

“Links to Integrate and Coordinate Services for Children and Youth With Special Health Care Needs”

Grant Purpose and Goals:

Great LINCS is a federally awarded three year grant aimed to integrate and improve systems for children and youth with special health care needs (CYSHCN) and their families. In Washington State less than half (45.5%) of families with CYSHCN reported being in a medical home. Great LINCS will strengthen care coordination across the state for these families by increasing access to state wide resources, reaching out to community partners, Medicaid providers, and pediatric primary care physicians to increase the rate of families reporting being in a medical home. The main focus of the grant is to increase the referral services provided through the Family Health Hotline, which is managed by WithinReach, improve the way systems work with each other to support CYSHCN and increase the efficiency of care coordination while aligning with the goals of the [National Systems of Standards of Care for CYSHCN](#).

Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs:

Are those who have or are at increased risk for a chronic physical, developmental, behavioral, or emotional condition and who also require health and related services of a type or amount beyond that required by children generally.

Medical Home:

Is primary care that is accessible, continuous, comprehensive, family-centered, coordinated, compassionate and culturally effective, promoting wellness, acute care, and chronic care management, and building on the strengths and concerns of the family.

Great LINCS Stakeholders & Partners:

- [WithinReach](#)
- [Health Care Authority– Medicaid Program](#)
- [Medicaid Managed Care Plans](#)
- [Parent to Parent](#)
- [WA Medical Home Partnership Project](#)
- [WA Chapter of American Academy of Pediatrics](#)
- [WA Healthcare Improvement Network](#)

Quick CYSHCN Facts:

In Washington State, an estimated 235,920 children and youth (15%) under age 18 have a special health care need.

About 31% of CYSHCN live below the 200% federal poverty level (FPL); 85% live below 400% FPL.

For people with disabilities, this document is available on request in other formats. To submit a request, please call 1-800-525-0127 (TDD/TTY call 711).

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