Fostering Health NC Bridges the Gap between Child Welfare and Child Health Care

Fostering Health NC is a project of the North Carolina Pediatric Society (NCPeds), guided by the American Academy of Pediatrics’ (AAP) Standards of Care with a goal of improving the overall health and well-being of children/youth in foster care.

Over the past four years, Fostering Health NC (FHNC) has positively transformed medical care for children/youth in foster care in North Carolina by connecting children to a medical home equipped to meet their special health care needs.

The FHNC team works closely with County Departments of Social Services, primary care medical homes, care management agencies and other stakeholders, to problem solve, collaborate and develop processes to ensure children/youth in foster care have a good link to overall healthcare.

FHNC provides the following:

- Leverages partnerships among key stakeholder groups at the local level that work together to coordinate and provide trauma-informed care for this exceptionally vulnerable population
- Provides education/training on best practices for stakeholders
- Provides local implementation support assistance across the state
- Is guided by a State Advisory Team comprised of professionals in child health, mental health, pharmacy, social services, and others.
- Maintains a resource library with information useful for stakeholders
- Assists NC with developing and implementing the Health Oversight and Coordination Plan (HOCP)

To date, over 100 medical homes and 65 (of 100) County Departments of Social Services (DSS) agencies have received training to equip staff with tools and resources to better coordinate care for children in foster care.

**Fostering Health NC Website:** [www.ncpeds.org/fosteringhealthnc](http://www.ncpeds.org/fosteringhealthnc)

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