

## Special Children, Special Needs, Special Care

Since 1924, the Kentucky Commission for Children with Special Health Care Needs has provided care for children with physical disabilities. Our mission is to enhance the quality of life for Kentucky's children with special health care needs through quality service, leadership, advocacy, education and collaboration.

The Foster Care Support Program allows the Commission to lend its efforts to the care of children in need.

For more information, call the CSHCN Foster Care Support Nurse Consultant Inspector (NCI) nearest you.

General Information  
(502) 429-4430  
Peata SetuMalala ext, 2081  
Mike Weinrauch ext. 2026

Ashland  
NCI - Shanna Hobbs  
606-783-8545 ext. 19

Barbourville  
NCI - Lesia Tedders  
606-330-2027

Bowling Green  
NCI - Lucena Davis  
270-746-7447  
ext. 3293

Florence  
NCI - Alice Scheffler  
859-283-3155

Hazard  
NCI - Crystal Osborne  
606-889-1724, ext. 123

Lexington  
NCI - Carla Hay  
859-245-5456 ext. 685

Louisville  
NCI - Judi Sageser  
502-595-4504  
ext. 5141

Morehead  
NCI - Shanna Hobbs  
606-783-8545 ext. 19

Owensboro  
NCI - Lucena Davis  
270-746-7447 ext. 3293

Paducah  
NCI - Mary Thompson  
270-575-7105 ext. 125

Prestonsburg  
NCI - Crystal Osborne  
606-889-1724 ext. 123

Shepherdsville  
NCI - Donna Doyle  
502-955-6591 ext. 317

Somerset  
NCI - Lesia Tedders  
606-330-2027



<http://chfs.ky.gov/ccshcn>

Kentucky Cabinet for Health & Family Services

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Commission for Children with  
Special Health Care Needs

## Foster Care Support

Commission for Children with  
Special Health Care Needs

310 Whittington Parkway Suite 200

Louisville KY 40222

502-429-4430

1-800-232-1160

## CCSHCN Foster Care Support

The CCSHCN Foster Care Support program is a collaboration between the Kentucky Commission for Children with Special Health Care Needs (CCSHCN) and the Kentucky Department of Community Based Services (DCBS). The goal is to provide medical and health-care expertise for children involved with the child welfare system. Our foster care support programs strive to ensure immediate, ongoing, and preventative health care for these vulnerable children and highlight the common goals of providing programs and services that support children and their families.

CCSHCN is proud to work with DCBS to support the healthcare needs of children in foster care or at risk for out-of-home care.



## Medically Complex Foster Care Program

In the Medically Complex Foster Care program, licensed registered nurses from CCSHCN serve as consultants to foster parents and the assigned social service worker of any child determined to be “medically complex.”

Joint monthly home visits are made by the DCBS social service worker and the assigned CCSHCN nurse. The nurse assists the social service worker and the family with identified medical issues; provides education, counseling and support; coordinates care with the child’s primary care provider; and serves as an advocate for the child.

“Medically complex” children have chronic illnesses or medical conditions that may become unstable and change abruptly, and/or require specialized services and support. In coordination with social service workers and the other members of the child’s Medically Complex service team, CCSHCN nurses coordinate the development and ongoing evaluation of the child’s Individual Health Plan and support the maintenance of the Medical Passport.

## Foster Care Support Program

The Foster Care Support Program has full-time CCSHCN nurse consultants in each of the nine DCBS service regions across the state. Nurse consultants are available to all DCBS social service workers at any time for matters concerning children in, or at risk of, out of home placement, not just those determined to be “medically complex.”

CCSHCN Nurse Consultants can provide:

- Consultation to social service workers, foster care and biological families on medical issues;
- Interpretation of medical reports and records;
- Education to families and social service workers on medical issues;
- Assurance of updated health histories and assistance with access to primary care physicians;
- Enhanced care coordination of all services to include physical, dental and behavioral health services; and
- Tracking of the utilization of all health services including prevention and wellness programs.