



# Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs

## *Blueprint for Change: Implementation Update*

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**Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB)**

**Vision: Healthy Communities, Healthy People**

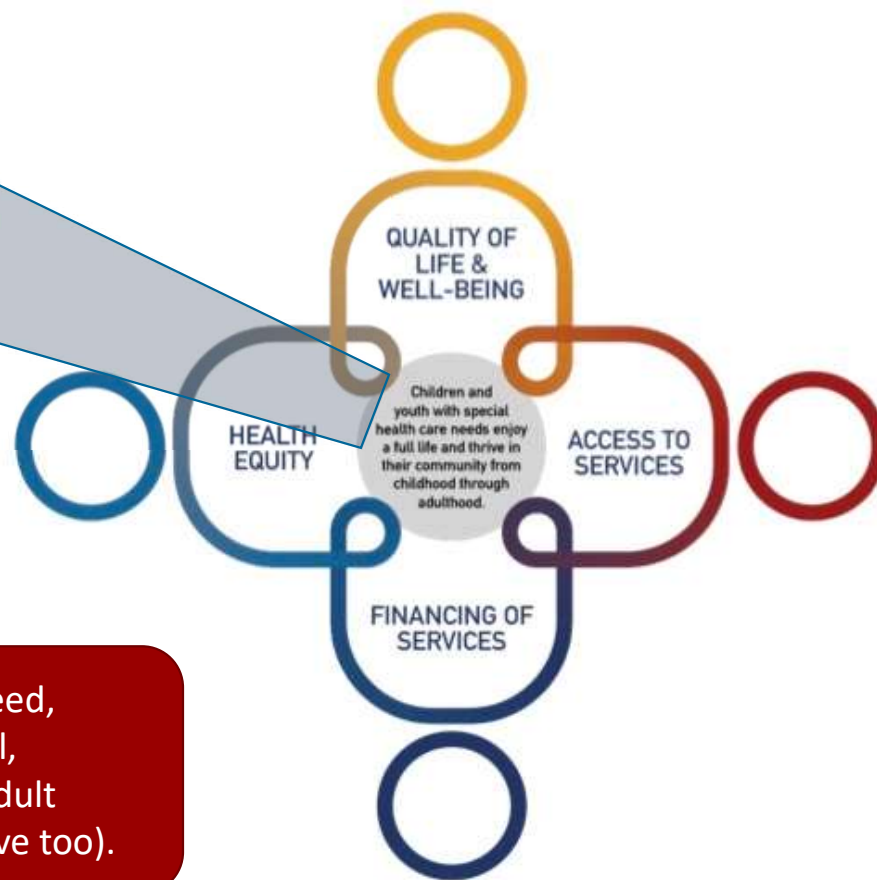


# MCHB *Blueprint for Change for CYSHCN*

Children and youth with special health care needs enjoy full lives and thrive in their communities from childhood through adulthood



Every child gets the services they need, so that they can play, go to school, and grow up to become a healthy adult (and so grown-ups and siblings can thrive too).



# MCHB Strategic Plan

## Mission

To improve the health and well-being of America's mothers, children, and families.

## Vision

Our vision is an America where all mothers, children, and families thrive and reach their full potential.

## MCHB Goals

### ACCESS

Assure access to high-quality and equitable health services to optimize health and well-being for all MCH populations.

### EQUITY

Achieve health equity for MCH populations.

### CAPACITY

Strengthen public health capacity and workforce for MCH.

### IMPACT

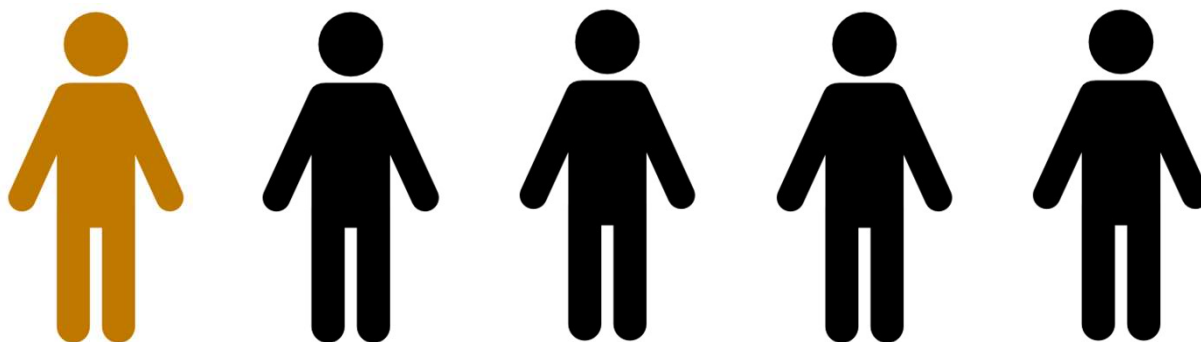
Maximize impact through leadership, partnership, and stewardship.



# Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs

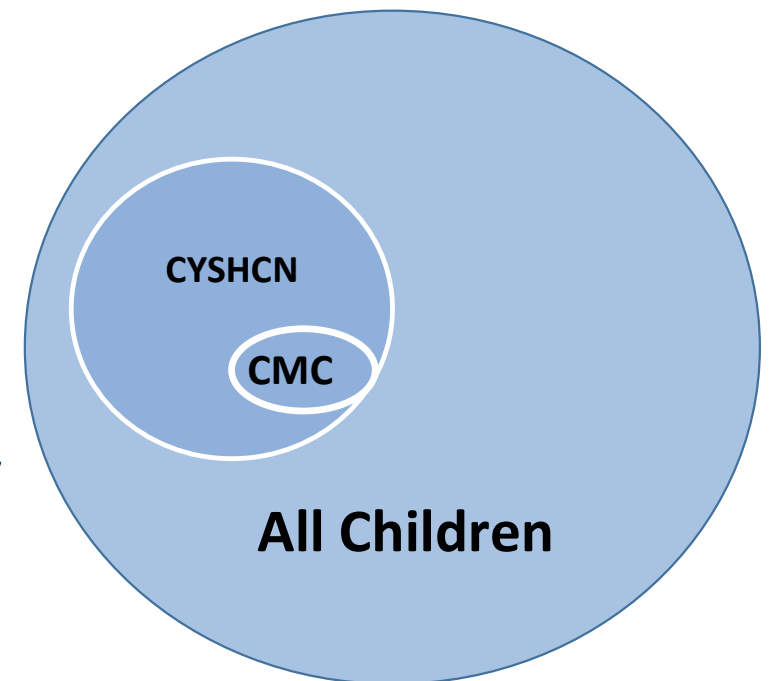
## Who are CYSHCN?

Children or youth *who have or are at increased risk for* chronic physical, developmental, behavioral, or emotional conditions and who also require health and related services of a type or amount beyond that required for children generally.

