## 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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- Beth Leonard, Developmental Disabilities Ombuds
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### Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN) Program Update

Michelle Hoffman


### CYSHCN Program Updates:

**Maternal Child Health Block Grant (MCHBG) Needs Assessment** is preparing for the five year needs assessment as the driver for the MCHBG application; several teams within DOH are reaching out to stakeholder groups to get information to inform the needs assessment and the subsequent priority setting for the next Block Grant which is 2021-2026. We will be having some in depth conversation from our Maternal and Child Health Block Grant Needs Assessment team at the next meeting in April. In addition, we will be asking our DOH CYSHCN staff for their email lists of the stakeholders that they work with who may be interested in being contacted for key informant interviews.

**CSHCN Coordinator updates** by county are being gathered from and shared on a quarterly basis. *(See Attachment #1)*

**Staff Updates: CYSHCN Program.** We are excited to welcome Joan Zerzan back as she has graciously agreed to work as a part time consultant until her Nutrition Consultant position can be recruited and hired. Joan will be finalizing the nutrition needs assessment that she started but was unable to finish prior to her well-deserved retirement in March of 2018. Joan will also be available for some limited technical assistance as her schedule permits for CYSHCN nutrition issues. Welcome back Joan.

DOH is currently conducting interviews to fill the CYSHCN Manager position. We are hopeful that the new manager will be able to start by February 1. The role of Interim CYSHCN Manager has been filled by Michelle Hoffman since September.

**Other Grant News:** HRSA has released a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) for Innovations in Care Coordination for Children and Youth with Autism Spectrum Disorders and Other Developmental Disabilities Program. This is offered as a continuing compete application and builds on the existing CARES appropriated grant which we call “AS3D”

**Child Health Intake Form (CHIF) Database**

The CHIF Redesign Project is well on its way. The initial DOH testing phase to begin early February with User Acceptance Testing shortly after that. Thank you to the local health departments and neurodevelopmental centers who have volunteered to be part of this testing phase. If we stay on track, we should go LIVE sometime late Spring.

**Washington Statewide Leadership Initiative (WSLI) and DOH Family Engagement**

WSLI continues to grow and provide infrastructure, support and technical assistance to family led organizations to provide support to families around improving integrated, comprehensive and coordinated community systems of care for children with special health care needs. WSLI has a steering committee that meets bi-monthly, and a core member group who will be having a strategic planning meeting this month to develop a coalition charter and solidify some membership and
governance and infrastructure issues. We are working on defining our membership, streamlining our communications
bulletin and website, and updating our logo.

DOH is continuing to work on the implementation of a business analysis for family engagement in Title V. We have been
working with the National Workforce Development Center from University of North Carolina on our implementation plan.
There is an upcoming “Coffee Talk” webinar about implementing family engagement strategies and Michelle Hoffman and
Jill McCormick will be on a discussion panel to provide input about Washington’s efforts. Wisconsin will also discuss their
state efforts around family engagement.

In addition, the Workforce Development Center Lead for Implementation, Oscar Fleming, who came to Washington in
March and provided training in Results Based Accountability to family led organizations, and Michelle Hoffman will be co-
representing a 3 hour skills building session on this topic.

For more WSLI or DOH Family Engagement information, please contact Michelle Hoffman at 360-236-3504 or
michelle.hoffman@doh.wa.gov.

CSHCN Rule (Washington Administrative Code-WAC) Update
The CSHCN rule is still under DOH review. We plan to file the CR 102 late winter 2019. As soon as the link is available,
we will share it with the CSHCN Communication Network members for review and comment.

For more information, contact Ellen Silverman at 360-236-3580 or (ellen.silverman@doh.wa.gov).

AS3D (Autism and Other Developmental Disabilities) Grant
Telehealth: The Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs team published a telehealth services strategic plan
for children with autism spectrum disorder and other developmental disabilities (ASD/DD) this month on the DOH website.
The plan reflects months of collaboration with family representatives, the Northwest Autism Center, Seattle Children’s
Hospital, Holly Ridge and Kindering neurodevelopmental centers, the Department of Children, Youth and Families, and
Northwest Regional Telehealth Resource Center. The plan will guide the use of telehealth by providers, consumers and
telecommunications contractors for children and youth with autism and other developmental disabilities. Telehealth
provides an opportunity for more children with ASD/DD to get the timely access to diagnostic evaluations and support
services they need.

Council was held November 5th in Tukwila Washington. The focus of this year’s all day meeting was “Improving Health
through Trauma-informed Approaches for Individuals with Autism and Other Developmental Disabilities, their Families and
Caregivers”. Over 65 people attended from a cross-section of Family Support Organizations, University of Washington,
the Autistic Adult community, researchers, behavioral specialists, and State Agencies. The agenda included a literature
review of Addressing Trauma in Therapy with Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder from the Bernier Lab, Center for
Human Development and Disability at the University of Washington, panel discussions on the lived experience of parents
of individuals with autism and autistic adults and community professionals. Participants and presenters discussed trauma
informed approaches in healthcare and community settings, as well as in community based, participatory research
settings. The lived experience panel was made up of both parents of children with autism and autistic young adults who
shared their experiences around the trauma they experience regularly as they try to navigate through systems that often
fall short of meeting the needs of autism. The need is great and a lot of ideas were shared and new connections made.
The experience of trauma affects neurobiology, psychological processes, and social attachment in complex ways that can
contribute to a range of health concerns across the lifespan. Moving forward there are plans to explore models that
support peer mentoring financing through behavioral health systems, increased autism awareness and the dissemination
of autism resources that can help to support a wider range of autism needs.

