

Office of Public Health (OPH) Quarterly Report to the DD Council
Bureau of Family Health (BFH)
December 13, 2017

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

Children's Special Health Services (CSHS) works to ensure that children and youth who have special health care needs in Louisiana have access to health care services designed to minimize their disabilities and maximize their probabilities of enjoying independent and self-sufficient lives.

- CSHS continues direct service clinics for CYSHCN's in regions 2 and 4-9 to meet specialty care needs in provider shortage areas. CSHS clinics are staffed by part-time physician sub-specialist, a full-time nurse, and parent liaison. CSHS parent liaisons are the parent of a child/young adult with a special health care need and work in tandem with the clinic staff to assist parents with coordination of care and linkage to community services. In Regions 2, and 6-9, the care team also includes a social worker.
- CSHS supports care coordination (CC) services in 6 academic clinics through partnerships with Children's Hospital New Orleans (CHNOLA), Daughters of Charity, NOELA Community Health Center, Lafayette General Hospital -University Hospital and Clinics, and Tulane Lakeside Pediatrics clinic. This project provides families with access to CC services and allows residents to gain personal experience with the medical home healthcare delivery model.
- CSHS promotes comprehensive developmental screening in pediatric primary care practices around the state. A Technical Assistance (TA) project in Region 4 was launched this quarter and the TA offering will be expanded to Regions 1 and 9 spring 2018. Providers who serve the birth to five population can participate in free TA around comprehensive DS and CC. Find additional information at www.ldh.la.gov/developmentalscreening.

The CSHS Family Resource Center (FRC) located on the campus of CHNOLA connects Louisiana families with needed resources through outpatient clinics and the inpatient rehabilitation unit. The FRC also links families with their local Families Helping Families center for ongoing support. The FRC staff attend the following clinics: Botox, Spasticity, Neuromuscular, Spina Bifida, Down Syndrome, Muscular Dystrophy, Cerebral Palsy. Clients are seen in other clinics by physician or staff referral. On October 31st staff attended a special Neurology Transition clinic.

- The FRC hosted an information session for CHNOLA staff on the Exceptional Lives (EL) Louisiana Website November 3rd. The EL Team was on hand to walk providers through this new family resource. The EL software prompts parents through a few simple questions about their family's situation, and utilizes this data to filter and display relevant, actionable resources. *Exceptional Lives* link: <http://la.exceptionallives.org/>

- The FRC parent liaison, Thuy Nguyen, serves on the CHNOLA Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) providing the 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 vice chairman, sits on the Developmental Disabilities Council, and is a member of the Jefferson Parish Complete Streets Coalition.

Family Resource Center	
Resource Dissemination Activities September-November 2017	
Total Client Encounters	210
Identified Resource Needs	403
Resource Needs Met	415

Louisiana Birth Defects Monitoring Network (LBDMN) tracks the occurrence of over 70 structural, functional, and genetic birth defects in Louisiana residents. This work helps to ensure that there are no unknown environmental conditions, pharmaceutical side effects, or behavioral risk factors threatening Louisiana's newborns.

Traditional Case Definition Surveillance:

- The 2014 birth cohort will close at the end of December 2017. As of November 30th, it was 79% complete.

Zika Case Definition Surveillance:

- Abstraction continues for potential cases of interest for Zika related birth defects. The 2016 Zika cohort is expected to be closed mid-January 2018.
- The expected date for the Zika surveillance upgrade to the existing database is December 17th. This upgrade will greatly enhance efficiency in Zika surveillance.
- All but four birthing hospitals in the state have submitted revised reports with the Zika codes for 2016-17 discharges except for Region 7. Region 7 work was delayed due to staffing.

Prevention:

- CDC's January 2018 National Birth Defects Prevention Month campaign materials were released in November. The theme is *Prevent to Protect*. Campaign materials can be downloaded at <https://www.nbdpn.org/bdpm.php#PreventToProtect>.

CSHS Transportation Assistance Program provides needed transportation assistance for families to attend medical appointments/procedures.

Transportation Assistance Program	
September-October 2017	
68 families served	Stipend expenditures \$8,442

Genetic Disease Program operates a comprehensive statewide newborn heel stick screening program meeting national standards as well as ensuring access to genetic evaluation and counseling to residents of Louisiana. It also operates the Sickle Cell Disease (SCD) Program, which provides resources and information on how individuals diagnosed with sickle cell can receive assistance and care through the Sickle Cell Foundations and Clinics around the state.

- The Genetic Disease Program collaborated with the LDH Bureau of Health Informatics to develop a report that analyzed Medicaid-eligible individuals in Louisiana that acquired a SCD-related Medicaid Claim. The analysis illustrates population-level trends in patient care and clinical utilization costs. The report is categorized by calendar year, demographics, and parish.
- The Louisiana Sickle Cell Commission (LSCC) webpage, <http://ldh.la.gov/index.cfm/page/2900>, provides information on the activities of the commission, while highlighting its members, partners, and state SCD resources.

Louisiana Healthy Homes and Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (LHHCLPPP) works toward the goal of eliminating childhood lead poisoning as a public health problem. During this quarter the program undertook several initiatives to promote lead poisoning prevention.

