



Whole Child Health Alliance Quarterly Resource Scan | Q1

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About the Quarterly Resource Scan

The Whole Child Health Alliance (“Alliance”) envisions a future in which all children can experience optimal health and reach their full potential. To achieve this vision, we believe that organizations that pay for and provide services for children must coordinate and collaborate to meet the developmental, social, physical, and mental health needs of children and youth – which includes supporting the development of positive relationships between children and youth and their caregivers.

One key strategy to advance this vision is to build out the concept of whole child health by researching, identifying, and describing the key elements of whole child health. The goal of the Quarterly Resource Scan is to catalog new research, analysis, guidance and tools that advance the key elements of whole child health. By doing so, we aim to enhance our members’ understanding of the latest policies and practices that advance whole child health, which will, in turn, inform the Alliance’s priorities and strategies.

Scope

The Quarterly Resource Scan will be curated to include publications that discuss policy and/or practice that advance the [Key Elements of Whole Child Health](#) or other topics that are closely related to whole child health (e.g., child-related Medicaid/CHIP policy). The Quarterly Resource Scan will include peer-reviewed studies, policy reports and analyses, case studies, relevant toolkits, and selected policy guidance released by federal agencies. The Quarterly Resource Scan will not include federal or state legislation, press releases, or clinical and/or population health studies that are not focused on policy or practices that advance whole child health.

Please contact [Hannah Wagner](#) with questions or recommendations of resources to include in an upcoming Scan.

Resources

Peer Reviewed Articles

[Addressing Housing-Related Social Needs Through Medicaid: Lessons From North Carolina's Healthy Opportunities Pilots Program](#)

Katie Huber, Raman Nohria, Vibhav Nandagiri, et al.
Health Affairs

February 2024

This article analyzes the design and implementation of North Carolina Medicaid's Healthy Opportunities Pilots' housing services across three program regions. The Health Opportunities Pilots is the first comprehensive program to evaluate the impact of reimbursing community-based organizations to provide eligible Medicaid enrollees with evidence-based services to address health-related social needs, including housing. The article explores four main implementation themes, including:

- Accounting for variation in housing resources and needs to address housing insecurity;
- Defining and pricing housing services in Medicaid;
- Engaging diverse stakeholders across sectors to facilitate successful implementation, and
- Developing sustainable financial models for delivery.

[Adverse Social Determinants of Health in Children with Newly Diagnosed Type 1 Diabetes: A Potential Role for Community Health Workers](#)

Charlene W. Lai, Meghan Craven, Jennifer A. Hershey, et al.
Pediatric Diabetes

January 2024

This qualitative study describes the prevalence and impact of social drivers of health on pediatric diabetes care and explores the potential role of community health workers (CHW) to address the social drivers of health that impact pediatric diabetes care. Seventeen caregivers of children under age 17 were enrolled in the study, and ten were assigned a CHW. The study found that adverse social determinants of health have a significant impact on families' ability to care for their children, and CHWs can be a

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including implicit bias and differences in site of care or clinician characteristics. Finally, the article suggests priorities for future research.

See the [series](#) from Lancet on racism and child health in the USA for more information.

[Strengthening Public Health through Primary Care and Public Health Collaboration](#)

Nancy Baum, Samantha Iovan, Marianne Udow-Phillips
Journal of Public Health Management and Practice

March/April 2024

This article explores collaborative and integrative efforts between primary care and public health across four states: North Carolina, Oregon, Rhode Island, and Washington. Through a literature review and interviews with state experts, the paper describes approaches to data sharing, communication and system change to improve the connection between primary care and public health systems. The authors found that “backbone organizations”, leadership training, payment reform, interoperable data platforms, and relationship building is key to strengthening collaboration between primary care and public health systems.