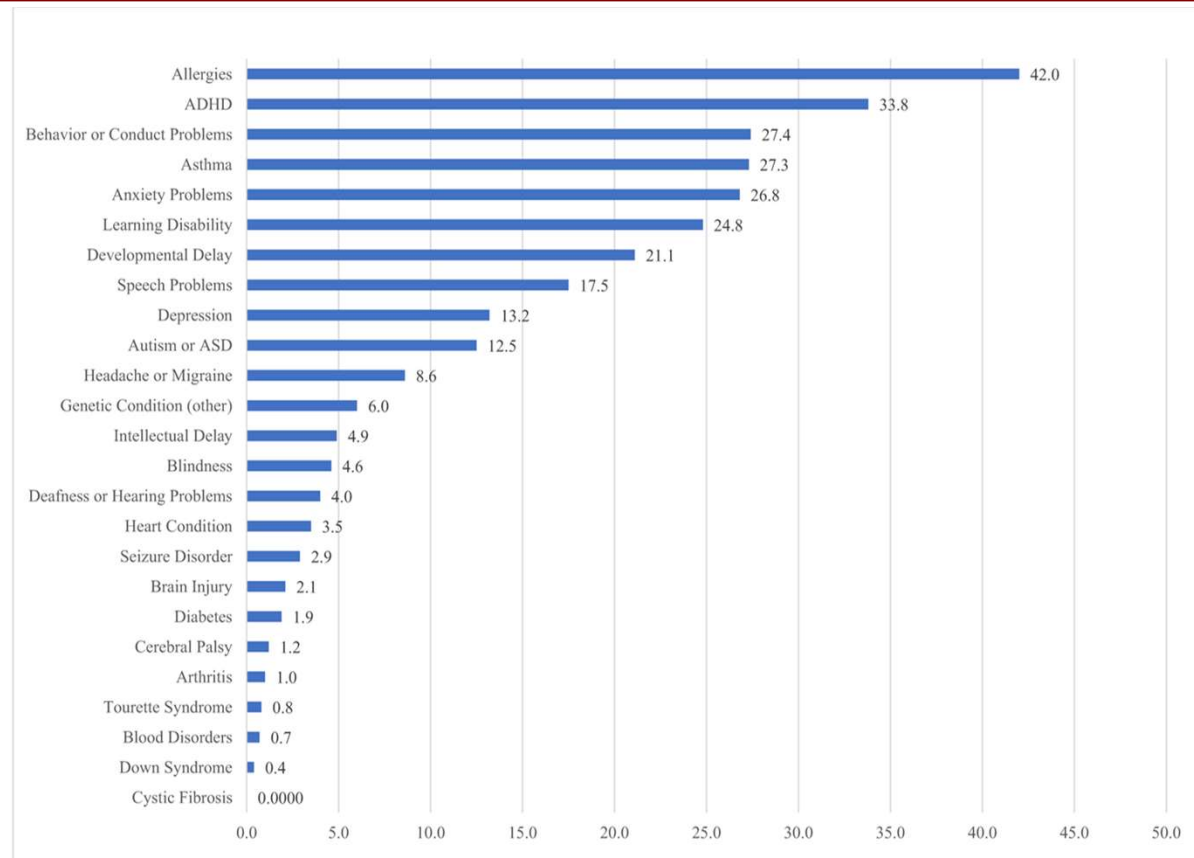


# Children in the US

- **CYSHCN** = 20%
  - 13,000 different conditions
  - Asthma, allergies, ADHD, anxiety, depression, autism
- **CMC** = Children with Medical Complexity (< 5%)
  - Subset of the CYSHCN population



# Prevalence of Selected Conditions Among CYSHCN



National Survey of Children's Health, 2016-19. Pediatrics. 2022;149(Supplement 7). doi:10.1542/peds.2021-056150D

# CYSHCN and Social Determinants of Health

## 1. Greater dependence on health care system

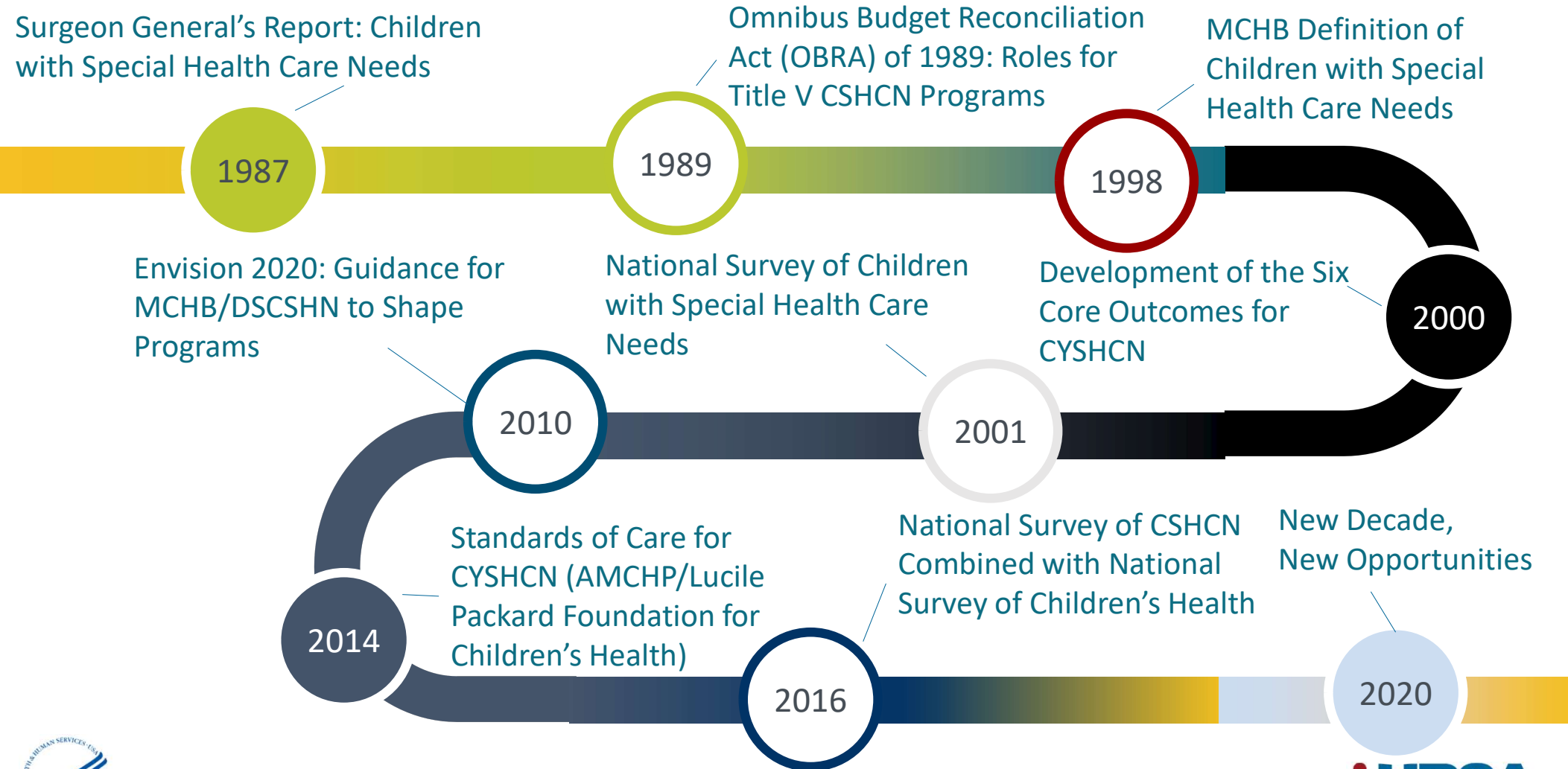
- Laboratory research, tertiary care hospitals, clinicians, equipment