Happening this month: Autism Grant Project Advisory Committee web meeting (AS3D PAC): Learn about the GroopIt
app
The bi-monthly AS3D PAC meeting is happening Wednesday, January 23rd, 1:00-2:30 p.m. via GoToWebinar. We’ll have
a presentation on a pilot program of GroopIt app customized to engage ASD families by Micah Pepper from the Bernier
Lab, Center for Human Development and Disability at the University of Washington on piloting the use of an app called
GroopIt. The app allows families across the globe to connect with other families who have a child who has been
diagnosed with ASD with the same genetic variant and also to connect with the Bernier research team. The aim is to gain
insights into the families’ research priorities and to accelerate research. Click here for more information about the GroopIt
app. Contact Jean-Marie Dymond if you’d like to attend the web meeting.

For more information about AS3D, contact Jean-Marie Dymond at 360-236-3737 or (jean-marie.dymond@doh.wa.gov).
Essentials for Childhood (EfC)

- EFC in conjunction with Project HOPE (RWJ funded grant) is working to build a Coordinated Statewide System of Help Me Grow: a system to ensure communities identify the needs of children, link families to community-based services, and help families to support their children's healthy development. We will support an initial learning cohort of counties that have active efforts to pilot and promote a Help Me Grow system. Each setting has existing capacity to convene and organize local partners around this issue, we are exploring additional capacity to provide at the local level for partners to get a consumer perspective on Help Me Grow development and also fully participate in technical assistant activities.

- We are working with partners to plan 2019 ACEs and Resilience Community of Practice events and activities. Following the two successful 2018 events in Tacoma and Pasco. We are exploring holding two in person events and possibly some webinars.

- We responded to a CDC EFC one year opioid prevention supplemental funding opportunity with a proposal is to contract with the Spokane Regional Health Department to develop an outreach network to find pregnant women with opioid use disorders to connect them to treatment, prenatal care, and other services. We anticipate a notice of award from the CDC soon.

- We anticipate funding to support Vroom in Washington State. Vroom is a set of asset-based, tested, tips for parents of kids from birth through age 5. Content is deployed in a variety of ways, including an app, website, and printed materials. Vroom messages promote: positive adult-child relationships; back and forth interactions that create neural pathways in developing brains; and life skills that promote executive function. Vroom is intended to help children benefit from the brain science about how parent/caregiver interactions with children throughout the day can promote brain building.

Vroom is part of our EFC strategy of promoting parent and caregiver knowledge of parenting and child development and community social environments that that support and empower families. We are planning a layered activation strategy that will include light touch, broad reach through statewide partners and networks and more intensive, funded activation in a few communities.

The EfC website has been updated. Please visit:
https://www.doh.wa.gov/CommunityandEnvironment/EssentialsforChildhoodInitiative

For more information about EfC, Dan Torres at 206-384-0981 or dan.torres@doh.wa.gov.

Special Presentation
Arzu Forough, Washington Autism Alliance and Advocacy (WAAA)

See Attachment #2 for PowerPoint presentation.

Highlights Include:
- WAAA offers ProBono Legal assistance and Family Navigation to Families and individuals with autism and other intellectual disabilities.
- WAAA offers low cost or no cost support groups, peer connections and respite.
- WAAA lobbies for legislation that supports the needs of families and individuals with autism and other developmental disabilities.
- Please see the attached PowerPoint slides for some great information on the specific accomplishments and outcomes of WAAA’s important work in 2018, as well as their priorities for 2019 and contact information.

Open Mic
1. Share successes in your work on behalf of CYSHCN (ex: legislative session highlights)
2. Raise issues you are seeing/experiencing in your work on behalf of CYSHCN, group can offer ideas/resources/thoughts

Discussed:
1. MCO Case Management is interested in the idea of a universal Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) intake form, which WAAA has been developing and shared as part of their presentation. There would be many advantages to this as there are many waiting lists and when families are looking for services they have to fill out many forms and often the time and effort to complete a lot of paperwork does not result in immediate activation into services. Having a standardized ABA intake form could allow families to more easily connect to resources with less “hoops” to jump through and could provide a more streamlined entry into services. In addition, it can save time during intake
appointments when families have had a chance to share their standardized form rather than working through different versions of the same basic information. Kate Orville agrees and suggests that perhaps an effort to create such a standardized form could be coordinated with WithinReach and other “hotlines/databases” so that the standardized form is easily found and accessed by both providers and families. Kari Freer, DDA rep, also felt this effort would align well with DSHS’s goal to support “No Wrong Door” and improve the experience of families trying to access services. **Action/Follow Up:** Arzu Forough and WAAA are working on this and will update the group if this gains momentum and can become a reality.

2. Barriers to equipment in Schools: Discussion amongst multiple partners around barriers to getting equipment in schools. Often a denial is required in order to access it under a DDA waiver and if it is a non-covered item there is no way to process a claim to get a denial. In addition it is a lot of work for a provider to process a claim when they know there is a denial. A better process is needed to identify covered equipment and who is responsible to pay for it. Possibly if a letter can be produced that identifies that an item is non-covered by insurance this will facilitate an easier process to get equipment covered by another source such as DDA waiver or other funding sources. OSPI offered that if equipment is identified as a need in an Individualized Education Program (IEP), the school is obligated to provide it but they can limit the use of the equipment to during school hours at school. Parents need other means to get equipment to use at home. **Action/Follow Up:** Nicole Klein, OSPI rep, offered to support folks who believe the school is not fulfilling their obligation; ODMF has information about how to access Ben’s Fund to get tablets. See Contact info at the top of this document.

3. There was concern expressed regarding the Division of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF) has made around their Early Intervention Program (EIP) which is association with their Child Welfare System. This was a home visiting program which contracted with many community based organizations and local health jurisdictions to provide court referred and mandated RN Home Visiting to at-risk children identified by the child welfare system. This program ends in February and many counties have had the nurses who provided this service already move on into other positions and CSHCN and MCO care coordinators have been getting referrals to meet this need. SeaKing as well as Spokane and Snohomish has been getting many referrals a week for this program and are concerned about how to meet this need when the program is no longer funded. DOH staff have also fielded questions from communities about this issue. DOH staff have been in contact with DCYF Child Welfare Program Manager on this issue. Specific concerns include:

- The additional Care Coordination providing by the EIP home visiting nurse to facilitate a timely diagnosis for children with significant behavioral challenges—kudos to public schools who have stepped in to assist with this
- Kids transitioning from NICU need a lot of transition assistance and this program provided a lot of support
- OSPI has a foster care liaison who can provide coordination for school aged kids in foster care, in addition to the care coordination provided by Coordinated Care.