[Using Quality Improvement as a Mechanism for Fostering Partnerships and Promoting Equity in a Health System Change Model](#)

Caroline E. Chandler, Laura Louison, Nancy Madenyika, et al.
Maternal and Child Health Journal

February 2024

This case study shows how quality improvement (QI) processes were leveraged to build a partnership to enhance equity within North Carolina’s Integrated Care for Kids (NC InCK) pilot program. During the planning period prior to program launch, usability testing was used to refine NC InCK materials, build and enhance community partnerships and promote equity between the NC InCK team and Family Council.

Policy Reports

[Expanding the Perspectives and Research Foundation for the Strengthening Families & Youth Thrive Frameworks](#)

Charlyn Harper Brown
Center for the Study of Social Policy

February 2024

This report expands on the Center for the Study of Social Policy’s initial frameworks Strengthening Families and Youth Thrive frameworks to broaden understanding about challenges facing children, youth, and parents as well as to promote health and wellbeing across this population. The report aims to broaden understanding of the challenges children, youth and parents face to promote healthy development and wellbeing.

[Fact Sheet: Congress Should Prioritize Development of the Pediatric Mental Health Workforce](#)

Elaine Dalpiaz, Averi Pakulis
First Focus on Children

March 2024

This fact sheet discusses the shortage of pediatric mental health professionals in the U.S. The fact sheet shares that there is public support for congressional action to invest in mental health, based on a [poll](#) conducted by Lake Research Partners and a [survey conducted by](#) National Alliance of Mental

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Illness (NAMI). Finally, the fact sheet discusses the mental health workforce pipeline and provides recommendations on how to develop a national strategy and increase the number of mental health providers for youth.

[Guide to Equity in the Children's Health Insurance Program](#)

[Strategies to Compensate Unpaid Caregivers: A Policy Scan](#)

Elisa Minoff, Alex Coccia

This webinar includes an overview of the Early Relational Health (ERH) policy agenda and a summary of recent state policy action to advance ERH. The webinar also includes a panel discussion with thought leaders in ERH. See a slide deck from the presentation [here](#).

[Pushing the Envelope in School-Based Services: Graduating to a Higher Level of Pediatric Care](#)

Presenters: Zoe Barnard, Autumn Boylan, Damian Carrol, Kenneth Smoker
Manatt Health

January

This webinar highlights examples of state models to provide school-based Medicaid services. The webinar provides an overview of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) guidance on school-based services, state examples, strategies for expanding school-based health offerings, and next steps for Medicaid and education agencies to partner to improve care for children.

Tools

[Child Health Transformation Resource Center](#)

Center for Health Care Strategies

No Date

This resource center, supported by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, offers tools for providers, community partners, families, patients, policymakers and others to transform child health through three key strategies, including:

- Adopting anti-racist practices and policies that advance health equity.
- Co-creating equitable partnerships between patients, families, and providers.
- Identifying family strengths and addressing health-related social need to promote resilience.

The resource center also includes information on financing and accountability levers.

[How to Communicate Effectively with Policymakers about Early Relational Health](#)

Nurture Connection

January

This document provides guidance on how to effectively communicate with policymakers on early relational health. The guidance builds on a previous [project](#) on the same topic, which was informed by focus groups and input from families, leaders in the field, and partner organizations.

[Improving Pediatric Care Through Patient and Family Engagement Assessments](#)

Hannah Gears, Lauren Scannelli Jacobs
Center for Health Care Strategies

January

This tool supports pediatric practices, health systems, and community-based organizations to engage with patients in their families by outlining how stakeholders in the pediatric context can understand considerations for implementing a patient and family assessment and choose the best tool for their population.

CMS Rules, Reports and Guidance

[Integrated Care for Kids \(InCK\) Model: Evaluation Report 2](#)

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), submitted by Abt Associates February 2024

This evaluation report provides an overview of InCK implementation progress during its first year (2022). The report provides a description of each InCK awardee's approach to assessing Medicaid enrollee's needs, assigning them to Service Integration Levels as well as their alternative payment model design