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Better Health Care for all Floridians

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 14, 2013

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Florida Pediatric Practices Strengthen Medical Homes to Improve Health Outcomes for Children

Tallahassee, Fla. – Sixteen pediatric primary care practices serving more than 100,000 children across Florida have graduated from the Agency for Health Care Administration’s quality improvement initiative aimed at strengthening medical homes and fostering patient-centered health care. The *Pediatric Medical Home Demonstration Project*, better known as *Change for Kids*, was designed to enhance the way pediatric practices meet the need of patients and their families by strengthening coordination between the primary care provider and specialists, empowering patients and families to better manage their own care by providing targeted education and support, and ensuring the efficient exchange of information and data by leveraging health information technology.

“The Agency is dedicated to ensuring access to high quality care and positive health outcomes for Florida’s children, and this is one more way we are helping ensure enhanced care coordination for children in Florida,” said Justin Senior, Medicaid Director. “Given the success of this project, we are planning for the next stage of *Change for Kids* and anticipate there being opportunities for additional practice involvement in the near future.”

Practices that have completed the 15-month demonstration project, which included attending training classes, achieved significant improvements as demonstrated by these examples:

- For medically complex children, the provider and parent create a care plan each visit: Since the beginning of the project, the percentage of children with an updated care plan at each visit has significantly increased.
- Parents and caretakers are engaged in care decisions: These practices are providing parents with more information about their child’s needs to ensure parents understand their care choices.
- Screenings are occurring more regularly: More children are now receiving screenings during their checkups to assess their needs for specialty follow up care.

In addition, these primary care practices focus on connecting parents with other medical and social supports in their communities.

“The *Change for Kids* program has helped us immensely to better align our services with the medical home model of care,” said Lisa Cosgrove, MD, Atlantic Coast Pediatrics in Merritt Island. “We are now able to work more closely with our families to make sure everything we do is working for them and we have received great feedback. We look forward to continuing to strengthen our medical home and work with the Agency on additional initiatives so we’re able to provide the best possible care and health outcomes for the children we serve.”

The following Florida pediatric primary care practices graduated from the *Change for Kids* project:

- Altamonte Pediatric Associates, 475 Osceola Street, Suite 1100, Altamonte Springs, FL 32701
- Gentle Medicine Associates, 202 SE 23rd Ave, Boynton Beach, FL 33435
- St. Vincent’s Family Medicine Center, 2627 Riverside Ave, Jacksonville, FL 32204
- Atlantic Coast Pediatrics, 270 Sykes Creek Pkwy, Unit 108, Merritt Island, FL 32953
- Rozalyn Hester Paschal, MD, PA, 7900 NW 27th Ave #50, Miami, FL 33147
- Pediatric Associates – Miami Beach, 4308 Alton Rd, Suite 710, Miami Beach, FL 33140
- Children’s Health of Ocala, SE 25th Loop, Ocala, FL 34471
- Longleaf Pediatrics, PA, 103 Birch Ave, Orange City, FL 32763
- Mirtha Cuevas, MD Inc, 2106 E Hillcrest St, Orlando, FL 32803
- Central Florida Family Health Center – Southside Center, 6101 Lake Ellenor Drive, Suite 105, Orlando, FL 32809



- Pediatric Partners, 3401 PGA Blvd, Suite 300, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410
- All Children's General Pediatrics, 601 Fifth Street South #502, St. Petersburg, FL 33701
- Martin Memorial Pediatrics, 2150 SE Salerno Road, Suite 116, Stuart, FL 34997
- USF Pediatrics South Tampa Center for Advanced Healthcare, 2 Tampa General Circle, 5th FL, Tampa, FL 33606
- The Chronic Complex Clinic at St. Joseph's Children's Hospital, 3001 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd, Tampa, FL 33607
- University Pediatrics, 8460 Cooper Creek Blvd, Suite 101, University Park, FL 34201

The Agency for Health Care Administration is committed to better health care for all Floridians. The Agency administers Florida's Medicaid program, licenses and regulates more than 40,000 health care facilities and 37 health maintenance organizations, and publishes health care data and statistics at www.FloridaHealthFinder.gov.

The Change for Kids initiative is supported by the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act (CHIPRA) quality demonstration grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). A coalition of leading national and Florida-based organizations supported this initiative, including the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), AAP Florida Chapter, Institute for Child Health Policy at the University of Florida, National Committee for Quality Assurance, Health Management Associates, and the Florida Department of Health.

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