## 2. Triply vulnerable to social determinants of health

- e.g. child with asthma harmed by air pollution
- e.g. lack of transportation limits access to health care they need more of
- e.g. chronic medical conditions increase economic burden

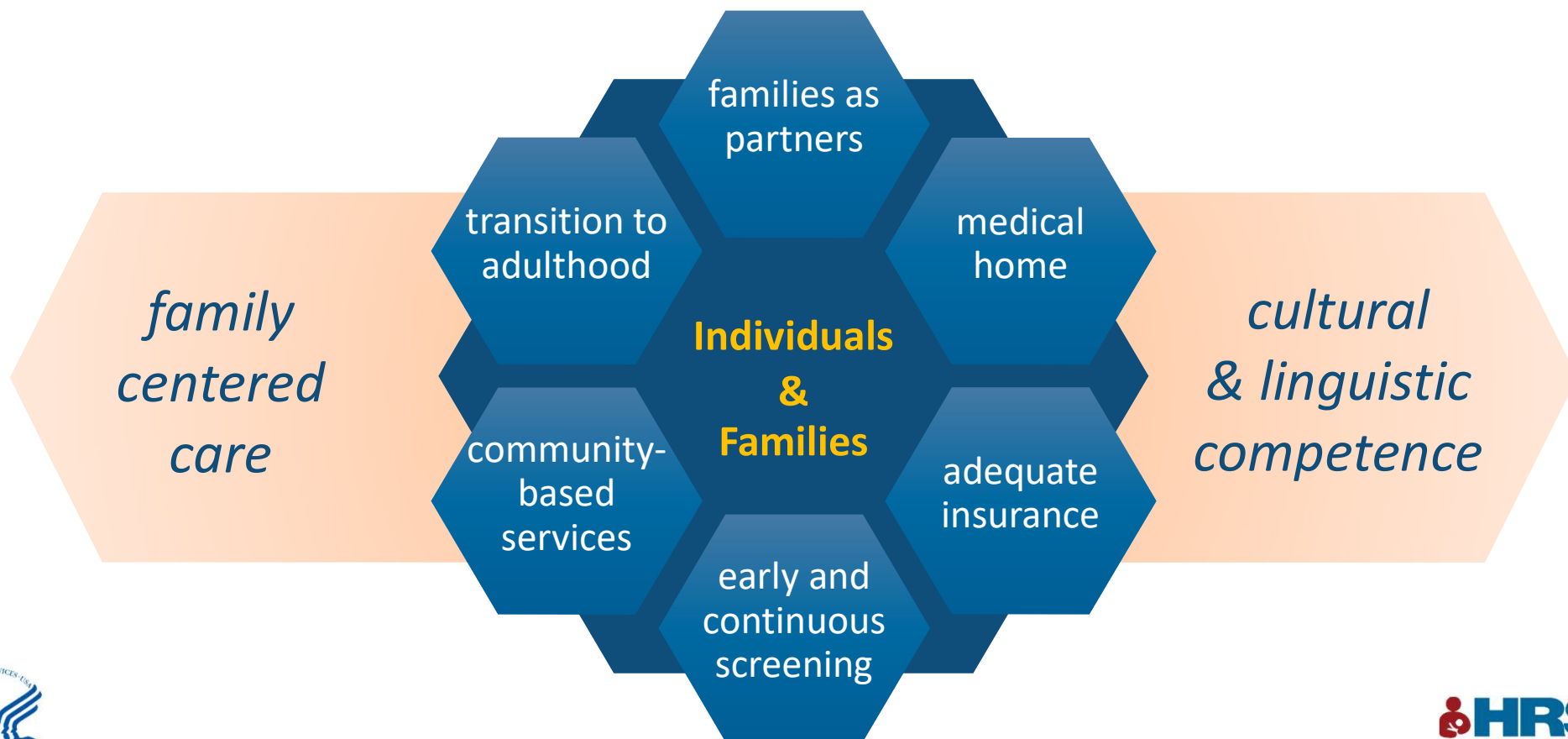
## 3. Small numbers, high impact

- CYSHCN < 20%; Children with Medical Complexity < 5%
- Require more resources; high impact on health outcomes





