





“Project ECHO®

Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes

is a movement to de-monopolize knowledge and amplify the capacity to provide best practice care for underserved people all over the world.”

<https://echo.unm.edu/about-echo/ourstory>



History and Development

New Mexico had only two clinics in the entire state that treated Hepatitis C. Thousands of New Mexicans with Hepatitis C lived in areas without specialist and therefore were unable to get treatment where they lived.

<https://echo.unm.edu/about-echo/ourstory>



History and Development



Sanjeev Arora, M.D.

Department of Internal Medicine

University of New Mexico

Liver Disease Specialist



History and Development



All patients in need of treatment should receive it. Created the ECHO model allowing clinicians to treat Hepatitis C in their own communities.

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History and Development

TeleECHO™ clinics put local clinicians together with specialist teams through video conferencing to share knowledge and expand treatment capacity.

The result: better care for more people.

<https://echo.unm.edu/about-echo/ourstory>

ECHO vs. Telemedicine



Solves the issue of access but not capacity.

ECHO vs. Telemedicine

TeleECHO™ Clinic



Expert hub team

ECHO supports
community based
primary care teams



Learners at spoke site

Patients reached with specialty
knowledge and expertise



Traditional Telemedicine



Specialist manages patient remotely



“The ECHO model is not telemedicine where the specialist assumes the care of the patient, but instead a mentoring model where the community provider retains responsibility for managing the patient’s care, operating with increased independence as their skills and self-efficacy grow.”

“ECHO Replication Guide.” March 2015



Resource: <http://ruralhealthquarterly.com/home/2017/07/28/an-introduction-to-project-echo/>



TeleECHO Structure

1. Brief Planning Huddle
2. Introductions
3. Announcements
4. Brief Didactic



TeleECHO Structure

5. Patient Case Presentation
6. Hub ECHO ask audience for questions
7. Hub asks audience for recommendations and impressions



TeleECHO Structure

8. Hub summarizes recommendations and consensus on diagnosis and treatment plan
9. Close and debrief



ECHO Replication

Partnership Agreements

3-Day Immersion Training

Ongoing Support and Access to Resources



ECHO Expansion

Project ECHO has expanded—
across diseases and specialties, across urban
and rural locations, across delivery services,
and across the globe

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ECHO Hubs & Programs: Global

Hub Locations



Autism ECHO Collaborative

(Quarterly Zoom Meeting)