**Action/Follow Up:** DOH CYSHCN staff are having conversations with the Program Manager at the Division of Child Welfare Programs and we will schedule a follow-up webinar Q and A so that our Communication Network partners can have an opportunity to discuss this with DCYF.

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### Strategic Topic
**Ombuds Offices**

**Developmental Disabilities, Education and Behavioral Health**

See the following attachments:

- **Attachment #3** – Developmental Disabilities PowerPoint
- **Attachment #4** – Education PowerPoint
- **Attachment #5** – Education Ombuds Annual Report 2017-2018
- **Attachment #6** – Behavioral Health PowerPoint

Education Ombuds additional Information:

Here is a short video about the Education Ombuds Office: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2PxiSEl9Hlo&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2PxiSEl9Hlo&feature=youtu.be)

Here it is in Spanish: [https://youtu.be/e6VnKUu2lpM](https://youtu.be/e6VnKUu2lpM)

On this page, you will find our casework flowchart, as well as one-pagers for communicating with families about what we do, as well as informing educators and community professionals: [https://oeo.wa.gov/contact/](https://oeo.wa.gov/contact/)
Here is a link to our web materials re: special education and supports for students with disabilities: https://oeo.wa.gov/education-issues-topics/special-education/

Here is a link to our videos on bullying, in case they are of interest: https://oeo.wa.gov/education-issues-topics/bullying-harassment-and-intimidation/

And our FAQ: https://oeo.wa.gov/about-us/frequently-asked-questions/

Highlights from DD Ombuds Presentation:
- The DD Ombuds office has produced two very detailed reports:
  - The 1st report on “Diverting Crisis” contains a number of recommendations on mitigating behavioral/medical risks to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities; and
  - The 2nd report is entitled “Stuck in the Hospital, which was an in depth look at clients who become hospitalized for whatever reason and are unable to discharge because of no appropriate placement.

Highlights from the Education Ombuds Presentation:
- OEO has 1000-1400 contacts per year from parents who need assistance addressing school related issues.
- A high need around kids who are out of school and having difficulty going back into their school due to behavioral or medical issues.
- A significant issue is bullying, especially related to bullying of kids with disabilities.
- OEO has many staff who are multi-lingual, representing several different languages.

Highlights from Behavioral Health Ombuds Presentation:
- Located in a Non-Profit organization that is not affiliated.
- King County Ombuds office has 117 active cases per month; many related to navigating substance use related services.
- Not as many youth and child referrals, however it is believed to be a less known resource among families engaged with behavioral health services. Potential for follow up with Family Youth System Partner Round Table (FYSPRT) regional coalitions.

All PowerPoint slides are available with these notes.

Following the formal Ombuds presentations, we had an engaging Community Café discussion which resulted in three documents – one for each of the Ombuds offices – which provide questions and answers.
Attachment #7 – Developmental Disabilities Q and A
Attachment #8 – Education Q and A
Attachment #9 – Behavioral Health Q and A

In January, 2019 Integrated Managed Care rolled out in 4 more regions:
Greater Columbia (Asotin, Benton, Columbia, Franklin, Garfield, Kittitas, Walla Walla, Whitman, and Yakima counties),
King, Pierce, and Spokane (Adams, Ferry, Lincoln, Pend Oreille, Spokane, and Stevens counties) regions joined Southwest and North Central regions operating an integrated managed care model. In addition, Okanogan county joined the North Central region and Klickitat county joined the Southwest Washington region. Each region has at least three plans in operation.

The North Sound (Island, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, and Whatcom counties) region will roll out integrated managed care July 1, 2019. The Thurston-Mason (Thurston and Mason Counties) region, Great Rivers (Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Lewis, Pacific, and Wahkiakum counties) region, and Salish (Clallam, Jefferson, and Kitsap counties) region will integrate in January, 2020. (See Attachments #10 and #11 for map and client letter.)

Children/youth in foster care are now served by a single, statewide, integrated managed care plan through Coordinated Care of Washington.
Here’s contact information for the plans –

- Amerigroup (AMG)     1-800-600-4441
- Community Health Plan of Washington (CHPW)  1-800-440-1561
- Coordinated Care of Washington (CCW)  1-877-644-4613
- Molina Healthcare of Washington (MHW)  1-800-869-7165
- United Healthcare Community Plan (UHC)  1-877-542-8997

BHO contact information is available at this link - [https://www.hca.wa.gov/assets/free-or-low-cost/bho-contacts-for-services.pdf](https://www.hca.wa.gov/assets/free-or-low-cost/bho-contacts-for-services.pdf)

**Other updates** -
The Health Care Authority worked with the Health Benefit Exchange and other partners to enroll nearly 1,000 qualifying adults in Compact of Free Association (COFA) Islander Health Care. Under this program HCA pays the monthly premiums and out-of-pocket expenses for a silver-level Qualified Health plan for eligible COFA islanders with incomes less than 133%FPL. COFA islanders include people from the Republic of Marshall Islands, the Federated State of Micronesia, and the Republic of Palau. For more information see [www.hca.wa.gov/cofa](http://www.hca.wa.gov/cofa).

Today, individuals can use a free mobile app, [WAPlanfinder](http://www.wahealthplanfinder.org), to access their account at [www.wahealthplanfinder.org](http://www.wahealthplanfinder.org) and apply or renew coverage, report a change, choose a plan, and upload verification. On January 12th Apple Health clients will be able to use the mobile app to request a new P1 card, or show a provider an electronic copy of their card. Here’s a link to the demonstration - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ka0Sg5uyHS4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ka0Sg5uyHS4).