# Six Indicators of a Well-Functioning System



# National Standards for Systems of Care for CYSHCN



<https://nashp.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Standards-for-Systems-of-Care-for-Children-and-Youth-with-Special-Health-Care-Needs-Version-2.0.pdf>



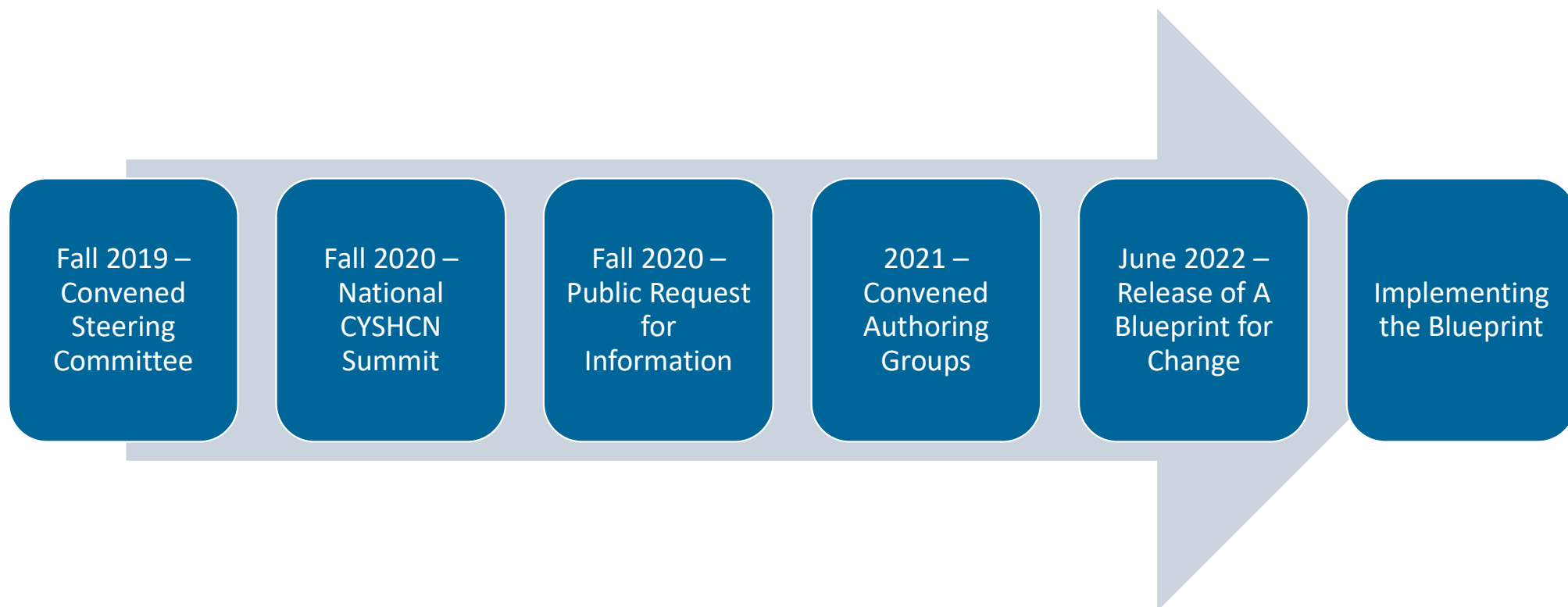
**AMCHP**

<https://www.nashp.org/national-care-coordination-standards-for-children-and-youth-with-special-health-care-needs/>

**HRSA**  
Maternal & Child Health



# Development of the Blueprint



## ARTICLES

### **Introducing the Blueprint for Change: A National Framework for a System of Services for Children and Youth With Special Health Care Needs**

Treeby W. Brown et al

### ***A Blueprint for Change: Guiding Principles for a System of Services for Children and Youth With Special Health Care Needs and Their Families***

Sarah E. McLellan et al

### **Children and Youth With Special Health Care Needs: A Profile**

Reem M. Ghandour et al

### **Progress, Persistence, and Hope: Building a System of Services for CYSHCN and Their Families**

Michael D. Warren et al

### **Health Equity for Children and Youth With Special Health Care Needs: A Vision for the Future**

Amy Houtrow et al

### **Quality of Life and Well-Being for Children and Youth With Special Health**

**Care Needs and their Families: A Vision for the Future**

Cara L. Coleman et al

### **Access to Services for Children and Youth With Special Health Care Needs and Their Families: Concepts and Considerations for an Integrated Systems Redesign**

