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**State Health Department and March of Dimes Louisiana Announce 40-Week Pledge**  
*The Go the Full 40 Initiative aims to reduce c-section rate among Louisiana mothers*

Contact: John Ford; (225) 342-9010; [jpford@la.gov](mailto:jpford@la.gov)

Baton Rouge, LA. - The Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH), the Louisiana March of Dimes and a group of Louisiana hospitals announced a new, voluntary 40-Week Initiative today. The Go the Full 40 Initiative is a voluntary pledge by hospitals to end non-medically indicated induced pregnancies, which helps reduce c-section rates and ensures newborns reach 40 weeks gestation.

"This is such an important and necessary action for Louisiana families. Waiting until 40 weeks of pregnancy reduces medical complications for both the mother and child. There are very serious risks associated with scheduling a non-medically indicated delivery before 39 weeks," said DHH Secretary Kathy H. Kliebert. "I am very proud of Louisiana March of Dimes and health care partners on taking another step in making the wellbeing of newborns a priority."

Early elective deliveries are non-medically necessary deliveries of babies before 39 weeks of gestation. These deliveries may put the health of the newborn at risk and increase the likelihood of serious medical complications. Early elective deliveries are also more expensive than standard deliveries.

"The Go the Full 40 effort is about reducing harm to one of Louisiana's most important resources-our newborns," said DHH Medicaid Medical Director Dr. Rebekah Gee. "We appreciate the Louisiana hospitals that are volunteering. The initiative will help babies enter the world as healthy as possible."

The 39-Week Initiative helped reduce early elective deliveries without any medical indications and the 40-Week Initiative will continue its path plus pledge to reduce Louisiana's c-section rate.

The following hospitals have volunteered to Go the Full 40:

- Lafayette General Medical Center
- Lake Charles Memorial Hospital
- Lane Regional Medical Center
- Natchitoches Regional Medical Center
- North Oaks Medical Center
- Ochsner Health System
- St. Francis Medical Center
- Terrebonne General Medical Center
- Tulane Medical Center
- Woman's Hospital

"This is such a vital partnership that can prove to be incredibly beneficial in improving maternal and child health by reducing cesarean section rates for first-time, low risk mothers across the state. The 39-Week Initiative was a successful collaboration and we look forward to seeing similar, if not greater results with our Go the Full 40 partners," said March of Dimes State Director Frankie Robertson. "Working together, we aim to reduce our state's cesarean section rate of nearly 40%, a rate that has been consistently the highest or second highest in the nation."

The increasing number of infants born prior to 39 weeks has become a growing national concern. The 40-Week Initiative works to promote the long-term, systematic changes necessary to improve birth outcomes, improve premature birth outcomes and reduce c-section rates.

For more information, contact the March of Dimes Louisiana Chapter at 225-295-0655.

The Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals strives to protect and promote health statewide and to ensure access to medical, preventive and rehabilitative services for all state citizens. To learn more about DHH, visit [www.dhh.louisiana.gov](http://www.dhh.louisiana.gov). For up-to-date health information, news and emergency updates, follow DHH's [Twitter](#) account and [Facebook](#).

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### **Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council Meeting**

The next meeting of the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council will be held as follows

**Date:** Wednesday, March 18

**Time:** 1:00 pm

**Location:** Thomas Jefferson Room 1-136, Claiborne Building, Baton Rouge

The agenda will include:

- Update on the Early Learning Center Licensing Regulations
- Update on the expectations for Community Networks 2015-16
- Consideration of revisions to Bulletin 139, LA Child Care and Development Fund Programs

The Agenda is available [here](#). Handouts, when available, will be posted [here](#). See the right hand column under "Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council." For streaming instructions [click here](#). (Please note that the URL will not load until the time of the meeting.)

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### **Pennington Biomedical Research Center Childhood Obesity Treatment Toolkit** *Source: Amanda Staiano, Ph.D., and Daniel Hsia, M.D.,* *On Behalf of the Obesity Toolkit Team, Pediatric Obesity & Health Behavior Laboratory* *Pennington Biomedical Research Center*

Our team at Pennington Biomedical Research Center developed a **Childhood Obesity Treatment Toolkit** as a summary of best practices for treatment of childhood obesity.