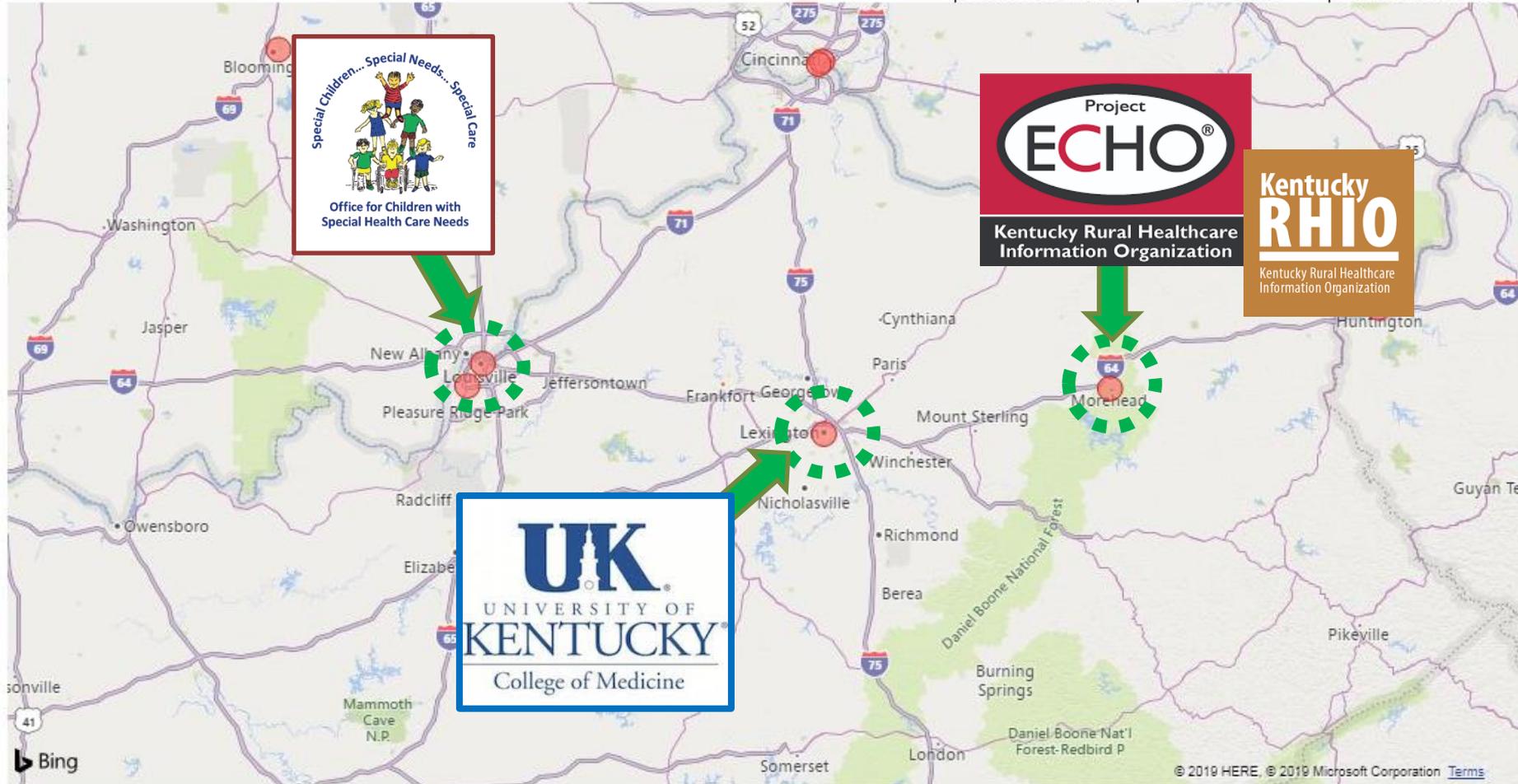




ECHO Hubs & Programs: Global

Hub Locations

ECHO Countries	ECHO Hubs	ECHO Programs
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Office for Children with
Special Health Care Needs

ECHO Autism

Ivanora Alexander, B.S. B.M.E.
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Office for Children with Special Health Care Needs
Louisville, Kentucky



- Responsible for the well being of Kentucky's children and youth with special health care needs (CYSHCN)
- Collaborations and programs to support CYSHCN
- Provide pediatric medical specialty clinics



OCSHCN Pediatric Specialty Clinics

- **Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD)**
- Cardiology
- Cerebral Palsy
- Cleft Lip and Palate
- Craniofacial Anomalies
- Neurology
- Ophthalmology
- Orthopedics
- Otology
- Scoliosis



Autism Spectrum Disorder

- ASD is a developmental disability that can cause significant social, emotional, communication and behavioral challenges
- CDC estimates 1:59 US children are on the spectrum



Autism Spectrum Disorder

- ASD is complicated to diagnose and complicated to treat involving many different types of providers and disciplines
- Treatment needs change overtime as the child grows and enters the school system



OCSHCN ASD Services

	Screening	Diagnostic (Onsite)	Medical (Onsite or Telemedicine)	Collaboration
Barbourville	✓			
Bowling Green	✓		✓	
Corbin				✓
Hazard				✓
Owensboro	✓		✓	
Paducah	✓		✓	
Somerset	✓	✓		



ECHO Autism Immersion Training

A team of physicians and staff participated from:

- Juniper Health
- Office for Children with Special Health Care Needs
- University of Louisville
- University of Kentucky



KY's ECHO Autism Planning Team

Kentucky Tele-Care

Office for Children with Special Health Care Needs

University of Kentucky

University of Louisville Physicians

University of Missouri Project ECHO



Kentucky's ECHO Autism Objectives

Increase knowledge and awareness of Primary Care Physicians about . . .

- early detection and intervention
- medical and psychiatric treatments
- resources for families including parental supports and school advocacy

TeleECHO™ Clinic



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Learners at spoke site

Patients reached with specialty
knowledge and expertise



- Parent Advocate
- Child Psychiatrist
- Developmental Behavioral Pediatrician
- Child Neurologist
- Clinical Psychologist
- Educator
- As needed ABA, Social Worker, Dietician, Speech Therapist, Occupational Therapist

- Primary Care Physicians
- Pediatricians
- Family Practitioners
- Advanced Practice Registered Nurses
- Med Peds Physicians
- Psychologists
- Behavioral Analysts

Children in Kentucky
with Autism and
Neurodevelopmental
Disorders



ECHO Autism Expected Outcomes

- Increase ASD screening rates
- Connect to early intervention services at an earlier age
- Decrease average age of ASD diagnosis
- Increase rates of appropriate referrals to ASD services



ECHO Autism Expected Outcomes

- Provide more ASD care by PCPs
- Empower PCPs to care for common ASD behavioral and psychiatric concerns
- Increase the PCP's confidence when advocating for children with ASD



Kentucky's ECHO Autism Launch

- Finalize contracts with Kentucky's hub team
- Initiate 4th quarter of 2019
- Offer CME credits to participants
- Consider ECHO Autism STAT in the future



**Office for Children with
Special Health Care Needs**

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