Dennis Z. Kuo et al

### **Financing Care for CYSHCN in the Next Decade: Reducing Burden, Advancing Equity, and Transforming Systems**

Jeff Schiff et al

<https://publications.aap.org/pediatrics/s/issue/149/Supplement%207>

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## A SUPPLEMENT TO PEDIATRICS

### *Blueprint for Change: A National Framework for a System of Services for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs*

Treeby W. Brown, MA, Sarah E. McLellan, MPH, Marie Y. Mann, MD, MPH, FAAP, and Joan A. Scott, MS, CGC, Guest Editors

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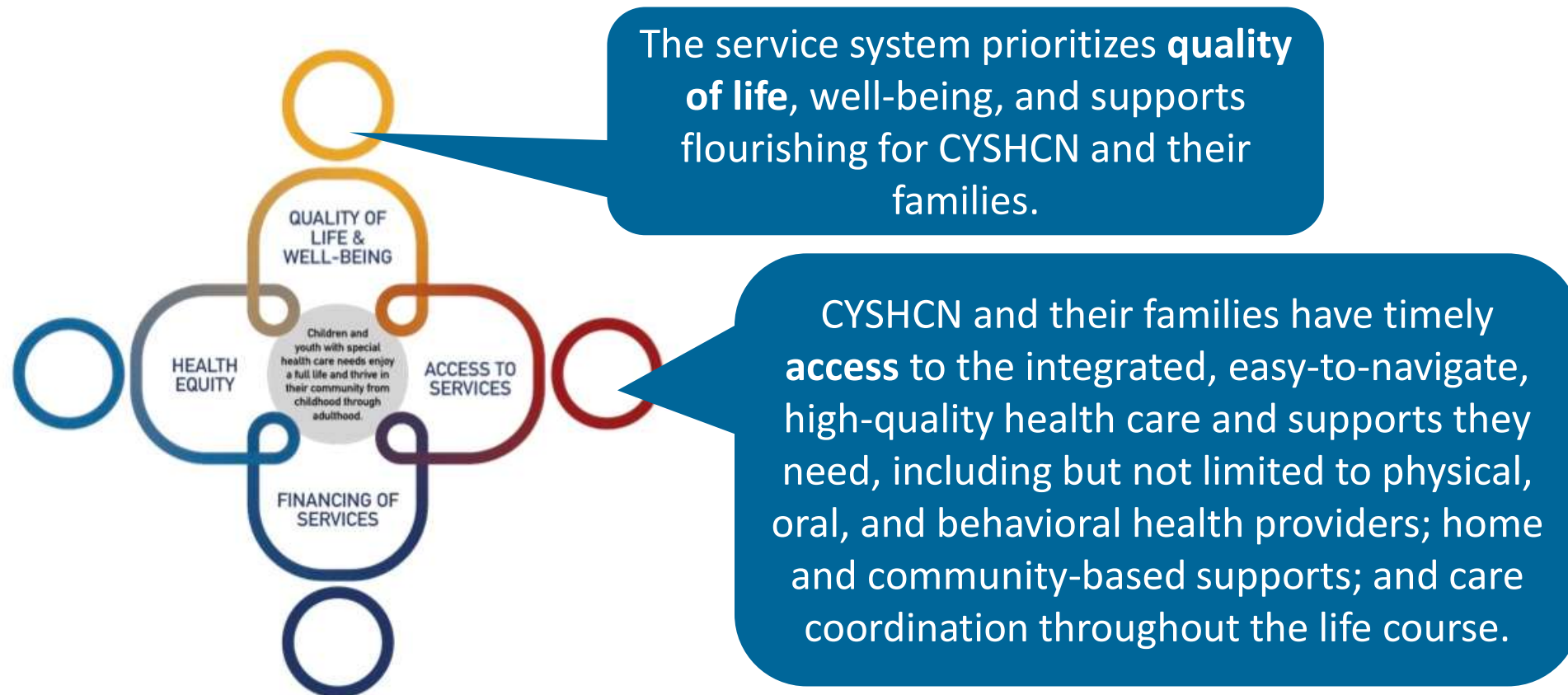
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# Focus Area Visions



# Focus Area Visions

All CYSHCN have a **fair and just** opportunity to be as healthy as possible and thrive throughout their lives (eg, from school to the workforce), without discrimination, and regardless of the circumstances in which they were born or live.

Health care and other related services are accessible, **affordable**, comprehensive, and continuous; they prioritize the well-being of CYSHCN and families.





