance companies currently assisting families. I would suggest they call their plan and inquire about assistance or even a possible referral for assistance.

Q: Is there talk about raising the income eligibility so more families can qualify and get support for caring for their children?

A: There is talk about raising the income eligibility, but when it's going to happen is unknown. SSI just increased the payment amount this year 2023, which is over \$900.

Q: If someone over the age of 18 applies and is denied for not having worked enough, did they apply under the wrong program?

A: Yes, the claimant filed an application in the wrong program. The claimant over 18 would need to **file a Supplemental Security Income (SSI) application** which is different than a SSA Disability Benefits (Survivors, Disabled, Deceased Benefits).

Q: Does SSI allow foster children to have a dedicated account to save their benefit payments over time? If so, is there a cap on the account amount?

A: Dedicated accounts are for any claimant that gets awarded. Yes, DCYF establishes dedicated accounts for all children that are allowed after 6 months.

Q: Does SSI pay for functional testing or a neuropsychologist testing?

A: Yes, SSI does pay for functional testing and/or neuropsychologist testing.

Q: What is usually the general wait time for parents to get a decision for SSI on eligibility and then start payment?

A: Usually took about a total of 4 to 6 months to receive a decision in the past. Covid change the wait time, making it much longer, decisions taking over a year for the initial.

Informing Families

Tracie Hoppis, Darla Helt, & Sarah Forster, Informing Families Coordinators

Who We Are

- Started in 2007, Informing Families is a resource provided by the Washington State Developmental Disabilities Council, in partnership the Developmental Disabilities Administration.

Our Goal

- Our goal is to offer trusted news and information to individuals and families that empowers them to be active participants in planning and building a network of support and opportunities.

Our Team

- Our advisory committee is composed of family members and representatives of DDA and other agencies. They ensure that the issues we follow are relevant to the needs and interests of individuals and families—not just today, but into tomorrow, by offering tools and tips on planning for the future. Along with the committee, Informing Families is supported by 12 coordinators who support and assist families throughout the state.

The Coordinators

- Informing Families is supported by a team of coordinators throughout the state that provide information, tools, and resources to local communities and families in their area. The coordinators meet with families, listen to their stories, and support them with information and tools. The coordinators also assist in providing insight to what information is needed for the Informing Families website content to keep information up to date and relevant to the day to day lives of the families we aim to support.
- Informing Families Coordinators are located in the following counties:
 - Kittitas
 - Grant
 - Adams
 - Lincoln
 - Ferry
 - Spokane
 - Yakima
 - Thurston
 - Mason
 - Pierce
 - Snohomish
 - Clark
 - Cowlitz
 - Skamania
 - King
 - Kitsap
- If your county is not specifically listed, just reach out to the closest one.
 - Informing Families Coordinators List

The Content

- Bulletins
 - We provide one-page bulletins that cover a variety of topics. Bulletins are vetted by DDA and other organizations. These bulletins provide accurate information on programs, services, and resources in a simple and condensed information. Bulletins are often translated into more than one language including Spanish, Somali, Vietnamese to reach as many communities as possible.
- Newsletters
 - Informing Families provides a quarterly newsletter that is mailed out to the DDA No Paid Service Caseload and uploaded online. This newsletter includes upcoming changes in services, community events, available programs, and more.

- Link to sign up for newsletter: <https://informingfamilies.org/news/>
- Content Library
 - The Informing Families website provides information on over 20+ topics from Legal Advocacy and Services to Assistive Technology. These topics are updated as information and programs change throughout the state. Information is vetted and confirmed by DDA and is intended for parents, self-advocates, and professionals.
- Facebook
 - In partnership with our website, Informing Families runs a Facebook page that is consistent with updates and releases on the website. The Facebook page shares events, trainings, and information going on throughout different communities in the state.
- E-News
 - Between quarterly newsletters, Informing Families sends out an e-newsletter monthly to subscribers. This newsletter includes updates on the site, new bulletins, and upcoming events.

The Website

- Families, professionals, and self-advocates can access a large library of content at any time for free at the Informing Families website. This website has information to support individuals with disabilities and their families in all stages of life. All content is reliable and vetted by government agencies. Content is created to support and teach the community about supports available to them.
- www.informingfamilies.org
- [Understanding ABLE and ETF Accounts](#)
- [Ready, Set, KNOW...](#)
- [High School Transition Toolkit](#)
 - [PDF](#)

Questions

Q: How do we get a local Informing Families Coordinator?

