

ABSTRACT

Project Title: Great LINCS (Links to Integrate and Coordinate Services for CYSHCN)

Applicant Organization: Washington State Department of Health
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Population to be Served: Birth to 18 Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs

Grant Program Funds: \$300,000 per year (September 2014-2017) in response HRSA-14-030

NEED: In Washington State (WA), children and youth with special health care needs (CYSHCN) and their families continue to struggle to overcome barriers to integrated systems of care. The National Survey of CSHCN shows serious gaps in services still occur as less than half of WA CYSHCN (45.5%) report being in a medical home. Care coordination is an essential element of a high performing medical home. Until recently, CYSHCN have been exempted from Medicaid managed care because of concerns about access to care and specialty providers. Health plans are being relied upon to identify, assess, and coordinate care for CYSHCN in Medicaid managed care. Plans need help from state and community partners to successfully provide integrated care through a family-centered medical home approach.

GOALS: **1)** Engage partners in refining a course of action to achieve systems integration through improved care coordination in a medical home for CYSHCN. **2)** Participate in quality improvement and collaborative innovation through a cross state learning community. **3)** Expand the capacity of WithinReach as a statewide shared resource to support coordinated systems of services for CYSHCN.

PROPOSED ACTIVITIES: CSHCN Title V Program will build on relationships with partners and use the CSHCN Communication Network as a foundation for expanded stakeholder input on the development of a state plan; will build on an active interagency Action Learning Collaborative team for a cross-state learning community; and will expand the services and supports for enhanced **care** coordination for CYSHCN and their families at WithinReach. The project will initially be marketed as a care coordination tool for Medicaid managed care plans and their network of medical providers to connect CYSHCN to overlooked community services and supports that will lead to a comprehensive medical home and improved health outcomes.

COORDINATION: Title V will partner with Medicaid and Part C state agencies, managed care plans, physician associations, family support organizations, and community health centers to increase medical homes for CYSHCN. Coordination will occur with children's hospitals, universities, and national MCHB Technical Assistance Centers for resources and materials to improve care coordination.

ANNOTATION: The purpose of the project is to improve integrated care in a medical home and health outcomes for CYSHCN through enhanced care coordination that links families, managed care plans, and provider networks to community services and supports.