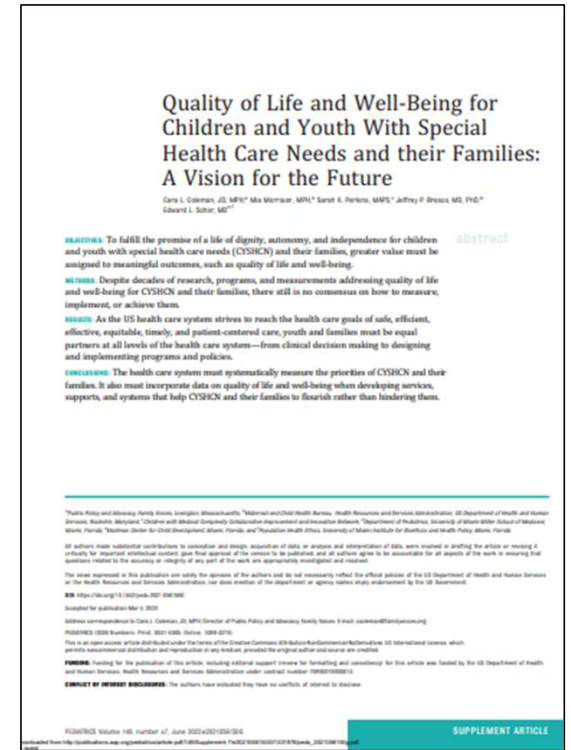
# CYSHCN Blueprint for Change

Every family is able to get what their child needs, so that they can play, go to school, and grow up to become a healthy adult.



## What's New in the Blueprint? Quality and Equity

- **QOL: Child and caregiver well-being**
  - What families tell us really matters
  - Children thrive when caregivers are healthy
  - Appropriate measures/outcomes point the system in the right direction, even if imperfect
- **EQUITY: Every child is thriving**
  - Fair and equitable outcomes
  - One approach: “targeted universalism”
  - Ensure that historically underserved and/or marginalized populations have equitable outcomes



Coleman et al, "Quality of Life and Well-Being for CYSHCN and their Families" *Pediatrics* June 2022; Houtrow et al., "Health Equity for CYSHCN" *Pediatrics* June 2022.





## ***Blueprint* GOAL: Plain Language Version**

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**Every child gets the services they need,  
so that they can play, go to school,  
and grow up to become a healthy adult.**

**(And so grown-ups and siblings can thrive too.)**

Original language: “Children and youth with special health care needs enjoy full lives and thrive in their communities from childhood through adulthood.”



# Plain Language Version = Equity and QOL

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Every child gets the services they need, = **Equity** (Tawara Goode)

so that they can play, go to school, = **Child thriving**

and grow up to become a healthy adult. = **Transition**

(And so grown-ups and siblings can thrive too.) = **Caregiver well-being**



# What do we do? “Measure What Matters”

## QOL

- Child thriving, kindergarten readiness, healthy weight, successful transition to adulthood, caregiver well-being, other “universal” measures
- At least one condition-specific measure

## Population level

- Systems-level thinking – “population health 2.0”
  - What % of children/youth/caregivers achieving the universal measures?
- Equity – “targeted universalism”
  - Do the demographics of numerator match those of the denominator?

## Accountable

- Organizations plan, track, explain (some SDOH/HRSN not in their control)
- Some organizations (e.g., health insurers) rewarded for improvements in % of people achieving measures?

## Consensus

- Universal measures in NOFOs, Title V, Medicaid, NSCH, CDC, etc.



# What do we do? “Measure What Matters”

## 1. QOL

- Universal measures: successful transition to adulthood and other stages of life, increasing comprehensive care visits for the underserved, high school/GED attainment, reducing absenteeism.
- Condition-specific measure: increasing the number of infants identified with an NBS Condition who are thriving at 3 years of age

## 2. Populations

- Systems-level: What % of persons age 12 and up have health care transition plans?
- Equity
  - Do the demographics of numerator match those of the denominator?

## 3. Accountable

- All organizations plan, track, explain their role.
- Universal measures in NOFOs, NHIS, NSCH, CDC/Healthy People, etc.



