



## Children's Health Fund

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## **Children's Health Fund's New York Program Providing Care to Homeless Children is Nation's First Mobile Medical Program to Receive Highest Level of Certification**

*New York Children's Health Project Attains Level 3 Accreditation as Patient Centered Home*

**NEW YORK** (Feb. 3, 2011) – Children's Health Fund (CHF) announced that its New York City mobile medical program, which provides care to homeless children, attained the highest National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) accreditation as a Patient Centered Home. The New York Children's Health Project (NYCHP), a program of CHF and the Children's Hospital at Montefiore, is the first mobile medical program to achieve this level of recognition.

"Because of the unique challenges of providing services to a transient population, we developed this program to ensure that medically underserved patients would receive comprehensive and coordinated care in a mobile environment best suited to their specific needs," said CHF and NYCHP Executive Director Karen Redlener. "NCQA Level 3 accreditation reinforces the idea that the enhanced medical home approach can be applied in innovative ways, including NYCHP's mobile-based program."

"What this certification confirms is that the care delivered by CHF's flagship program meets the highest possible national standards in terms of quality and comprehensiveness," said CHF Chief Medical Officer Arturo Brito, M.D.

NYCHP provides comprehensive care, including medical, mental health and nutrition services. The program is one of six program sites in which Children's Health Fund implemented its Referral Management Initiative, which enhances communication with families to ensure that children who are referred to a specialist have the support they need in order to complete the referral and receive timely and appropriate care.

NCQA recognition is based on a complex scoring system that recognizes practices at three different levels, depending on their systemization of care and their ability to provide documentation of that care. Programs are evaluated across various practice areas, including access and communication, patient tracking, registry functions, care management, patient self-management support, electronic prescribing, test tracking, referral tracking, performance reporting and improvement and advanced electronic communications.

NCQA's Level 3 accreditation requires the ability to communicate electronically to other entities, which NYCHP does using its cutting-edge health information technology.

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**Children's Health Fund**

Founded in 1987 by singer/songwriter Paul Simon and pediatrician/advocate Irwin Redlener, M.D., Children's Health Fund (CHF) is the nation's leading pediatric provider of mobile-based health care for homeless and low-income children and their families. CHF's mission is to bring health care directly to those in need through the development and support of innovative medical programs, response to public health crises, and the promotion of guaranteed access to health care for all children. CHF currently has 50 mobile medical clinics serving hundreds of locations across the country. Over the past 24 years, the organization has supported more than two million health care visits for disadvantaged children, often in places where doctors and health care providers are in short supply. For more information about CHF, visit [www.childrenshealthfund.org](http://www.childrenshealthfund.org).