

National CSHCN Agenda

In 1988 Surgeon General C. Everett Coop introduced a National Agenda for Children with Special Health Care Needs [CSHCN]. This agenda, which has been endorsed by more than 70 professional and voluntary organizations, calls for the development of systems of care that are family-centered, community-based, coordinated and culturally competent.

In 1989, this agenda was translated into legislation through Title V of the Social Security Act that requires State CSHCN Programs to (OBRA '89):

Provide and promote family-centered, community-based, coordinated care for children with special health care needs and to facilitate the development of community-based systems of services for such children and their families.

This long-term national goal has also been articulated in Healthy People 2000: *National Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Objectives* (as well as the 2010 edition) (OBRA '89):

Increase the proportion of states and territories that have service systems for children with or at risk for chronic and disabling conditions as required by Public Law 101-239.

In 1998, the Health Services and Resources Administration, through its Maternal and Child Health Bureau selected five national outcomes as critical to guide efforts to support the ongoing implementation of this National Agenda for CSHCN. In 1999, a sixth outcome was added to reflect the importance of ensuring successful transitions into adulthood for CSHCN.

Measuring Success for Healthy People 2010

Performance outcomes for achieving and measuring success for CSHCN are:

★ Children receive regular ongoing comprehensive care within a medical home;

★ Families have adequate insurance to pay for needed services;

★ Children are screened early and continuously for special health care needs;

★ Services are organized in ways that families can use them easily;

★ Families are decision makers and satisfied with services;

★ Youth receive services necessary to make appropriate transitions to adult life.