

NEXT STEPS:**Making the Case for Successful Partnerships in your State**

Learning the specific features of Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in your state is a critical step for Title V programs.¹ Conversely, to develop effective partnerships, Medicaid and CHIP staff may need comparable education about Title V programs. With a shared understanding, partners can identify the potential benefits of collaboration for both the programs and the children and youth they serve. Common goals will likely include improved care, reduced cost growth, and better support for families.

Steps for developing and improving upon agency partnerships will depend on the relationships and systems in each state. Read on for some suggestions.

BASICS TO KNOW ABOUT YOUR STATE'S MEDICAID PROGRAM

- What are the income eligibility criteria for children and youth in your state's Medicaid and CHIP programs? Are there many eligible children and youth who could be enrolled, but are not? To what extent are their parents eligible for coverage?
- Does your state offer a TEFRA/Katie Beckett option for children and youth with severe disabilities? If so, how does the state Medicaid program determine eligibility for this option? (For more about TEFRA, see Section 11.)
- Does either the state Medicaid or CHIP program fund care coordination for children and youth with special health care needs (CYSHCN)? If yes, how is it funded (through a medical home, a managed care organization [MCO], a Home and Community-Based Services waiver targeted case management, a Title V contract)?
- How does the state Medicaid program track the delivery of services required by the Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) program? When a need for these services is identified, does a mechanism exist to track referrals and follow-up care?



Suggestions for developing and improving upon partnerships will depend on the relationships and systems that exist in each state.

- Learn the specifics of your state's Medicaid program
- Develop or expand key contacts
- Work with agency contacts to identify targeted "doable" improvement projects for CYSHCN
- Create effective formal or informal cross-agency committees or work groups
- Engage patients and families

1. See the Catalyst Center's interactive worksheets for Title V program staff, family leaders, and other stakeholders at <https://ciswh.org/resources/title-v-medicicaidchip-interactive-worksheets/>. Each worksheet includes resources for finding and inserting state-specific information to help demonstrate the importance of Title V, Medicaid, and CHIP for CYSHCN.

- What cooperative agreements already exist between Title V and the state Medicaid program? Do these agreements need amending or updating?
- What quality data do the state Medicaid program, MCOs, external quality review organizations, and primary care case management programs collect?

Suggestions for developing and improving upon partnerships will depend on the relationships and systems that exist in each state. Starting points include:

- Learn the specifics of your state's Medicaid program
- Develop or expand key contacts
- Work with agency contacts to identify targeted "doable" improvement projects for CYSHCN
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- Engage patients and families

Answers to many of the above questions can be obtained from the sources listed in the Appendix.



DEVELOP OR EXPAND KEY CONTACTS

- Who in the state Medicaid program or within your state's MCOs works on quality measurement and implements the quality measures required by the Children's Health Insurance Plan Reauthorization Act of 2009? What are the challenges of collecting and using these quality measurement data?
- Who is in charge of eligibility and enrollment in the state Medicaid and CHIP programs? How is the state implementing Medicaid and CHIP benefits and the eligibility provisions of health reform?
- Who are the "go-to" people for obtaining Medicaid and CHIP program data?
- How is your program involved in working with primary care and other providers to improve care for CYSHCN?
- Could the Title V model of employing parents of CYSHCN work in your state's Medicaid and CHIP programs?
- Who is providing leadership in your state to improve the quality of care for CYSHCN?



WORK WITH PROGRAM CONTACTS TO IDENTIFY TARGETED “DOABLE” IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH SPECIAL HEALTH CARE NEEDS

- Where are the opportunities for improvement? Where do the concerns of all programs and consumers align?
- Based on your knowledge of the experience of children, youth, and families in your state, can you identify a small change in state policy that would make a big difference in their ability to access care?

CREATE EFFECTIVE FORMAL OR INFORMAL CROSS-AGENCY COMMITTEES OR WORK GROUPS

- Is a working group or committee addressing issues relevant to CYSHCN, or to all children and youth, or to all people with chronic conditions or disabilities, including CYSHCN?
- Is the Medicaid program considering implementing Health Homes? If so, where are they in the planning process, and what populations are they interested in including in the health-home initiative?

ENGAGE PATIENTS AND FAMILIES

- Which agency or program is the designated Family-to-Family Health Information Center in your state?

A LAST WORD

Title V programs can assist Medicaid and CHIP agencies to fulfill their responsibilities, and at the same time ensure that CYSHCN receive the services they need.

NEED is the operative word here. Keep the following four things in mind when working with state Medicaid and CHIP programs:

N

NEEDS

Keep the needs of CYSHCN in mind when designing, evaluating, and improving managed care and other service-delivery contracts.

E

ENROLLMENT

Assure that CYSHCN are properly enrolled and receiving appropriate services.

E

EFFICIENCIES

Develop the most efficient financing mechanisms for services.

D

DATA

Help to analyze and respond to outcome data in order to improve the quality of care.

This document is part of Medicaid and CHIP: A Tutorial on Coverage for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN). The document is available in its entirety at <https://ciswh.org/resources/Medicaid-CHIP-tutorial>

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Boston University School of Social Work
Center for Innovation in Social Work & Health
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