We created this toolkit because 1 in 2 children in the state of Louisiana is overweight or obese. The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force recommends that clinicians screen children and adolescents for obesity and offer them, or refer them to, comprehensive, intensive behavioral interventions to promote improvements in weight status. We recommend a four-staged approach, as endorsed by the American Academy of Pediatrics:

1. Prevention Plus: Family focuses on fundamental healthy diet and physical activity habits.
2. Structured Weight Management: Health care provider(s) provide structure and support for diet and physical activity changes.
3. Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Intervention: More frequent, structured supervision by health care providers of dietary monitoring and behavior change techniques.
4. Tertiary Care Intervention: More intensive interventions (medication, very low calorie diet, bariatric surgery).

We will **personally drop off the Childhood Obesity Treatment Toolkit with a survey** to document

current practices related to childhood obesity treatment in our state of Louisiana. If interested, please provide us with a preferred drop off day and time by email: [Obesitytoolkit@pbrc.edu](mailto:Obesitytoolkit@pbrc.edu). You may also visit our website, <http://www.pbrc.edu/obesitytoolkit/> for more information

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**Caring for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs Capacity Building Series**  
**Source: Susan Berry, MD, MPH, Director, Title V Children and Youth, With Special Health Care Needs Program**  
**Dionka C. Pierce, MPH, CSHS Program Manager**

Children's Special Health Services (CSHS) is excited to announce its new health care provider education initiative, **Caring for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs Capacity Building Series**. CSHS is offering live one (1) hour education presentations across the state for primary care providers serving pediatric and/or adolescent populations. The series consist of four components: the Medical Home, Care Coordination, Youth Health Transition, and Developmental Screening and Surveillance. Practices can select one or all of the components for their staff. Each series is credentialed for 1 hour nursing and social work continuing education credit. See enclosed flyer for additional information.

For a limited time, lunch sponsorship is available and presentations can be provided in a one hour lunch and learn format. Please contact Patti Barovechio, RN at 504-568-5055 for scheduling information.

*Health Care Provider Education Capacity Building Series Programs | [Download the flyer](#)*

**The Medical Home**

Apply medical home concepts to practice  
Access community, state and national medical home tools and resources  
Examine the process and appraise the benefits of medical home certification

**Care Coordination**

Identify the role of care coordination in the medical home  
Implement care coordination service frameworks or quality improvement initiatives  
Access state and national care coordination resources and toolkit

**Youth Health Care Transition**

Examine health care transition service frameworks in the context of the medical home  
Identify health care transition processes/policies  
Access state and national health care transition support tools

**Developmental Screening & Surveillance**

Apply evidence based recommendations for screening and surveillance to practice  
Select and utilize appropriate screening tools

Each 1 hour program approved for 1.0 contact hours of CNE—Social Worker credit applied for on request  
Program jointly provided by Children's Special Health Services and the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center School of Nursing.

Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center School of Nursing, Faculty Development Continuing Nursing Ed & Entrepreneurial Enterprise is accredited as a provider of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation

For more information or to schedule onsite programs contact: Children's Special Health Services 504-568-5055 or email [patti.barovechio@la.gov](mailto:patti.barovechio@la.gov)

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## **New Suicide Prevention Resources Page added to the LA AAP Website**

Suicide can be prevented and you can make the difference

*Consider this: Only 32% of the individuals who died by suicide had contact with mental health services in the year before their deaths, but 75% of them saw their PCP.*

As a PCP, you can implement some of the most effective strategies for suicide prevention:

- Train staff to identify and respond to warning signs of suicide
- Provide brief intervention
- Recognize and effectively treat depression
- Counsel patients on limiting access to lethal means

Long-standing patient relationships and frequency of contacts between PCPs and their patients make primary care an ideal setting for suicide prevention interventions.

The LA AAP has added valuable information concerning suicide prevention resources to our website. **Be sure to visit the new [Suicide Prevention Resources Page](#) to learn more.**

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**Take**  
*the* **Survey**

If you are a member of the Louisiana Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, we would really like to hear from you! If you have not already done so, please fill out the [membership survey](#). We would love to hear about your expertise, interests, and ideas for 2015.

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## **Medicaid/ Bayou Health**

***Medicaid Payment Equity Legislation Reintroduced in Senate***

*Source: AAP Federal Affairs*

On Thursday, Sens. Sherrod Brown (D-Ohio) and Patty Murray (D-Wash.) reintroduced the Ensuring Access to Primary Care for Women & Children Act, which would extend the expired Medicaid Payment Equity provision for two years following the legislation's enactment. The original Medicaid Primary Care Equity provision was part of the Affordable Care Act, which paid primary care physicians, including many pediatric subspecialists, Medicare rates for primary care services provided to Medicaid patients during calendar years 2013 and 2014. Next steps for enactment of the legislation are uncertain. The Academy continues to support efforts at the federal level to extend Medicaid payment equity.

