



Whole Child Health Alliance

For More Information

- **To learn more**, visit the [WCHA webpage](#).
- **For general questions**, contact Daniella Gratale, Associate Vice President, Federal Affairs, Nemours Children's Health at daniella.gratale@nemours.org.
- **For media inquiries**, please contact Jorge Zurita-Coronado, Health Policy Communication Program Manager, Nemours Children's Health at jorge.zurita-coronado@nemours.org.

What is Whole Child Health?

Whole Child Health approaches address the full spectrum of needs for children and youth, supporting their physical, developmental, relational, and mental well-being by addressing both the medical and non-medical components that contribute to health. Whole Child Health approaches can leverage strategies at the individual, family, and community level to meet children's holistic needs. These approaches are often supported by sustainable, "pay for health" financial models. They engage multisector partners such as pediatric medical providers, community-based organizations, families, and other child-serving organizations such as child care programs and schools. Comprehensive Whole Child Health approaches aim to help children and youth reach their full potential.

How does the Whole Child Health Alliance advance Whole Child Health?

The Whole Child Health Alliance (WCHA) envisions a future in which children and youth can experience optimal health and reach their full potential. The WCHA brings together pediatric medical providers, payers, policy experts, child health advocates, and others to promote promising practices and policies that advance innovative healthcare payment and delivery models aligned with this vision.

The WCHA believes that the health care sector should play a critical role in catalyzing multisector approaches to advance Whole Child Health. To do so, the WCHA takes a multipronged approach, aiming to:

- Build out the concept of Whole Child Health by researching, identifying, and describing key elements of Whole Child Health.
- Generate support for Whole Child Health by familiarizing policymakers with the concept and impact of these approaches.
- Inform changes to the federal policy environment to incentivize and support efforts to develop and implement comprehensive approaches to Whole Child Health.





Key Elements of Whole Child Health

The WCHA advances Whole Child Health approaches that incorporate these key elements:

- **Promoting Health for All** – Improve outcomes for all children and families.
- **Integrating Care Delivery** – Promote integrated delivery models to address children’s holistic needs including physical and mental health, developmental needs, and caregiver relationships.
- **Aligning Care for Families** – Utilize multigenerational approaches that seek to improve the health and well-being of parents and other caregivers along with the child.
- **Fostering Healthy Communities** – Engage community members, community organizations, and other stakeholders to ensure approaches meet local needs.
- **Supporting a Multidisciplinary Workforce** – Support a community-based workforce to foster trusting relationships with those served and optimize outcomes.
- **Incentivizing Cross-Sector Data Partnerships** – Facilitate the exchange and integration of data across sectors to promote connections to resources in the community.
- **Advancing Financial Reforms That Incentivize Optimal Health** – Develop and implement financial models that “pay for health” and align with integrated delivery models advancing long-term outcomes.
- **Assessing Quality Improvement and Performance** – Measure the impact of integrated delivery models on key child well-being and health outcomes, including measures that go beyond medical care.