As always, feel free to reach out to Teresa or myself if you have other questions or concerns.

**Kevin Cornell**
CHIP Program Manager  
Office of Medicaid Eligibility Policy  
kevin.cornell@hca.wa.gov  
(360) 725-1423

**Teresa Cooper**
MPH, RN, Occupational Nurse Consultant  
Medicaid Compliance Review Unit  
Medicaid Program Operations and Integrity  
teresa.cooper@hca.wa.gov  
(360) 725-1392
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Mandy Herreid reported that they have a new Children’s Mental Health Manager. Her name is Kate Naeseth.

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<td>Beth Crispin and Paula Holmes</td>
<td><a href="http://www.seattlechildrens.org">www.seattlechildrens.org</a></td>
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No new updates at this time.
AS3D Grant Autism Work

- We have been helping facilitate planning with Seattle Children’s Autism Center, the Health Care Authority (HCA), and community representatives from Clark, Cowlitz, Pacific and Lewis County to bring a community requested Autism Center of Excellence training to Southwest Washington (WA) (probably April 26-27 in Vancouver). The HCA is developing an expanded autism training contract with Seattle Children’s to provide up to 4 COE trainings across WA each year as well as telehealth support to COE providers. There will be a more formal process developed for requests shortly, but if you know in the meantime of other communities that are interested in expanding the number of HCA-recognized COEs, please let Amy or Kate know. More HCA COE and ABA info: https://www.hca.wa.gov/health-care-services-supports/apple-health-medicaid-coverage/autism-and-applied-behavioral-analysis

- Amy facilitated the quarterly School Medical Autism Review Team (SMART) networking call this past quarter. Participants discussed challenges and successes in getting Autism Diagnosis and ABA therapy to kids in rural communities with Becky Peters from the HCA and each other. Becky shared that it is a challenge for HCA is keeping an updated resource for people to use about who is doing COEs and providing ABA therapy. Please notify Becky Peters (Rebecca.peters@hca.wa.gov) if you know of COE or ABA providers who are not on the list or who are on the list and no longer practicing.

- A SMART fact sheet is now available (see Attachment #12).

Medical Complexity Collaborative Improvement and Innovation Network (CoIIN)

- We are participating in the DOH CSHCN Program’s HRSA funded grant CoIIN grant to Advance Care for Children with Medical Complexity. The WA team is focusing on improving care for medically complex infants and helping parents know what to expect and connect to key community resources when they are discharged from the hospital. Kate participated in the annual in-person state team meeting in Chicago in October.

Pediatric Transforming Clinical Practice Initiative (P-TCPI)

- The formal Medical Home Neighborhood Team work has ended, but we are pulling together the great toolkits and resource guides identified and pulled together by the 9 Regional Care Facilitators. Sample roadmaps from Better Health Together and Greater Columbia are attached. (See Attachments #13 and #14.) MHPP staff are also participating in the work of the WA State Frontiers of Innovation to develop a Common Inventory of Community Resources to simplify access to information about community resources and reduce duplication of effort.

- We collaborated on Person and Family Engagement efforts with the P-TCPI Engagement Team and Pediatrician Champions, Seattle Children’s Center for Children with Special Needs, the RCFs and others. Outcomes include:
  - Translations of the family fliers “Doctor’s Office vs Emergency Room” and “Fever: The Body’s Way of Fighting Sickness” into Spanish, Vietnamese, Russian and Somali and collaboration on tools for primary care providers to help reduce potentially avoidable ED visits (See WA Chapter American Academy of Pediatrics newsletter article and links to fliers: https://wcaap.org/p-tpci-update-tools-to-help-families-improve-health-literacy-reduce-ed-use/ ).
  - Family focus groups in two P-TCPI enrolled clinics looked at family understanding of the availability and invitation of urgent care and after-hours access to primary care, their experience using primary care with an urgent concern, and experience using the ED. (see WCAAP Newsletter article: https://wcaap.org/parent-perspectives-on-visiting-primary-care-and-the-ed-with-urgent-concerns/ )
  - In collaboration with DOH and WCAAP, we are now working with a pediatric clinic that wants to use family focus groups to better understand family experience around well child visits for infants aged birth to 15 months in order to improve their experience and increase well child visit rates.

Child Health Notes

- Issue this quarter: “Ubiquitous Screens: Recommendations on Media Use for Infants, Children, and Adolescents” (see Attachment #15)

Questions? Contact Kate Orville (orville@uw.edu) or 206-685-1279, or Amy Carlsen (carlsa@uw.edu).
The Nutrition Training contract between the CSHCN Program, DOH, and CHDD-UW, provides training and technical assistance to registered dietitian nutritionists (RDNs) that are part of the CSHCN Nutrition Network, and to Community Feeding Teams, as well as projects related to improving nutrition through medical nutrition therapy and feeding team services.

**Nutrition Network (NN) Training and Development**

1. **Nutrition Network Training** – Fourteen RDNs joined the Nutrition Network for Children with Special Health Care Needs. RDNs working in Yakima, Bellevue, Seattle, Spokane, Pasco, Everett, and Tacoma participated. These RDNs work in a variety of settings including WIC, public health, local/regional hospitals, community health clinics, home health, and an education service district.

2. **Nutrition Network Webinar** – This annual event is scheduled Thursday, February 28, 2019 from 9:00am to 11:30am. The webinar is open to Nutrition Network members, CSHCN Coordinators and this year to the WA Community Feeding Teams. We ask only members of these groups to join the webinar; they can invite others to listen/watch with them.

   The agenda:
   - 9:00 am - 10:15 am: *Gastric Dysmotility*, presented by Lusine Ambartsumyan, MD, Rachel Ghosh, ARNP, and Taylor Mckey, ARNP from Seattle Children’s Hospital
   - 10:30 am - 11:30 am: *Constipation, causes & treatment*, by Lisa Philichi, ARNP, from Mary Bridge Children's Hospital

3. Nutrition Network members will be completing the topic survey for the spring Nutrition Network meeting, scheduled on Monday, May 20, 2019.