A: To connect with a coordinator, please send me an email at sarah@arcwa.org!

Q: What is the difference between a local provider versus a coordinator?

A: Local providers work with specific services with DDA and Informing Families coordinators provide information, tools, and resources to local communities and families in their area.

Q: Would there be a coordinator for Tribal areas?

A: No, you would contact the one from your county.

Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) Eligibility

William Nichol, Department of Social and Health Services, DDA

What is a DDA?

- DDA services is the main pathway to services for kids with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the state of Washington.

What are the qualifications for DDA?

Unlike SSI, DDA is a separate program that is not dependent on income. Clients do not have to have meet income qualifications in order to receive DDA services. In fact, clients can get access to some paid services based on the child's income rather than the family.

DSHS Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA): How to Apply and Why

- <https://informingfamilies.org/dda-how-to-apply/>

Initial Process for Applying for DDA

- First you need to apply for eligibility.
- Once eligible for DDA services, you need to request a service.
- Just because you become an eligible client of DDA doesn't necessarily mean that you're going to get a paid service. You MUST put in a request for a service.
- More information to on DDA eligibility and application: <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/dda/consumers-and-families/eligibility>
 - At the moment IQ score is require but starting 2025 an IQ score will no longer be required for eligibility for DDA.
- Service Referral and Information Request Form: [Service and Information Request | DSHS \(wa.gov\)](#)
- Eligibility Requirements for DDA services: [Eligible Conditions Specific to Age and Type of Evidence \(wa.gov\)](#)
- One thing to not about Community First is that even if you don't meet the other eligibility requirements or DDA, if your child is on Apple Health and need support with activities of daily living you can get an assessment for DDA, just for Community First Choice.
 - For Example: Families can receive assistive technology benefit through Community first choice. There is a certain allotment per year that families can use for assistive technology that help the child be more independent.
 - [DDA Home & Community Based Services Waivers | Informing Families](#)
 - [DDA Waivers.pdf \(informingfamilies.org\)](#)
 - If families have made a request before and have been denied because there were no waiver spots available, they need to re-request services again once slots open up.
 - [Service and Information Request | DSHS \(wa.gov\)](#)
- Additional information in applying for DDA services in Washington State: [Applying DD in WA.pdf \(informingfamilies.org\)](#)
- Apply for Early Support for Infants and Toddlers (ESIT). A family Resources Coordinator (FRC) will help you obtain screenings, services and supports.
- DDA requires a re-determination of eligibility at age 4, so you will need to re-apply for DDA services before that happens. DDA will send a notice 6 months prior to your child turning 4.

Question:

Q: Can respite care and/or CFC be accessed prior to age 4?

A: Yes, this use to no be the case, but now it is a possibility for folks to be able to access CFC and or personal care services.

Q: Do they gain access through ESIT, or do they call DDA office?

A: Recommended to work with your Family Resource Coordinator at DDA.

Q: What about children whose parents are active duty or veterans?

A: Active-duty folks can go to PAVE for the STOMP program: <https://wapave.org/?s=stomp>

Q: There is a long time between applying and receiving benefits. Do families receive back pay from the date of application?

A: Not part of DDA. DDA does not provide back pay system like SSI. DDA provide services to families not payments.

Q: Does the child have to be a citizen?

A: Yes, goes off child's status not parents/caregivers.

CSHCN Coordinator Updates by County

Gathered from counties and shared on a quarterly basis.

Grays Harbor County Public Health

Erin Schreiber, Program Supervisor, Healthy Families Division

No updates at this time.

Grant County Health District

Julia Austin, RN, BSN, Public Health Nurse

No updates at this time.

Island County Public Health

Loretta D. Bezold, RN, BSN, IBCLC, Public Health Nurse

No updates at this time.

Jefferson County Public Health

Apple Martine, Community Health Director

No updates at this time.

Kitsap County Public Health District

Janet Wyatt, CYSHCN Coordinator

Kitsap County T1D coalition, pending results from parent survey on what services they would like in the county. SMART team is putting together a survey for providers in Kitsap County on availability; either COE training, or RUBI, and how would they support a diagnosis in the school or their office.

