



Summer 2011

## Medical Home News

by Bob Nickel, M.D.

This is the second edition of the OCCYSHN Medical Home newsletter. If this is your first newsletter, my goal is to inform health care providers about state medical home activities and to provide information on how to get involved.

**Oregon HB 3650.** The pace of medical home transformation is moving quickly in Oregon. In the last newsletter, I discussed the work of the Office of Health Policy and Research (OHPR) and the Oregon Health Fund Board (OHFB) to develop medical home standards (guidelines for measurement and reimbursement). HB 3650 was passed in the recent legislative session. It will restructure the Oregon Health Plan delivery system by creating Coordinated Care Organizations. The goal is to control costs and improve health care for clients through greater coordination, efficiency, accountability and flexibility. To help develop the plan for Coordinated Care Organizations, there will be four work groups, appointed by the Governor and chartered by the Oregon Health Policy Board to provide input and consultation to Oregon Health Authority staff between now and December 2011. The groups will be:

- Coordinated Care Organization (CCO) criteria
- Global Budget Methodology
- Outcomes, Quality and Efficiency Metrics
- Medicare-Medicaid Integration of Care and Services

Gov. Kitzhaber is calling for nominations for people to participate in the process. For information on how to apply for one of the HB 3650 work groups, please go to [www.health.oregon.gov](http://www.health.oregon.gov). *The deadline for application is rapidly approaching: 9 AM, Friday, July 15.*

**The Medical Home Learning Collaborative.** The Medical Home Learning Collaborative is a joint project that will be led by the Oregon Pediatric Improvement Partnership (OPIP) and the Oregon Rural Practice-Based Research Network (ORPRN). It is an extension of the Oregon CHIPRA Demonstration Grant that was awarded to help (1) test pediatric quality measures across the state, (2) develop a framework for measuring Medical Home within *practices caring for children*, and (3) test models of Medical Home within practices.



The purpose of the Learning Collaborative will be for practices to implement and evaluate strategies to achieve the outcomes and attributes of a medical home represented in the Oregon Patient-Centered Primary Care Home (PCPCH) Standards. The entities leading the Learning Collaborative (OPIP and ORPRN) have a parallel goal to use the lessons learned from the participating practices to develop quality improvement (QI) change packages and processes that future practices could use to implement medical home. The learning collaborative approach will include:

1. Centralized technical assistance on QI methods and standardized measures used across the collaborative,
2. Practice-level autonomy within this structure to allow for practice-level innovation with a focus on ensuring participation of varied practices,
3. Shared data to inform practices and participants across the collaborative to further stimulate innovation, and
4. Each practice will address Medical Home features or attributes that are most relevant to their particular practice, based on an initial assessment of the current level of medical home “maturity” of that practice from baseline data collection.

A key element to the Learning Collaborative will be the inclusion of patients and families. Another key feature will be to assist practices to implement systems or processes to manage their population, for example, how to identify children and youth with special health care needs. Identification of subpopulations with specific care management needs is vital to improving care coordination, which is a fundamental component of the medical home.

The Learning Collaborative will be recruiting eight practices for participation. There will be five learning sessions over the three year project which starts this Fall. They will focus on core medical home concepts such as care coordination, enhanced access, and whole-person orientation of care. If you are part of a practice that may be interested in participation, feel free to contact David Ross, MPH at [rossda@ohsu.edu](mailto:rossda@ohsu.edu), or R.J. Gillespie, MD at [gillesrj@ohsu.edu](mailto:gillesrj@ohsu.edu).

**START (Screening Tools And Referral Training).** The START project is a grant-funded quality improvement initiative of the Oregon Pediatric Society (OPS) and many statewide partners. START uses an innovative, hands-on approach to help primary care practices implement universal, standardized developmental screening and referral protocols. To date, more than 1,000 primary care providers and their healthcare team members have participated in START trainings across Oregon. These providers have been highly successful at implementing developmental screening and have a head start on satisfying this requirement for the Oregon Patient-Centered Primary Care Home Standards for a Tier 1 Medical Home.

Primary care providers who attend START trainings consistently ask for additional training and support to enhance child and adolescent care within the medical home. In response, OPS developed new modules focused on:

- Maternal/Paternal Depression
- Adolescent Depression/Risk
- Autism 101 for Primary Care Providers
- Early Childhood Mental Health

If you are interested in scheduling a free START training in your practice or community, or would like to become involved in collaborative, multi-disciplinary groups working to improve the health of Oregon's children, please contact E. Dawn Creach, START Specialist, at [dawn.creach@oraap.org](mailto:dawn.creach@oraap.org) or 503-522-5576.

**Project LAUNCH.** Project LAUNCH is a collaboration between the Multnomah County Education Service District (MESD) and other community partners including the Oregon Pediatric Society. It is funded by a 5 year, \$3.25 million dollar grant from the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). Multnomah LAUNCH initiatives include:

1. **211 info:** 211 info provides information about services and supports to parents, child care providers, health professionals, schools and other community professionals by phone by calling 211 or online at [www.211info.org](http://www.211info.org). Project LAUNCH will enhance resource and referral information available through 211 with a focus on early childhood resources in Multnomah County.
2. **Parent Helpline:** 211 info will be coordinated with the Parent Helpline which is operated by Birth to Three/Parenting Now! in Eugene.
3. **Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation, Positive Behavior Intervention Supports and The Incredible Years Program:** Staff at Morrison Child and Family Services and the MESD will collaborate to provide consultation to at least one Healthy Start home visiting program and two Child Care centers.
4. **Screening Tools and Referral Training (START):** Project LAUNCH has provided some funds to support the START training program of the Oregon Pediatric Society. The project specifically will help START develop training modules on early childhood mental health screening and family risk.
5. **Workforce development:** This is a collaboration with staff at Portland State University Center for the Improvement of Child and Family Services. The focus will be on workforce development to strengthen early childhood wellness.
6. **Community outreach and public information campaign:** The focus will be on raising awareness about young child wellness and will include promotion of use of 221 info and the Parent Helpline.

The following is the link to the inventory of early childhood services that was completed as part of the project: [http://web.multco.us/sites/default/files/ccfc/documents/final\\_invecsrvs.pdf](http://web.multco.us/sites/default/files/ccfc/documents/final_invecsrvs.pdf)  
For further information about Project LAUNCH contact Elana Emlen, Young Wellness Coordinator, at [eemlen@mesd.k12.or.us](mailto:eemlen@mesd.k12.or.us) or call 503-257-1649. *The primary way health care professionals can get involved in this project is by participating in START trainings!*

If you have information about projects in your community or questions about this newsletter and the information contained in it, please contact me at [nickelr@ohsu.edu](mailto:nickelr@ohsu.edu).  
The next edition will be available in the Fall.

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