**WA Community Feeding Teams**

1. Team members will be completing a topic survey for the spring WA Community Feeding Team gathering on Tuesday, May 21, 2019 in Seattle.

2. Contract staff is working with the Seattle Children’s Pediatric Feeding Program to determine next steps for the *Telehealth Learning Collaborative for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) and Restrictive Eating*.

3. Sharon Feucht has been a member of the Washington State Collaborative Improvement and Innovation Network (CoIIN) to Advance Care for Children with Medical Complexity (CMC). She has participated on CoIIN coaching calls and state team calls. She participated in the fall meeting in Chicago for the 10 state teams with CoIIN projects. Mari Mazon will become the nutrition content expert with the project.

**Contract Updates**

Sharon Feucht retired from the University of Washington on December 31, 2018. Her colleague, Mari Mazon, will now represent the Nutrition Training Contract at this meeting.

Sarah Harsh, MS, RDN, CD will join the CHDD nutrition staff in January. Sarah participated as a LEND trainee at CHDD and most recently worked as a registered dietitian at Seattle Children’s Hospital. Mari Mazon and Sarah Harsh will work together on the Nutrition Training Contract.

**Questions?** Contact Mari Mazon, MS, RDN, CD (lilmaro@uw.edu) or 206-598-3025.

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**Washington State Fathers Network (WSFN)**

Louis Mendoza
www.fathersnetwork.org

- Annual Conference was held on November 3rd. 68 men registered from 33 different cities.
- Work continues to promote inclusion in the community. The current focus is in regard to access to cultural activities (e.g. museums, theatres, zoos, science centers). A new focus being researched is in regard to inclusion and faith based organizations.
- A small group that attended the June 2018 statewide fatherhood summit met once to discuss how to continue the work and will be meeting monthly.
- *Telling Your Story with a Purpose* workshop will be offered 5-8 times this contract year. Workshops have been scheduled in Mt. Vernon and Auburn and discussions are under way with host organizations in Pullman, Spokane and Longview.
Staff from Dads Move and The Exceptional Family Network will be trained in January on how to conduct the Telling Your Story with a Purpose workshop and then we will jointly work to provide this training in rural parts of WA.

Participated on the planning committee for the 2019 Infant and Early Childhood Conference (IECC) and have been working to get some of the organizations making community inclusion efforts to submit proposals to present at the conference.

Effort to increase our followers on Facebook through the placement of ads has been fruitful. In September we had 541 followers and as of December 20 we have 710 followers.

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**Family to Family Health Information Center (F2FHIC)**

Jill McCormick  
[www.familyvoicesofwashington.com](http://www.familyvoicesofwashington.com)

No new updates at this time.

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**Open Doors for Multicultural Families**

Hodan Mohamad  
[www.multiculturalfamilies.org](http://www.multiculturalfamilies.org)

No new updates at this time.

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**Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI)**

Nicole Klein  
Health Services Program Supervisor  
[www.k12.wa.us/HealthServices/default.aspx](http://www.k12.wa.us/HealthServices/default.aspx)

No new updates at this time.

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**Neurodevelopmental Centers (NDCs) Update**

Marianne Bastin, Mary Bridge Children’s Therapy Services, Puyallup/Tacoma  

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**Holly Ridge Center**

Holly Ridge Center’s Infant Toddler Program (ITP) is a neurodevelopmental and early learning center providing early intervention services for children ages birth to three. Our program also supports families with education and training so that each child gets the best start possible. We provide services for Kitsap County and North Mason.

At Holly Ridge we provide family resources coordination, educational services, speech/language therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, ABA services, oral-motor feeding, vision services and nutrition. We are currently serving approximately 396 children.

We have recently hired a full time Educator and an Operations Coordinator. We currently have positions posted for a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner, a full time Speech Language Pathologist and an Occupational Therapist. It is a challenge to find SLPs and OTs in this area, we often advertise for months before we even get any applicants.

Holly Ridge Center is an implementation Site for the State Systemic Improvement Plan – We continue to have 3 staff members participating in Level II training from the University of Washington. In late November all staff have a full day training from ESIT staff on social emotional assessment, engaging families in the Child Outcome Summary process and writing functional outcomes. We also have a local implementation team that meets every other month to develop a strategic plan, the team is comprised of Holly Ridge Staff, a parent, a school district staff member and representation from several local agencies in the community.
A remodel of a building purchased earlier this year is well underway, we had a little glitch and were not able to move in as early as we hoped. If everything goes well we hope to move in by the end of January and start services there by the beginning of February! We are very excited to have more spaces to serve families and also for our staff!!

A recent challenge has been getting interpreter services through Universal Language for evaluations, within the last month we have had two occasions that an interpreter was not available. We do not get notified in advance although we have requested that happen, we were told we need to check the website.

**Kindering Center**

Kindering, now entering its 57th year, provides best-in-class therapies and special education for infants and toddlers with disabilities, delays, and other risk factors from sites in Bellevue, Bothell and Renton, with plans to grow in Redmond as well. These range from inclusive preschool programming and speech, feeding, and motor therapies to supporting young children experiencing homelessness or living in foster and kinship care, as well as a range of family support services for parents and siblings of children with special needs.

**UPDATES:**

- Kindering served over 4,500 children and their families in 2018. Kindering continues to explore and employ scalable strategies, including teleintervention, to expand the reach and accessibility of our services throughout the communities we serve.

