



*Speaking on behalf of children and youth with special health care needs*

**MISSION:** Making **Colorado** a better place for children with special health care needs

**CYSHCN 341,000 in CO, 1 in 5 or 19%<sup>1</sup>**  
**1 in 4 have complex needs approx. 60,000**  
**1 in 5 children served by multiple systems of support**  
**In CO there are higher racial and ethnic disparities of Hispanic and lower income and black CYSHCN**

Systems Change	Organizational Infrastructure	Policy	Assisting Families	Education and Training
Education and awareness to broad stakeholder groups.	Building capacity for deeper impact.	Collaborative approach for cross-domain systemic improvement.	Tracking trends to inform policies and programs.	Meet families where they are to support through knowledge.
Using data to inform policy and programs.	Effective social media outreach and resources.	Broad perspective informed by family stories.	Improving access to care through knowledge of both public and private insurance.	Update the largest state-wide repository of resources for families for self-empowerment.
Assisting legislators and agency staff to better improve awareness and understanding.	Hire a highly trained staff familiar with multiple systems of care.	Family-centered policy changes reduce unintended consequences.	Navigating health systems through family-centered care coordination.	Develop statewide trainings easily accessible to families, including face-to-face, webinars and regional conferences.
Serve as subject matter expert to legislators, state agency leaders and healthcare providers.	Staff comprised of families of CYSHCN with lived experience.	CYSHCN are represented in health, child welfare, education, etc	Identifying essential benefits to improve access to care.	Work with providers to share family-centered best practices.

<sup>1</sup> [www.childtrends.org/publications/children-with-special-health-care-needs-face-challenges-accessing-information-support-and-services](http://www.childtrends.org/publications/children-with-special-health-care-needs-face-challenges-accessing-information-support-and-services)