## EXAMPLE: Early Hearing Detection/Intervention 1-3-6



# Example: Early Hearing Detection/Intervention (EHDI)

## 1. QOL for children who are deaf/hard of hearing (D/HH)

- Condition-specific measure: “language acquisition at age 3 years”

## 2. Populations

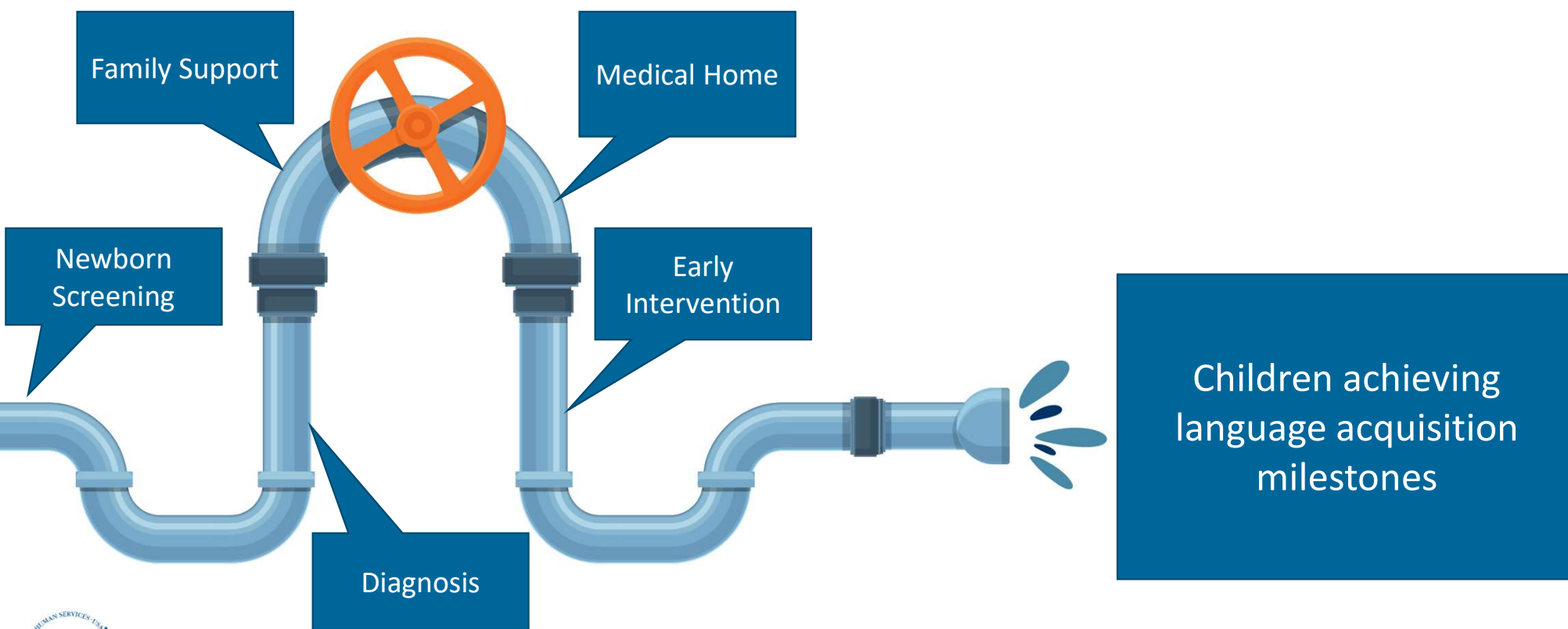
- What % of D/HH children in the state achieving the language goal?
- Are all populations having the same success? (race/ethnicity, rural, etc.)

## 3. Accountable

- Job of the **state coordinator**: create a “pipeline” graphic of all children in the state from birth to 3 years of age showing “leaks” towards the goal; convene stakeholders to create/update a plan to address issues
- Job of the **national coordinating center**: help states with tools of continuous QI, implementation science, address common needs, etc.
- Job of **all of us** is to hold ourselves accountable to common measures



# EXAMPLE: EHDI Pipeline for D/HH Children



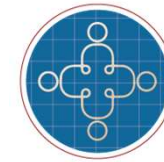
# Summary: *Blueprint for Change*

- ***What is it?***
  - ✓ A vision for how the system of care should work for CYSHCN
- ***Who created it?***
  - ✓ Families/youth, experts in CYSHCN, government agencies, etc.
- ***Why did we do this?***
  - ✓ We can do better by working with stakeholders towards a common vision
  - ✓ Build on the Six Core Components of a well-functioning system and on the Standards for a Well-functioning System and Care Coordination (NASPH)
- ***What's new?***
  - ✓ Address access and financing through lens of equity and quality of life
- ***Why does it matter?***
  - ✓ If we **Measure What Matters**, we can be sure that every child gets what they need to play, go to school, and become a healthy adult.





# What's Next? Implementing the Blueprint



**CYSHCN**  
Blueprint for Change  
**HRSA**  
Maternal & Child Health

## Blueprint for Change

A national framework for a system of services for children and youth with special health care needs (CYSHCN) where they enjoy a full life and thrive in their community from childhood through adulthood



Scan to learn more!



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# Contact Information

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