Klickitat County Health Department

Nicole Christiansen, RN, CYSHCN Coordinator

We have been working to connect with schools and early intervention providers in the area to offer our services expanded our client list and increase the number of families we are helping our community.

Okanogan County Public Health

Lacretia Warnstaff, Public Health Nurse, CYSHCN Coordinator

This quarter was spent updating our website and focusing on the CYSCHCN program and resources. This is a work in progress. In addition to reports, spent time entering in all clients to the MFT system. There were several COVID calls that included vulnerable children that had RSV or influenza A in addition to COVID - during calls made sure families were

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connecting with the child's HCP and specialist. Attended several meetings via ZOOM including our local ESIT meeting and our early childhood health services advisory meeting.

Pacific County Health and Human Services

Kim Oliver, LPN, Clinic Nurse

With new staff coming in this year, we have spent a great amount of time orienting and familiarizing our new staff with the programs. Looking forward to stretching our wings later this year.

San Juan County

Kristen Rezabek, MS, RDN, CD, CDE

No updates at this time.

Skagit County Public Health Department

Jennifer Sass-Walton, Prevention & Community Health Manager

We are partnering with WCAAP, local school nurses and pediatric providers on a chronic condition management in schools' grant. Our first convening of providers and school nurses is scheduled for January 25 and will focus on ADHD evaluations.

Our Help Me Grow Skagit Health Care Provider team is partnering with Skagit Regional Health to host a free CME series for pediatric providers focused on child development topics. <https://helpmegrowskagit.com/healthcare-providers/> The first in the series is a presentation from Tufts Medical Center, "Spreading HOPE (Healthy Outcomes from Positive Experiences) in the Pediatric Health Care Setting" on January 19. We will be sharing Skagit-specific resources at these sessions, but attendance is not limited to Skagit County providers.

Our Skagit County Autism Partnership met last week, and we learned that one of our COE providers had questions about legally being able to provide an autism diagnosis. They are diagnosing "suspected autism" for the time being. There were also questions about whether this diagnosis was useful for children with private insurance or Tri-Care. Thankfully our CYSHCN team will be providing some clarification soon.

We are excited to have a new online referral form for our Help Me Grow Family Resource Navigator!

Spokane Regional Health District

Kristin Lester, Public Health Nurse, CYSHCN Coordinator

Workgroup looking at Silos and Gaps in services for children with special health needs and their families; resource/referral workgroup looking to build local resource navigation/referral system; WorkFirst referrals; ChildFind project; working on building local community calendar of events for children with special health needs and their families so they can see all events at a glance; Spokane's Birth Outcomes Task Force has changed name to Perinatal Collaborative of Spokane County (PCSC).

Thurston County Public Health and Social Services

Bonnie Peterson, Community Health Nurse, CYSHCN Coordinator

Currently our health dept. is in the process of updating our Public Health & Social Services website, including CYSHCN webpage.

Thurston County CYSHCN coordinator has started doing Work First evaluations for Lewis County too. We have seen an increase in infants and toddlers with serious intentional injuries this past year. We put together and had the training for prevention of child abuse with the Medical Director of Providence Abuse Intervention Center. We invited home visitors and other nurses that work with children to attend. This training was well received. We now have posted an FTE CHN position that will focus on child abuse prevention and lead our CDR.

Yakima County- Children's Village

Tracie Hoppis, Manager of Family Support Services

- 1) Co-presented with Children's Village Medical Director to Yakama Nation families and child care providers; topic was ASD (diagnosis, diagnostic process, resources)
- 2) Hosted local coordinator group for presentation by local wish-granting organization
- 3) Parent to Parent, in partnership with Yakima's Yoga Collective is hosting a weekly free Yoga class in Spanish for parents/caregivers of CYSHCN.
- 4) Children's Village, in partnership with Oregon and Washington Sherriff's Departments and Walmart Transportation hosted a toy give-away in December where 1,000 toys were giving out to families.

Neurodevelopmental Center (NDC) Updates

Peace Health Children's Therapy - Whatcom County

Kris Gaggero Clinic Manager

No updates at this time.

Children's Therapy Skagit Valley Hospital

Erin Kavi Lead Therapist

www.skagitvalleyhospital.org

No updates at this time.

