MCH 2020: Children & Youth with Special Health Care Needs

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

State Priority
Services are comprehensive and coordinated across systems and providers

Performance Measures
- Percent of children with or without special health care needs having a medical home
- Percent of families who experienced an improved independent ability to navigate the systems of care

Kansas Data & Program Highlights
- In 2016-2017, one in five (20.7%) children (0-17 years) have a special health care need.¹
- Half (50.6%) of children have a medical home. There is no significant difference between children with a special health care need (46.1%) and children without a special health care need (51.8%).¹
- Every quarter, the Kansas Special Health Care Needs Program provides free care coordination trainings for families with a special needs child.
- Opportunity for improvement: Disparities persist for children with special health care needs to access medical care based on adequacy of insurance and geographic factors.

The Medical Home
A medical home is not a physical location but rather an approach to comprehensive primary care that is seen as the ideal model of care for all children.

Example of Health Disparity
CYSHCN* with a Medical Home by Insurance Adequacy
Kansas, 2016-2017

Next Steps
- Increase family satisfaction about the communication among their child’s doctors and other health providers.
- Increase the number of families who receive care coordination supports through cross-system collaboration.
- Develop an outreach plan to engage partners, providers, and families in the utilization of a shared resource to empower, equip, and assist families to navigate systems for optimal health outcomes.

¹Data Source: Health Resources and Services Administration. National Survey of Children’s Health, 2016-2017