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### ***Bayou Health Plans Choose to Cover Circumcision***

On February 22, 2015, DHH posted a chart of circumcision coverage by plan. Circumcisions are a voluntary covered services by the MCOs as an expanded benefit. Routine circumcisions are not covered by Legacy Medicaid. To view the table and each plans' specific coverage go to: <http://new.dhh.louisiana.gov/assets/docs/BayouHealth/Circumcision.pdf>

As things can change it is always a good idea to periodically check with the plan directly about any changes that may have occurred.

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### ***Bayou Health Informational Bulletins for Providers***

Informational Bulletins cover a variety of topics related to Bayou Health, and all are available at <http://new.dhh.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/page/1198/n/311>

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### ***Health Plan Advisories***

Health Plan Advisories are available at <http://new.dhh.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/page/1734>

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### ***Bayou Health Teleconference for Providers***

The Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH) will continue its weekly teleconference for providers interested in learning more about [Bayou Health's managed care organizations \(MCO\)](#), however participation will be limited to the first 250 callers.

The teleconference will take place from noon to 1 p.m. every Wednesday until further notice. DHH staff will provide updates on the upcoming changes to the Bayou Health Program. Staff and representatives from each MCO will be available to answer your questions.

To participate in the teleconference, dial 1-888-278-0296. When prompted, enter access code 2833686.

DHH will take steps to allow more callers to participate in future teleconferences. A summary of each teleconference will be made available on the Health Care Provider page at [www.MakingMedicaidbetter.com](http://www.MakingMedicaidbetter.com).

Providers may also email their questions to [bayouhealth@la.gov](mailto:bayouhealth@la.gov).

DHH is posting notes from each of the week's call. The link to access the page is: <http://new.dhh.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/page/1462>

### [Summary of Feb. 11, 2015](#)

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#### ***Bayou Health Providers: Verify Provider Registry Information***

When selecting a Bayou Health Plan among Louisiana's five managed care organizations (MCOs), Bayou Health enrollees rely on the accuracy of the information contained in the Bayou Health provider registry and the MCO online directories. Medicaid needs your assistance in ensuring your information is accurate and up-to-date, to be certain your patients have the latest information about your practice when making this important decision.

Links to the five MCO provider directories as well as a link to the Bayou Health provider search tool can be found below.

To verify your information, click on the links and search for your practice. Please search for your name among those MCOs that you are not contracted with and notify us if you appear as part of their network. The inclusion of non-contracted providers in an MCO directory is strictly prohibited and can lead to linkage issues for members.

If your contact information is incorrect, please contact the plan directly to update your information. If you appear in the MCO's provider search but are NOT contracted with the MCO, please notify the Department by contacting Mark Perry at [mark.perry@la.gov](mailto:mark.perry@la.gov) or Jode Burkett at [jode.burkett@la.gov](mailto:jode.burkett@la.gov) as soon as possible.

[Aetna Better Health](#)

[Amerigroup](#)

[AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana](#)

[Louisiana Healthcare Connections](#)

[UnitedHealthcare Community Plan](#)

[Bayou Health Provider Search](#)

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#### **SUDIA Recipe: Tangy Appler Cooler**

This tangy, sweet and refreshing drink will please the whole family and is a good source of protein due to the Greek yogurt and almonds.

Ease: Easy

Yield: 2 (10-ounce) servings (20 ounces)

Preparation Time: 10 minutes

#### **Ingredients**

16 ounces low-fat vanilla Greek yogurt

1 medium Granny Smith apple

1/2 cup orange juice

1/4 cup raw almonds



1 tablespoon honey  
1 cup ice cubes

**Directions**

Peel and dice apple. Combine yogurt, apple, orange juice, almonds and honey in a blender. Blend until smooth. Add ice and blend again until smooth and frothy. Serve in a chilled glass immediately.

For more information and recipes visit [www.southeastdairy.org](http://www.southeastdairy.org)

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**Upcoming Events**



**Pediatric Jambalaya XII**

Saturday, April 25, 2015

Louisiana Immersive Technologies Enterprise (LITE)

Lafayette, Louisiana

For more info, go to: <http://womansfoundation.com/continuing-medical-education-pediatric-jambalaya.php>

**2015 Pediatric Potpourri**

Aug 21-23, 2015

New Orleans Sheraton, 500 Canal Street

New Orleans, LA

For details <http://laap.org/2015potpourri>

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**ICD 10 Workshops start in March - Register Now**

Are you ready for ICD-10 Implementation in October?