- Our CEO Mimi Siegel has retired after leading the organization for 40 years. After a rigorous six-month process, Dr. Lisa Greenwald was selected as our new CEO. Lisa holds a PhD in communication sciences and disorders from the University of Texas at Dallas, an Executive Certificate in Nonprofit Leadership from Duke University, and has been a speech-language pathologist since 1997. A seventeen-year Kindering veteran, Lisa has been an indispensable part of our organization. She first served as a talented speech and language therapist and then for fourteen years in Kindering’s executive leadership, most recently as Chief Program Officer. Lisa is a highly respected leader both inside our beloved organization and statewide. She holds a voting seat on the State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC) and chairs the SICC Personnel and Training Committee. She has published peer-reviewed articles and contributes to research in her field. We are thrilled that she has moved into this role and look forward to much success to come.

- After careful consideration, we have plans to open a satellite site in Redmond for our Early Intervention services in spring 2019, in order to better serve this very high-demand area. This is to be our 4th client-facing physical site.

- We are currently hiring a [Families in Transition Coordinator](https://kindering.org/get-involved/careers/) to help run our program for families without permanent housing! We are also hiring for several other positions, including direct service providers and family resource coordinators. See all openings at: [https://kindering.org/get-involved/careers/](https://kindering.org/get-involved/careers/).

**UPCOMING:**

**January 30, 2019: Speaker Series – Sensory Processing Workshop** Join us for this evening session to hear from an Occupational Therapist who will provide information and a variety of strategies to try with children who have Sensory Processing challenges. There will be ample time for questions. Presented by Alex Neukirch, Occupational Therapist at Kindering.

- **When:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019, 6:30-8:30pm.
- **Location:** Kindering Bellevue (16120 NE 8th Street, Bellevue, WA 98008)
- **RSVP:** colleen.willis@kindering.org;
- **Details:** [https://kindering.org/portfolio-items/speaker-series/](https://kindering.org/portfolio-items/speaker-series/).

**February 27, 2019: Speaker Series – Planning for the Future: Guardianships, Special Needs Trusts & Other Issues for Families** This workshop will give an overview of what a special needs trust is all about, provide insights on guardianships, and identify a framework for families who have a child with a disability as they plan for the future. Our speaker will be Matthew Parker from Seattle law firm Thompson Howle Vaughn.

- **When:** Wednesday, February 27, 2019, 6:00-8:30 pm.
- **Location:** Kindering Bothell (19801 N Creek Parkway, Bothell, WA 98011)
- **RSVP:** colleen.willis@kindering.org;
- **Details:** [https://kindering.org/portfolio-items/speaker-series/](https://kindering.org/portfolio-items/speaker-series/).

**March 30, 2019: 25th Annual Auction Gala** Help our kids shoot for the stars and join us for our 2019 Galaxy Gala at the Seattle Westin. For more information, please visit [https://kindering.org/get-involved/events/auction/](https://kindering.org/get-involved/events/auction/) or contact our development team at 425-653-4294 or development@kindering.org.
Those wishing to learn more about Kindering, its mission, and programs may call Alison Morton at 425-653-4331 or Alison.morton@kindering.org, or visit its website at www.kindering.org.

**Mary Bridge Children’s Therapy Services**
- We have added a second orthotist who will help reduce timelines from referral to final fitting for children with orthotic needs.
- We are working with architects to open an additional therapy location in Gig Harbor. This site will include PT, OT, Speech, Audiology, and Neonatal Follow up. We will be in the same location as Mary Bridge specialty clinics and Mary Bridge Urgent Care. We expect to open in mid-2019.
- We are hosting a Neurodevelopmental Baby Treatment course this January/February.
- We are continuing to support SibShop classes and parent education courses.
- We are continuing to work on outcome measures we can use across patient populations.
- We have struggled with billing the MCOs but have finally worked out the issues on our end and expect to release our claims before the end of January.

**Providence Children’s Center and Providence Autism Center**
What’s new -we are creating a new dedicated resource center where individuals and families can get information that is germane to supporting their role as a caregiver for a child with special needs but may not be directly related to the therapy that they are getting. This will be supported by parent volunteers. Other resources will be: Webinars, books to borrow, finding of equipment.

Challenges-Hiring right now is difficult, especially SLPs. Those that we have gotten are top-shelf!

What is going well:
-Our mission of helping children and families. If it were always easy, we wouldn’t need to do it!

Would like help with the burden of regulations and documentation always seems to get more. This takes away from our face-to-face time with our children and families. I will bet others are having the same issues.

**Program Overview Providence Children’s Center**
- Serving Children in West Snohomish County
- Ages 0-18
- Birth through 2 as well as 3+ programs
- Speech (articulation, feeding, swallow, AAC, support for our Autism Center)
- OT (Sensory Integration, Behavior management, gross and fine motor development as well as functional application)
- PT (Gross motor development, balance, functional application, orthotics, durable medical equipment recommendations)
- Family Resources Coordinators (FRC): Support for families in the Birth through 2 program

**Pediatric Interim Care**: Supporting children who have prenatal drug exposure and / or medical fragility.

**Camp Prov**: Day Summer camp for children with special needs and their siblings. We serve over 400 kids during the summer. Nearly 40% of these children get full scholarships from our Providence General Foundation due to financial need.

**Providence Autism Center**: Two programs
- Diagnostics: with Psychologist and SLP provide diagnostic services for children suspected to have ASD.
- Intensive Day Treatment Program: Twelve week program designed to help children and families manage aspects of ASD specific to the child. Staff includes Board Certified Behavior Analyst, Registered Behavior Technicians, Speech Language Pathologist, and Educator.

**NICU**: Two aspects
- Support children and families with therapy needs while in our NICU. PT, OT and Speech.
- Follow-up services when out of the NICU, including NICU follow-ups.

**Valley Medical Center**
What’s new: The Friends Project is a biweekly free program for kids with special needs and their families to come and interact with First Responders. Resources, activities, and a focus on learning that First Responders are Friends are paramount. Specialized, clinic-based PEPS (Program for Early Parent Support) for NICU follow-up families.

