



Dear Community Member,

The Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN) program at the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (NYC Health Department) provides information and referrals to health services and community resources for children and youth with special health care needs. To be eligible for services, individuals **must** be younger than age 21; reside in NYC; and have been diagnosed with or be suspected of having a developmental, physical, intellectual, emotional or behavioral condition.

Since 2021, the CYSHCN program has provided information and referrals to more than 470 NYC children with autism, speech delay, learning difficulties and behavioral conditions. The CYSHCN program's intake specialists use an equitable and comprehensive process to ensure each child receives the care coordination and resources they need. The program accounts for a child's current health status, what services they are receiving and their preferred language. It provides a personalized list of resources to the child's parent, social worker or other provider, and follows up shortly after to determine if connection to services was successful or if more assistance is needed.

The CYSHCN program is **free** and available regardless of immigration status. Also, it connects families seeking health insurance to the NYC Health Department's Office of Health Insurance Services enrollment counselors.

To decrease barriers and increase access to services, CYSHCN program staff speak English and Spanish and provide translators for all additional languages. In addition, staff conduct presentations at and participate in health fairs and community outreach events.

If you need more materials about the program or want to refer families to the program, contact us at 347-396-4600 or cyshcn@health.nyc.gov. For more information, visit nyc.gov/health/children-youth-special-health-needs or scan the QR code below.

By working together, we can increase the number of NYC children that receive the services and assistance they need.

Sincerely,

Aisha Greene

Aisha Greene
Senior Program Manager
New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

