

Health Emergency Ready Oregon

In an emergency, every moment counts.



Emergency Medical Services (EMS) providers must often make split-second decisions with limited information about their patient's health history. HERO Kids helps fill the pre-hospital information gap when children need emergency care.

Children's emergencies are different. Kids can't always share necessary health information. Family members aren't always present, or they might be too distressed in the moment to offer complete information. Patients or their families may not share a common language with emergency providers on the scene.

HERO Kids Registry is a voluntary, no-cost system that lets any family record critical information about their child's health *before* an emergency. That information can be quickly and easily accessed by EMS and hospital emergency departments, ensuring they have the information they need to provide the best possible care. The Registry is securely housed at OHSU.

Collaborating for kids

HERO Kids is the first registry of its kind focused on children. It was developed with input from families and youth, emergency medical services agencies, pediatric health care providers, hospitals, clinics, and public health programs. The registry is the product of a collaboration between

- [Oregon Center for Children and Youth with Special Health Needs](#)
- [Oregon Portable Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment \(POLST\) Registry](#)
- [Oregon Health Authority's Emergency Medical Services for Children](#)
- [Oregon Family-to-Family Health Information Center](#)

These reputable programs have collective expertise on establishing and implementing a registry, meeting the particular needs of children, and getting the word out to families and providers.

HERO Kids is anticipated to launch in late 2022. Initial focus will be on registering young people from birth through age 26 who are medically complex, or who have developmental disabilities and/or mental or behavioral health conditions.

20,370

Oregon children had a medical emergency requiring an EMS call in 2019. *(Oregon Health Authority, 2020)*

14%

of Oregon children live in households where English is not the primary spoken language.

(National Survey of Children's Health, 2018-19)

1 in 5

children in Oregon has a special health care need (including physical, mental, emotional, and developmental conditions).

(National Survey of Children's Health, 2018-19)

23%

of Oregon families who have a child with an intellectual or developmental disability said they did not feel prepared to handle their child's needs in an emergency. *(National Core Indicators, 2020)*



more information
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