- The Louisiana Department of Health-Office of Public Health-LHHCLPPP teamed up with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to promote Lead Week in the state.
- A letter of support for the 2017 Lead Week Activities was provided to LHHCLPPP by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) President. This letter was included with the lead testing awareness packets distributed to pediatricians in high risk lead poisoning areas.
- In partnership with the Bureau of Family Health's (BFH) Maternal Infants and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) Program, Regional Outreach Specialists educated parents on childhood lead poisoning at their scheduled home visit.
- In Orleans, Jefferson, Plaquemines and St. Bernard parishes WIC clinics, free lead screening were performed and educational trainings for WIC Clinic parents were provided. Lead Week Awareness packets were disseminated to all Head Start Center and WIC clinic staff statewide.
- A new LHHCLPPP video and 2 Lead Prevention Radio Ads were launched.
- LHHCLPPP State of Louisiana/Pandora-Louisiana Lead Poisoning Prevention Week Social Marketing Campaign was successfully delivered.
- The LHHCLPPP staff presented on the success of the LHHCLPPP/WIC Lead Testing Project at the CDC Program Manager's Meeting in Atlanta GA December 5-7, 2017.

Louisiana Healthy Homes and Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program	
Lead Week Activity Reach	
Awareness Encounters	25 encounters 1500 individuals reached
Parent Education (MIECHV Participants)	900 parents
Physician Lead Poison Prevention Flyers	880 pediatricians
Lead Testing Awareness Packets	440 pediatricians
Resident, Public Health, and Nursing Student Education	150 individuals
Social Marketing Campaign	561,000 impressions served 140 website clicks 127,000 unique listeners

BFH Hearing Speech and Vision - Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) Program

conducts the newborn hearing program in Louisiana (LA). EHDI is a national initiative that supports the early identification of infants with hearing loss through screening, audiologic evaluation, medical evaluation, enrollment in early intervention, and family to family support services.

- The EHDI Program will host a conference at LSU-HSC in New Orleans on March 15, 2018 to address the problem of children with mild or unilateral hearing loss being two or three times more likely to become lost to follow-up after hearing loss diagnosis. Karen Anderson, the keynote speaker will provide education and training to stakeholders on the unique needs of children with mild and unilateral hearing loss.
- The EHDI Program is working with the CSHS care coordination team to identify and obtain needed content/topics/materials for development of training tools specific to LA EHDI and the Joint Committee on Infant Hearing goals for use with learning communities.
- Collaborations continue with the LA School for the Deaf – Parent Pupil Education Program, Early Steps, Guide by Your Side parent guides, pediatric audiologists, medical home providers and families to increase the number of newborns and infants who receive timely referral and enrollment in early intervention.
- The LA EHDI database is now accessible to LA EHDI partner providers such as early intervention programs, Nurse Family Partnership and Parents as Teachers. Database trainings continue to be offered to partner providers and Medical Home offices who provide hearing re-screenings.
- An active family engagement survey is in draft and when finalized will be offered to families of children birth – 5 years old who are Deaf or hard of hearing.

Hands and Voices Guide by Your Side (GBYS) Program is the lead family organization for the LA HSV program. The Hands and Voices GBYS program is a parent-driven support group for children who are Deaf/Hard of Hearing and their families.

- GBYS hired 3 new Parent Guides.

- Louisiana representatives attended the National Hands and Voices Leadership Conference.
- Work continues with the National Technical Resource Center for Newborn Hearing Screening and Intervention to improve family engagement, partnership and leadership within the EHDI System.
- Participating in the HRSA - Family Leadership in Language and Learning Program.

BFH Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) Program is a no-cost, voluntary program that supports the health and well-being of families with young children. MIECHV implements two evidence-based models, Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP) and Parents as Teachers (PAT). MIECHV pairs families looking for additional support and mentoring with specially-trained registered nurses or parent educators who partner with families and provide personal home visits.

NFP and PAT services:

- Health and developmental screenings for children, promoting early identification of developmental delays.
- Assistance with goal setting and life skills development.
- Parenting guidance on a variety of topics.
- Connections to available resources, including early intervention and early childhood special education services.
- Coordinated care and support once families are connected to needed services.

Nurse Family Partnership (NFP):

- Services and supports are provided to Medicaid-, WIC-, SNAP-, TANF-, and/or SSI-eligible first-time moms and families from pregnancy until the child’s second birthday.
- NFP serves all parishes except Caldwell, East Carroll, Madison, Tensas, Union, West Carroll.

Parents as Teachers (PAT):

- Services and supports are provided to Medicaid-, WIC-, SNAP-, TANF-, and/or SSI-eligible expectant or parenting families from pregnancy until the child enters kindergarten.
- PAT serves Shreveport, Monroe and the 17 surrounding parishes. Now accepting referrals for New Orleans and the 4 surrounding parishes.

Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program SFY 2017 Reach		
Nurse Family Partnership	3,205 families served	33,349 home visits
Parents as Teachers	596 families served	6,112 home visits

For more information about Louisiana MIECHV’s NFP and PAT services, including how to get in touch with a home visitor near you, via the Partners for Health Babies telephone line and website, 1-800-251-BABY and PartnersforHealthyBabies.org.