



2018 New Mexico Legislative Session House Memorial Task Force - Availability and Improvement of Pediatric Specialty Services

Background

New Mexico has over 70,000 children with special healthcare needs and the specialty care for these children is currently fragmented between the two largest health systems serving pediatric populations, the University of New Mexico Children's Hospital and Presbyterian Hospital. The children, their families, and the pediatric specialists are caught in the discord and medical care suffers.

Problem

For children with special healthcare needs, they frequently need to be seen at both institutions (depending on which specialties they require at the time and/or which insurance or MCO the child has). There is no well-defined way to seamlessly manage the care of a complex patient, to share call/provide support to both systems for pediatric subspecialists, or to support a unified system of care for children and families. Often families are sent out of state when care is available in New Mexico - frustrating for families and practitioners and costing more to the state and payers.

Proposal

A Task Force is to be convened with NM Pediatric Society, University of NM Children's Hospital, Presbyterian Hospital, legislators, Human Services Department, Department of Health, managed care organizations, families, pediatricians and subspecialists to foster cooperation amongst stakeholders and to resolve problems created by segregated systems.

Goal

The objective of the Memorial is to facilitate collaboration between the University of NM Children's Hospital and Presbyterian Hospital so that specialized health services are provided to children and their families in a strategic and integrated fashion thereby maximizing the efficient use of resources, improving care coordination and health outcomes, and capitalizing on the strengths of both systems.

For more information, please contact:

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