

The Children with special Health Needs Program in Hawaii is currently working hard this year to bring up one of the 6 benchmarks in the National Survey of CSHCN where Hawaii appeared to lag behind the national statistics. That youth with special health care needs receive necessary services to make the transition into adulthood.

A task force was put together comprised of the CSHNP workers from each of the main Hawaiian islands along with nursing supervisors in the neighbor island district health offices. Key partners that were brought in to help included the Hawaii Department of Education, Special Education section and Leolinda Parlin, the head of Hawaii's Family Voices (a family advocate group) and ARC Hawaii.

Achievements in the past year include: Successful coordination of transition fairs on the Big Island (Kona) and Oahu (Honolulu) that featured booths from the Developmental Disabilities Program, Vocational Rehab, ARC, Children with Special Health Needs, Hawaii Medicaid/Quest to name a few.

Coordination with the Special Education Department in the Hawaii DOE to include 2 health transition questions on their annual questionnaire sent to all students enrolled in SPED to assist with ongoing data collection

Coordination with Leolinda Parlin regarding a Transformation grant request that would include work with primary care physicians and reimbursement for transition work with YSHCN

Internal data collection from our CSHNP clients and families regarding their knowledge of transitional needs, before and after intervention. Specific for my primary clientele, the focus on education regarding formula preparation, ordering formula, and insurance navigation.