

**Office of Public Health (OPH) Quarterly Report to the DD Council**

**June 2017**

**Bureau of Family Health (BFH)**

**Title V Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN) Programs**

**Children’s Special Health Services (CSHS)**

**The Family Resource Center (FRC)** at Children’s Hospital, New Orleans (CHNOLA) connects Louisiana families with needed resources through outpatient clinics and the inpatient rehabilitation unit at Children’s Hospital. The FRC also links families with their local Families Helping Families center for ongoing support.

- The FRC held a successful resource fair *Early Intervention (Zero to Three) and Transition at Age 3* at CHNOLA on April 11, 2017. Representatives from 23 agencies provided firsthand information on programs and services to the 247 CHNOLA staff in attendance.
- In June, the FRC expanded resource services to the Cerebral Palsy clinic and began providing resource packets to parents of NICU graduates preparing for discharge to home.
- The FRC parent liaison Thuy Nguyen serves on the CHNOLA Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) providing family perspective and resource information to inform the group’s work.
- The FRC youth liaison Steven Nguyen participates in the Statewide Independent Living Council and serves in the role of treasurer.

FRC Resource Dissemination Activities March 2017 – May 2017	
Total Client Encounters	171
Identified Resource Needs	419
Resource Needs Met	386

**Educational Outreach - Developmental Screening, Care Coordination, and Youth Transition**

- CSHS continues ongoing support for 6 contracted Care Coordinator/Medical Home practices through partnerships with CHNOLA, Daughters of Charity, NOELA Community Health Center, Lafayette General Hospital -University Hospital and Clinics, and Tulane Lakeside Pediatrics clinic. Since all contracted clinics host medical resident continuity clinics, this allows providers in training to gain personal experience with comprehensive care coordination services and the medical home model.

- Care coordination technical assistance is offered free to pediatric and family medicine primary care practices in Louisiana that would like to implement or expand clinic level care coordination services. Interested practices can email [cshsprogram@la.gov](mailto:cshsprogram@la.gov) or contact CSHS at 504-568-5055.
- Planning is underway for a Region 7 Resource Information Workshop (RIW) scheduled for September 14<sup>th</sup>. The RIW *Improving Early Identification and Access to Comprehensive Care for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs* (CYSHCN) will offer family workshop tracks and 4 hours of continuing education credit for nurse and social worker participants. Registration opens July 15<sup>th</sup>. For more information email [cshsprogram@la.gov](mailto:cshsprogram@la.gov) or call 504-568-5055.
- The Developmental Screening (DS) technical assistance project with the National MCH Workforce Development Center (WDC) in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, is two-thirds complete. In-state stakeholder meetings facilitated by the WDC's Team were held in New Orleans and Lafayette in early May. As part of each meeting, the WDC team led participants through a service systems mapping activity. The data collected through this exercise is currently being analyzed by the WDC to identify state system priorities around developmental screening and early intervention.

#### **Louisiana Birth Defects Monitoring Network (LBDMN)**

- In April, the LBDMN team was notified that CDC had closed funding for all grantees for Years 2-5 for the *Congenital Zika Syndrome Surveillance Grant*. The program applied for a No-Cost Extension to retain \$465,352 in unspent Year 1 and supplemental funding which have already been committed to contractual obligations. These funds must be used by 7/31/2018. Because Year 1 funds were used to upgrade our infrastructure to accommodate Zika surveillance, the LBDMN will continue to report on the 26 categories of birth defects associated with maternal Zika exposure to CDC on a monthly basis according to standardized guidelines.
- Planned activities around monitoring as well as follow-up of individual case referral, developmental, and health outcomes have been scaled back due to lack of funding for dedicated staff. Efforts have been made to shift activities supporting access to pediatric subspecialty care and developmental screening to CYSHCN staff outside of the LBDMN table of organization.
- The work of the LBDMN regional clinical liaisons has been very successful in building relationships for reporting and access to medical records for rapid data collection.

- CDC guidelines for Zika exposure and Zika prevention information are available at <http://www.cdc.gov/zika/fs-posters/>.

**The CSHS Transportation Assistance Program** continues to provide needed transportation assistance for families to attend medical appointments/procedures.

Travel Stipends February – May 2017	
149 families served	Stipend expenditures \$17,071.73

### Hearing, Speech and Vision (HSV)

- The HSV program received a HRSA funding award for the *Universal Newborn Hearing Screening and Intervention Program*. It is a 3 year project with a goal to support statewide programs and systems of care that ensure that Deaf and Hard of Hearing children are identified through newborn and infant hearing and screening and receive evaluation, diagnosis, and appropriate intervention that optimize their language, literacy, and social-emotional development.
- To move Louisiana forward in achieving the ultimate Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) goal, which is to optimize language, social, and literacy development for children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing, the LA EHDI team hosted an *Early Intervention Consortium* in April. Seventy stakeholders attended including families, audiologists, EarlySteps providers, teachers of the Deaf/Hard of hearing, and speech language pathologists. Four conference outcomes were achieved:
  - 1) Assessment of the status of early intervention for children who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing in Louisiana
  - 2) Identification of critical areas needing improvement
  - 3) Development of aims and strategies for quality improvement
  - 4) Formation of 2 workgroups to address the aims and strategies.
- The HSV program executed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Louisiana Hands and Voices (H & V) Guide by Your Side (GBYS) program, designating this organization as their lead family program. The Hands and Voices GBYS program is a parent-driven support group for Deaf and Hard of Hearing (D/HH) children and their families.

**Genetic Diseases Program** operates a comprehensive newborn heel stick screening program as well ensures access to genetic evaluation and counseling for Louisiana residents.

- The Severe Combined Immunodeficiency (SCID) screening test addition to the newborn panel has been postponed. Further updates will be provided as they become available.

#### **Louisiana Healthy Homes and Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (LHHCLPPP)**

- The LHHCLPPP has received a successful rating of green which is the highest rating for the 1st two quarters of the *HUD Lead Based Paint Hazard Control Grant*. The purpose of this grant is to remediate homes of children with elevated blood lead levels where the source of lead poisoning is lead based paint. The program has worked with HUD and the Office of State Procurement to put out bids for contractors. Letters were sent to 400 contractors who were listed on the Louisiana Contractors Licensing Board announcing this new grant award and encouraging contractors to register with the state procurement office as vendors.
- Due to the St. Joseph Water Emergency, 400 letters were sent to pediatricians in the high risk target areas of Regions 1, 6, and 8 informing them of the importance of lead testing. Updated Lead Case Reporting Forms, Physician and Parent Flyers were sent to these providers.
- The program submitted its final *Environmental Assessment Summary Report* to the state health officer. In this report it was stated that environmental assessments were performed on 30 homes. Health education and outreach home visits were made before the environmental assessments and after the environmental assessments with each home owner.
- LHHCLPPP reached 4639 people between January 1-June 28, 2017, through trainings, presentations, meetings, events at WIC clinics, Head Start Centers, pediatrician offices, and pre-k educational programs. LHHCLPPP staff participated in the Essentials for Healthy Homes Practitioners Training.