MGMA-Louisiana is joining Louisiana Health Information Management Association (LHIMA) to offer you several educational opportunities to help you prepare for ICD-10 implementation. LHIMA will offer our members and their staffers the "AHIMA MEMBER" rate for registration. This is a wonderful opportunity for our members to learn from AHIMA Certified ICD-10 Trainers at an affordable price.

Sessions are set in Lafayette, Baton Rouge, Ruston and Shreveport. At the bottom of this message you will also see information on webinars.

**Face-to-Face Meetings:**

• [Lafayette, LA, March 11-13, 2015](#)

o Three day seminar covering ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS

o Day 1 covers ICD-10-CM only—This option is **most appropriate for physician coding**

o Days 2-3 cover ICD-10-PCS only—PCS codes are used for facility coding only

- [Lafayette, LA, March 25, 2015 \(Intermediate to Advanced\)](#)
  - o 70% is dedicated to ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Coding
  - o 30% is dedicated to ICD-10-PCS Procedure Coding
  - o Targets individuals who have previously undergone some type of ICD-10 training
  
- [Baton Rouge, LA, March 27, 2015 \(Intermediate to Advanced\)](#)
  - o 70% is dedicated to ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Coding
  - o 30% is dedicated to ICD-10-PCS Procedure Coding
  - o Targets individuals who have previously undergone some type of ICD-10 training
  
- [Ruston, LA, April, 21, 2015 \(Intermediate to Advanced\)](#)
  - o 70% is dedicated to ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Coding
  - o 30% is dedicated to ICD-10-PCS Procedure Coding
  - o Targets individuals who have previously undergone some type of ICD-10 training
  
- [Shreveport, LA, May 5, 2015 \(Intermediate to Advanced\)](#)
  - o 70% is dedicated to ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Coding
  - o 30% is dedicated to ICD-10-PCS Procedure Coding
  - o Targets individuals who have previously undergone some type of ICD-10 training

[Recorded Webinars \(available on demand\):](#)

- Webinar Series (All)
- Webinar #1: Preparing for a RAC Audit in ICD-10
- Webinar #2: CDI & HIM: Bridging the Gap for ICD-10
- Webinar #3: Introduction to ICD-10-CM/PCS for Patient Financial Services
- Webinar #4: Advanced ICD-10-CM/PCS Coding for OB/Pregnancy
- Webinar #5: ICD-10 Awareness for Managers
- Webinar #6: Advanced Cardiac Coding with ICD-10-CM/PCS

## **Amerigroup to Host Provider Meetings Around the State**

Click [here](#) to download the flyer

### **Details:**

RSVP completed forms via fax to 1-888-375-5063 or via email to [lainterpr@amerigroup.com](mailto:lainterpr@amerigroup.com). We will send a confirmation email with additional details. Questions? Call our Provider Relations team at 1-504-836-8888.

### **2015 Regional Meetings**

Tuesday, March 17, 2015, 9-11am or 1-3pm  
The Hotel Acadiana, 1801 W. Pinhook Road, Lafayette, LA 70508

Wednesday, March 18, 2015, 9-11am or 1-3pm  
Virginia College, 9501 Cortana Place, Baton Rouge, LA 70815

Thursday, March 19, 2015, 9-11am or 1-3pm  
New Orleans Marriott Metairie at Lakeway, 3838 N. Causeway Blvd., Metairie, LA 70002

Tuesday, March 24, 2015, 9-11am or 1-3pm  
Virginia College, Pierre Bossier Mall, 2950 E. Texas St., Bossier City, LA 71111

Wednesday, March 25, 2015, 9-11am or 1-3pm  
Clarion Inn & Suites and Conference Center, 1051 MLK Jr. Drive, Monroe, LA 71203

Thursday, March 26, 2015, 9-11am or 1-3pm  
Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites, 2940 Lake St., Lake Charles, LA 70601

Provider name: \_\_\_\_\_

Provider ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary contact name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of attendees: \_\_\_\_\_

Session (Date/Time): \_\_\_\_\_

Who will attend? Provider: \_\_\_\_\_ Staff member: \_\_\_\_\_