Children's Therapy Valley Medical Center

Kari Tanta, Rehab Manager

www.valleymed.org

No updates at this time.

Kinderling

Kathy Fortner Director of Operations

www.kinderling.org

No updates at this time.

HOLLY RIDGE

Alicia Skelly, Infant Toddler Program Director

Holly Ridge is currently serving approximately 390 children per month. Our program is now CHERSIH certified through Kinderling. We are providing services in person in the child's home, at childcare centers as needed, at our center and via tele-health. We are completing evaluations in person at our center. We are experiencing some staffing shortages - we currently have positions posted for an SLP, an OT, a PT, Special Educator, Family Trainer and Social Worker.

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Children's Therapy Center

Karen Smith Steadman Early Intervention Program Director and Jodi Van Vleet Center (3-18) Program Director

No updates at this time.

Health Plan Updates

Amerigroup-Washington

Jackie Matter

www.amerigroupcorp.com

[Coverage Area Includes: All Counties except Adams, Chelan, Clallam, Clark, Cowlitz, Douglas, Ferry, Grant, Kittitas, Lincoln, Okanogan, Skamania, and Wahkiakum]

No updates at this time.

Community Health Plan of Washington (CHPW)

www.chpw.org

[Coverage Area Includes All Counties except Clallam, Columbia, Garfield, Jefferson, Klickitat, Lincoln, Mason, Skamania, and Whitman]

No updates at this time.

Coordinated Care

Sherry Bennatts and Azka Bashir

www.coordinatedcarehealth.com

No updates at this time.

Molina Healthcare of Washington

Mary Blakeman and Margaret Whaley

www.molinahealthcare.com

No updates at this time.

UnitedHealthcare

Cindy Spain and Mandy Herreid

www.uhc.com

[Coverage Area Incudes: All Counties except Clallam, Cowlitz, Garfield, Pend Oreille, San Juan, Skagit, and Whatcom]

No updates at this time.

Partner Updates

Washington State Parent to Parent Network

Tracie Hoppis, Manager

www.arcwa.org

Washington State Parent to Parent has 26 family support programs and 50 coordinators serving all 39 counties in Washington. Quarterly highlights:

- 1) With Parent to Parent's Dan Thompson Community Grant award, programs will receive funding to establish or enhance multicultural programming, as well as funds to support program technology needs. We are also establishing a language line that will be available for all programs to ensure support and information is provided in a family's first language.*
- 2) Network Training calls this quarter included Transition to Adulthood with a presentation by the Center for Change in Transition Services, and legislative engagement training with Diana Stadden, The Arc of Washington State.*
- 3) Planning is underway for Parent to Parent's annual Coordinator's Training in May which will be our first in-person gathering since prior to the pandemic.*
- 4) Programs are transitioning many groups and activities to in-person, while maintaining some on-going virtual programming.*

Washington State Medical Home Partnerships Project for CYSHCN

Kate Orville

www.medicalhome.org

University of Washington CSHCN Nutrition Project at CHDD

Mari Mazon, MS, RDN, CD and Sarah Harsh, MS, RDN, CD

University of Washington – Center on Human Development and Disability (CHDD)

Nutrition Training Contract <http://depts.washington.edu/cshcnnut/>

We have been planning several training events for Nutrition Network dietitians and WA State Community Feeding Teams. We have been offering interdisciplinary follow-up workshops for feeding teams who attended the Hospital to Home Training in early 2022; we have been gearing up for the January Nutrition Network Training to train 20 new dietitians to join the Nutrition Network; and we have been getting speakers lined up for continuing education opportunities in March and May. We added 2 new feeding teams: The Island/San Juan Counties feeding team, and the Eastside Therapy Services feeding team.

Mari Mazon, MS, RDN, CD and Sarah Harsh, MS, RDN, CD

Washington State Fathers Network (WSFN)

Louis Mendoza

www.fathersnetwork.org

No updates at this time.

Family to Family Health Information Center (F2FHIC)

Jill McCormick

www.familyvoicesofwashington.com

No updates at this time.

Open Doors for Multicultural Families

Hodan Mohamad

www.multiculturalfamilies.org

No updates at this time.