New staff: New SLP starting in January.
Check our website - Biweekly Friends Project, PEPS group, and weekly Art Therapy Thursdays are free to the community.
Have 2 open OT positions, 1 SLP position, and 1 rehab aide position.
Decreased reimbursement continues to be a challenge.
Community support is very strong.
Would like continued assistance to decrease workload related to insurance coverage.

Yakima Children’s Village
Laura Crooks has been named as the new Chief Executive Officer at Children’s Village, the regional integrated center that provides over 30 different services to children with special healthcare needs and their families.

Crooks brings a wealth of experience to Children’s Village, which has served children and families in Central Washington for more than 20 years. At Seattle Children’s, Crooks worked to bring direct services to children with special needs and disabilities, and also in areas of leadership and organizational growth in her role as a senior director. She also participated in strategic visioning and developed new models of care at the children’s hospital in Seattle.

Personally, Laura and her husband, Todd, created the nonprofit Chad’s Legacy Project after the loss of their oldest son to schizophrenia and suicide. Chad’s Legacy is dedicated to the advancement of mental health education and innovations in the evaluation and treatment of mental illness. The nonprofit has created the Washington State Mental Health Summit, bringing together providers, payers, government officials, philanthropists and educators to focus on key initiatives of mental health education in schools, use of technology, workforce for the future, peer and family support, and first episode psychosis.

“We’re thrilled to have someone of Laura’s caliber take the reins at Children’s Village as the Village looks to expand much-needed services to children with special needs in our region,” said Erin Black, CEO of The Memorial Foundation and president of the board of Children’s Village.

Valerie "Val" Arnold has been named as the new Chief Executive Officer at Children’s Village, the regional integrated center that provides over 30 different services to children with special healthcare needs and their families.

Val brings a wealth of experience to Children’s Village, which has served children and families in Central Washington for more than 20 years. At Seattle Children’s, Crooks worked to bring direct services to children with special needs and disabilities, and also in areas of leadership and organizational growth in her role as a senior director. She also participated in strategic visioning and developed new models of care at the children’s hospital in Seattle.

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ESIT Staff Updates: Please help us welcome Valerie "Val" Arnold who will be joining the Early Support for Infants and Toddlers Program team as the Assistant Administrator, effective February 1, 2019.

Val has been serving as the Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) and IDEA Part B Section 619 Coordinator for the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI). She has served on the State Interagency Coordinating Council since 2012, representing OSPI as the State Education Agency. Prior to transitioning to the ECSE/Section 619 Coordinator position, she served OSPI for 15 years on the Program Review Team, providing guidance, design and development, and field-based services in monitoring activities leading to the successful implementation of the Washington Integrated System of Monitoring (WISM). Valerie holds a Master in Education from City University of Seattle and has an undergraduate degree in human development and family systems theory from The Evergreen State College.

Val brings more than thirty years of direct and administrative early childhood experience to her new position, including; oversight of local Head Start, Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP), Even Start programming, planning and development responsibilities with IDEA Part C early intervention systems at the local county level and IDEA Part B educational systems at the local and state levels.

When asked about her new position with the Department of Children, Youth, and Families, Val expresses excitement, enthusiasm, and gratitude for an opportunity to join the progressive, culturally responsive, dynamically diverse, and purpose-driven Early Support for Infants and Toddlers Program leadership team. We are thrilled to have her join us!

ESIT staff recruitment: Please find the most current list of Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) job postings at https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/washington?keywords=dcyf.

State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP): Cohort 3 implementation sites are well underway with their SSIP activities. These activities include Promoting First Relationships training, WA-IMH endorsement, ESIT specific training on social emotional assessment, engaging families in the child outcomes summary process, and writing functional outcomes. They have also been working to strengthen local partnerships to support the social emotional development of children enrolled in ESIT. Previous cohorts have submitted sustainability plans to continue many of the SSIP related activities in their
service areas. ESIT plans to have additional Promoting First Relationships and Home Visitor Rating Scale trainings to continue to grow the capacity of our providers to meet the social emotional needs of the children and family we serve.

ESIT System Redesign: ESIT staff are working with Third Sector Capital Partner, Stanford Center on Poverty and Inequality, and DCYF’s Office of Innovation, Alignment and Accountability to develop metrics for DCYF’s performance based contracting. We have started gathering input from families, provider agency leadership, and individual service providers. We held a feedback session at September’s Local Lead Agency meeting, offered a statewide webinar in November, and completed focus groups in King County and Pierce County in December.

We will continue to gather information with additional focus groups and interviews to support representation from different sectors across the state. We will use this feedback to make any necessary adjustments to proposed metrics.

Legislative highlights: ESIT and the Public Policy Committee have organized weekly legislative calls with Frank Ordway, DCYF Director of Government Affairs and Community Engagement. We also invited to SICC committee chairs, members of the Parent Institute for Engagement (PIE), an ECDAW representative, and a Wee Care Coalition representative. During these calls, Frank shares a statewide lens on bills and issues that may impact the ESIT program and the families we serve.

Starting the week of January 7, we will include a brief overview of these calls in the ESIT Weekly* to share the information with a broader audience.

*Not subscribed to the ESIT Weekly? Please email Sue Rose at sue.rose@dcyf.wa.gov.

State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC): The upcoming SICC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 16, 2019 from 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM, at:
Lacey Holiday Inn Meeting Room
4460 3rd Avenue SE
Lacey, WA 98503
This SICC meeting will feature updates from SICC committee chairs and there will be an opportunity to give comment on the Annual Performance Review (APR).

DSHS, Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA), Waiver Unit
Kari Freer

No new updates at this time.

DSHS / DDA, Medically Intensive Children’s Program
Doris Barret

No new updates at this time.

DSHS, Fostering Well-Being Care Coordination Unit (FWB CCU)
Michelle Fears and Autumn Wade

Fostering Well-Being (FWB) has several staffing changes. First, FWB is currently recruiting for an Outcome Improvement Specialist (OIS). Next, our lead clinical nurse advisor Michelle Fears will be leaving FWB at the end of February 2019. Michelle recently graduated with her ARNP. She has been part of the team for over 5 years and her knowledge, passion and commitment to this team will be immensely missed. However, we are happy to see her off on her new and exciting journey.

