



Children's Health Fund

National Network

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Southern Arizona Children's Health Project



The Southern Arizona Children's Health Project (SACHP) provides an enhanced medical and dental home to the underserved children and families of the rural US/Mexico borderlands of Cochise County, Arizona (an area equivalent to the size of Connecticut and Rhode Island together). Many children with special health care needs are served in the project, whose diagnoses include cerebral palsy, mental retardation, autism spectrum disorder, genetic syndromes, seizure disorders, traumatic injuries and speech/developmental disorders. The region experiences a myriad of challenges, including poverty, distance to pediatric specialty care, absence of public transportation, early school failure, teen pregnancy, a high percentage of fractured families, and severely strained educational and other public resources.

Services are provided through the infrastructure of Chiracahua Community Health Centers, Inc.'s (CCHCI) community health center model, which includes fixed clinical sites, mobile medical/dental services, community outreach and innovative prevention programs. The methodology of the Pediatric Medical Home provides the backbone of all services.



Serving Communities in Need

Amongst the patients that Dr. Jonathan Lee-Melk and his team sees in Douglas, 80% are on Medicaid, 15% have private health insurance, and 5% are uninsured. The population served by the Mobile Medical Clinic (including people of all ages), 69% are uninsured, 14% have Medicaid, 5% Medicare, and 12% have private health insurance; demographic breakdown by race/ethnicity for the county is 38% Hispanic, 31% White, 1% Black, 1% Asian, and 29% unreported.

Available Services

A state-of-the-art facility popularly called the "15th Street Pediatric Center of Excellence (PCE)"—renovated from a historic school building—opened in June, 2011. The PCE acts as the home base for all pediatric services, including:

- The highest quality intensive pediatric primary care;
- Robust care coordination for children with special health care needs;
- Space for ancillary pediatric services, such as physical and speech therapy;
- Quality facilities for visiting pediatric specialist;
- Pediatric dental services;
- Community outreach and meeting space;
- Supportive environment for prevention program development, research and advocacy; and
- Rigorous environment for medical education and mentorship.

Program Sites

Fixed sites are located in the rural communities of Douglas, Bisbee, and Elfrida. Mobile and outreach services span all of Cochise County, and include Sierra Vista (4 days/week) and Willcox (2 day/month).

PROGRAM FACTS

Home Institution/Affiliation:

Chiracahua Community Health Centers, Inc, 15th Street Pediatric Center for Excellence

Year Established:

August 2008

Electronic Health Records Implemented:

2007

STAFF

Medical Director:

Jonathan Lee-Melk, MD, FAAP

Mobile Medical Program Coordinator:

Dia Madden, FNP-C

Community Pediatricians/Providers:

April Alvarez-Corona, MD
Darlene Ray, MD, FAAP
John Seward, MD, FAAP
Anne Welch, MD
Carlos Pena, PA-C
Jane Williams-Davenport, FNP-C

CEO, Chiracahua Community Health Centers, Inc.:

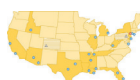
Jennifer Ginger Ryan, PhD, MBA

Director of Children's Programs, SACHP Program Administrator:

Sally Holcomb

Clinical Care Coordinator:

Jill Japan, RN



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