Washington Autism Alliance & Advocacy (WAAA)

Huma Zarif, Special Education Attorney

www.washingtonautismadvocacy.org

WAA's Special Education Legal Clinic has its new appointment schedule available for clients to register at <https://washingtonautismalliance.org/events/special-education-legal-clinic-2023/>. The purpose of the legal clinic is to provide a 30-minute consultation (for those who qualify) with a special education attorney. The clinic offers free, limited legal advice and referrals for special education issues. The clinic is not meant to be a comprehensive consultation, if you need a more in-depth meeting, please contact WAA for a full intake screening at <https://washingtonautismalliance.org/register-parent-and-pwd/>.

WAA will be hosting its next Blueprints For Special Education workshop on March 18th, 9 am - 2:30 pm. The registration page will go live in February on our website at <https://washingtonautismalliance.org/>.

Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI)

Nicole Klein, Health Services Program Supervisor

www.k12.wa.us/HealthServices/default.aspx

No updates at this time.

Seattle Children's Hospital

Paula Holmes

www.seattlechildrens.org

No updates at this time.

Kitsap County Parent Coalition

Melia Hughes, Coordinator

<https://kitsapcountyparentcoalition.org/>

We host 2-3 events per month. To see the list of events, go to our schedule at <https://kitsapcountyparentcoalition.org/events/>. Last quarter we helped about 30-40 caregivers and professionals navigate resources for people with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities (I/SDD).

Lifespan Respite Washington (LRW)

Linda Porter

www.lifespanrespitewa.org

No updates at this time.

WithinReach

Chris Gray

www.withinreachwa.org

No updates at this time.

State Updates

Department of Children, Youth, and Families

Early Support for Infants and Toddlers (DCYF-ESIT)

Lori Holbrook

www.dcyf.wa.gov/esit

No updates at this time.

DSHS, Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA), Waiver Unit

Kari Freer

No updates at this time.

DSHS / DDA, Medically Intensive Children's Program

Doris Barret

DSHS / DDA, CIIBS/SSP Program

Dennis Trudeau

New program manager

DSHS, Fostering Well-Being Care Coordination Unit (FWB CCU)

Autumn Wade and Amanda McCleskey

No updates at this time.

DSHS / ALISA, Kinship Care and Lifespan Respite

Rosalyn Alber

www.dshs.wa.gov/kinshipcare

No updates at this time.

DOH Screening and Genetics Unit

Nini Shridhar

www.doh.wa.gov/YouandYourFamily/InfantsChildrenandTeens/HealthandSafety/GeneticServices.aspx

No updates at this time.

Health Care Authority

No updates at this time.

Next Meeting

April 13, 2023

Virtual Meeting

Attachments

- Agenda ([wa.gov](https://www.wa.gov))
- Meeting presentation slides ([wa.gov](https://www.wa.gov))
- Meeting recording ([youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com))
- Informing Families Coordinators List (See below)

Informing Families Coordinators Contact Information

Name	Primary Area of the State or People Community	Contact Phone	Contact E-mail
Michelle Williams	Kittitas/Grant County	(509) 929-7277 (509) 899-1059 personal	mwilliams@jerrols.com Kittitascountyparent2parent@gmail.com rolftw@charter.net
Debbie Chapman	NE to SE Eastern Washington	(509) 659-4173	debankids@yahoo.com
Krista Perleberg	NCW Counties (Chelan/Douglas/Okanogan)	(509) 860-8778	kperleberg@yahoo.com
Somali Health Board	Somali Community (Greater Seattle Area)	Amal Yasin	amalyasin21@gmail.com
Children's Village	Spanish Community (Yakima County)	Tracie Hoppis (509) 574-3263	TracieHoppis@yvmh.org
LeVinh Tran	Vietnamese Community (Greater Seattle Area)	(425) 830-8873	maiflowersdesign@gmail.com
Darci Ladwig	Spokane County	(509) 279-9242	zoeandmomma@gmail.com
Michelle O'Dell	Thurston/Mason/Pierce County	(206) 914-7066	rouski@mac.com
Arc of Snohomish	Snohomish County	Jamie Coonts 425-258-2459 x104	jamie@arcsno.org
PEACE	SW Washington	Darla Helt (360) 823-2247	darlah@peacenw.org

		Darla's Cell: (360) 907-3287	
Clallam Mosaic	Clallam/Jefferson	Catherine McKinney (360) 681-8642	catmckinney.mosaic@gmail.com