



Children's Health Fund

National Network

22 programs and 2 affiliates in 16 states and the District of Columbia



New Jersey Children's Health Project



The city of Newark, New Jersey is home to the New Jersey Children's Health Project (NJCHP), a collaborative effort between the University of Medicine & Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ) School of Nursing, the New Jersey Medical School Department of Family Medicine, and UMDNJ University Hospital.

The need for primary care services for children and their families in the one of the most densely-populated cities in the country is unquestionable. One in four school-aged children are diagnosed with asthma (double the state and national rates) with an unusually high number of emergency department visits and hospitalizations compared to national trends. Lead poisoning is higher among children in Newark than any other New Jersey city. An estimated five teenagers every day is infected with a sexually transmitted disease and on average, one child every day is removed from their home due to abuse. For adults, cardiovascular diseases remain the leading cause of death for New Jersey residents, despite the considerable decline in the mortality rate for heart disease. Prostate cancer rates among African-American men in Newark are among the highest in the nation. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the direct and indirect cost of diabetes in New Jersey exceeds \$5 billion annually and per capita health expenditures for people with diabetes are about four times higher than those for people without diabetes.



Supported by funding from the Children's Health Fund (CHF) and the Webkinz Foundation, NJCHP is committed to providing health care to the medically underserved children and their families in New Jersey's second-most diverse city, Newark, through the development and support of innovative primary care medical programs; response to public health crises; and the promotion of guaranteed access to appropriate health care. By bringing comprehensive primary care directly to the community, the NJCHP aims to decrease emergency department visits and educate families about the value of having an ongoing relationship with a primary care provider. The NJCHP mobile clinic visits local centers on a weekly schedule to ensure continuity of care and to build on-going relationships with parents, children, and the community.

The NJCHP functions as part of three of Children's Health Fund's Special Initiatives: the Referral Management Initiative, which is designed to ensure that children in high-risk populations have access to specialty care; the Childhood Asthma Initiative, which seeks to improve the management of chronic asthma; and the Medical Home Initiative, which ensures delivery of comprehensive primary care, including age-appropriate immunizations, early identification and management of chronic illness, including asthma, childhood obesity, and health education.

Available Services

- Comprehensive physical examinations and immunizations;
- Management of acute and chronic illnesses;
- OB/GYN referrals;
- Nutrition assessment, cholesterol screening and body weight monitoring;
- Screenings for cancer, vision and hearing testing, and lead screening referrals;
- HIV/STD testing and counseling;
- Substance abuse assessment and referrals;
- Community and social service referrals; and
- Exercise and medication instruction.

PROGRAM FACTS

Home Institution/Affiliation:

The University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, School of Nursing

Year Established:

May 2007

STAFF

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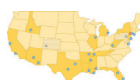
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