With that being said, we are now also recruiting for a Clinical Nurse Advisor. Our current open positions can be found here: https://www.govemmentjobs.com/careers/washington
No new updates at this time.

Lifespan Respite Washington (LRW)
Linda Porter
www.lifespanrespitewa.org

PAVE is pleased to announce its startup of the Lifespan Respite WA voucher program. We are taking applications of those seeking respite and from orgs/agencies that provide respite! For more information, please check out our website, www.lifespanrespitewa.org. To apply for a respite voucher, simply fill out an online application at this link: https://www.tfaforms.com/4694142. At this point we still have openings in the DOH/CSHCN program so please get those applications in right away. If you represent a Local Health Jurisdiction, be sure to fill out the application with the client so they can electronically sign it. Also, if you know of any respite provider agencies your clients would value, please let us know at giverespite@wapave.org.

WithinReach
José Villalobos
www.withinreachwa.org

2019 Value-Added Benefits Document – Attachment #16

We are excited to announce that our 2019 Value-Added Benefits document for Washington Medicaid enrollees is now live on our website. This document offers a side-by-side view of some of the enhanced benefits that each Managed Care Organization offers through their plans so that you can help clients find the plan that best meets their needs. If you plan to print this document, please note that it is formatted to print on legal paper (8.5”x14”) rather than the standard letter paper (8.5”x11”).

Please note that WithinReach presents this information as a service to the public. All information is general in nature and not intended to be a substitute of individual self-determinations as to choice of managed care plan. This does not constitute a specific recommendation or endorsement of any specific health care plan. WithinReach is not liable for incorrect or out of date information provided by a health plan. http://www.withinreachwa.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/Enhanced-Benefits-2019.pdf

The Screening and Genetics Unit is in the process of updating its Down syndrome landing page on the DOH website (https://www.doh.wa.gov/YouandYourFamily/InfantsChildrenandTeens/HealthandSafety/GeneticServices.aspx). If you know of any Down syndrome family and advocacy groups who would like to be added to the list of local resources, please email Nini (nirupama.shridhar@doh.wa.gov) by January 25, 2019.

The Sickle Cell pilot project, a part of the Adolescent Transition Care Workgroup (within PCH) has been completed. The project report generated along with recommendations have been given to the Office leadership team. Some of the recommendations include a role for the DOH to serve as a convener to network all Sickle Cell Disease (SCD) stakeholders across the state, and promote a Center of Excellence model for adolescent transition among SCD patients.

The Early Hearing-loss Detection Diagnosis and Intervention (EHDDI) program partnered with the University of Washington Center on Human Development and Disability (CHDD) to create the Washington State EHDDI Learning Community (WSELC). In November WSELC held its first webinar entitled “Understanding Families”, which focused on professionals understanding a family perspective and effectively partnering with families after a child has been identified as deaf or hard of hearing. There is a recording of the webinar available on the WSELC website. The next webinar, titled “Conversations” will discuss how professionals can provide clear information and options in family-friendly phrasing.
that is individualized to the family’s unique needs. This webinar is scheduled for Friday, February 8th at 12:00 pm. For more information or to join WSELC, contact wselc@uw.edu.

The EHDDI program provided hearing screening equipment and training to two additional midwifery practices: Salt and Cedar Midwifery in Kitsap County and Methow Valley Midwifery in Okanogan County. There are now 44 midwifery clinics or free-standing birth centers that perform newborn hearing screenings in Washington State. The EHDDI program created a list of infant hearing screening sites in [Western](#) and [Central/Eastern](#) Washington, which includes midwives who screen infants.

### Announcements

**Please help us spread the word about Pinwheels for Prevention!**

The Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) is observing National Child Abuse Prevention month in April 2019 by raising awareness in communities about child abuse and neglect prevention. As the Prevent Child Abuse Washington State Chapter we encourage you to join the Pinwheels for Prevention initiative. This initiative uses pinwheels – a timeless symbol for childhood – to represent its campaign.

Last year DCYF distributed 25,000 pinwheels to communities around the state. Pinwheels for Prevention is a reminder that it is not enough to respond to child abuse and neglect – we must build and support strong families through community engagement, programs, and policies. This movement works towards developing communities that are healthy, safe, and nurturing for all children and all families.

Please place your order for pinwheels using the form attached (see Attachment #17) and send to strengtheningfamilies@dcyf.wa.gov. Pinwheels are available on a first come, first serve basis. Pinwheels will be available for delivery in March.

### Attachments

1. CSHCN Coordinator Updates by County
2. Pathway to Progress, Overcoming Barriers to Access and Reducing Health Disparities by Maximizing Health & Disability Benefits PowerPoint
3. Developmental Disabilities Ombuds PowerPoint
4. Education Ombuds PowerPoint
5. Education Ombuds Annual Report 2017-2018
6. Interchange Northwest, Behavioral Health Ombuds Service of King County PowerPoint
7. Developmental Disabilities Ombuds Q & A
8. Education Ombuds Q & A
9. Behavioral Health Ombuds Q & A
10. Changes coming to Washington Apple Health – Region Map
11. HCA Sample Letter Notification of Delay of Behavioral Health Coverage in North Sound Region
12. School Medical Autism Review Teams (SMART) Fact Sheet
13. CYSHCN and Birth to Three Contacts in the Better Health Together ACH Region
14. CYSHCN and Birth to Three Contacts in the Greater Columbia ACH Region
15. County Child Health Notes: Ubiquitous Screens: Recommendations on Media Use for Infants, Children, and Adolescents
17. Pinwheels for Prevention Order Form

Next CSHCN Communication Network Meeting

**Thursday, April 11, 2019**

**Creekside Two at Centerpoint Conference Room 309**

20425 72nd Avenue South, Kent, Washington