Your Child’s Medical Home
Health Care with Your Family at the Center
Information for Washington State Families

What is a Medical Home?
• A “home base” for your child’s health care needs
• A health care team that looks at the whole child, not just your child’s health issues
• A family-centered approach to health care

Washington State Resources

WithinReach
- Family Health Hotline 1-800-322-2588
  Free or low-cost medical insurance, shots, and screenings for health and developmental concerns, as well as parent to parent support. Spanish speaking staff and interpreters are available.
- Parenthelp123.org 1-866-585-1123
  Apply online for health and food programs. Find resources in your local community.
  www.parenthelp123.org
  Español: www.parenthelp123.org/es/

Washington 211 211 or 1-877-211-9274
  Call for health and human service information and referrals and other assistance to meet your needs.
  win211.org/

Washington PAVE (Partnerships for Action, Voices for Empowerment) 1-800-821-5927
  Call for help with insurance, special education, person-centered planning and other resources.
  Serves families with children with a disability and/or special health care needs, youth and young adults with a disability and/or special health care needs and military family members.
  wapave.org/

WA State Parent to Parent 1-800-821-5927
  Support and information for families of children and youth with developmental disability.
  www.arcwa.org/getsupport/parent_to_parent_p2p_programs

Medical Home Partnerships Project
Tips for partnering with health care providers and finding services.
  www.medicalhome.org

National Resources

HealthyChildren.org
Health and safety information by child’s age from the American Academy of Pediatrics
www.healthychildren.org/
Spanish: www.healthychildren.org/spanish/

MedlinePlus.gov
Produced by the National Library of Medicine for patients, their families and friends, Medlineplus brings you information about diseases, conditions, and wellness issues in language you can understand. Reliable, up-to-date health information including articles, medical dictionaries and videos.
medlineplus.gov/
Children’s Health Pages:
medlineplus.gov/childrenshealth.html
Español: medlineplus.gov/spanish/

This brochure developed by the Washington State Medical Home Partnerships Project at the University of Washington.
Download copies at: www.medicalhome.org
rev. 1/19
What is a Medical Home?

A medical home is a way to provide high quality health care services that best meet the needs of your child and your family. It is not a building, house or hospital. It is a partnership between you and your family and your primary care doctor, nurse and clinic staff. Together, you make sure that the medical and non-medical needs of your child are met.

A medical home is sometimes also called a “health home.”

Your Medical Home Team:

- Respects your child and your family
- Shares information with you and includes you in decisions
- Provides primary health care including regular check-ups, developmental screening, “shots” and illness visits
- Works to catch problems early—which can prevent emergency room visits
- Helps you plan for and manage any chronic health problems
- Finds specialists when they are needed
- Helps connect you to resources in the community
- Helps lower family stress, health care costs, and missed school and work days

What can our family do?

Below is a list of some things you can do to get the best health care for your child:

- Bring questions to doctor visits
- If you need it, ask for extra time when you schedule your visit
- Keep a folder or notebook with your child’s health information
- Share any changes with your doctor
- Celebrate successes and talk about challenges
- Ask for something to be explained if you don’t understand
- Work together to make a plan
- Ask for information to be written down
- Ask to meet with office staff who will be working with you and your child
- Let your doctor and staff know things they are doing right