

What is the Value of a Shared Plan of Care (SPoC)?

Shared care planning is a way to build partnerships among families and their children's providers across systems. It puts families at the center of the care team. The SPoC is characterized by shared goals with the care team. Care team members are given goals and a time line to do them.

The Need

- Right now, if a child has care plans, they are made by each provider. Often they will be siloed and may have goals that conflict with others.
- Families are forced to keep many documents and coordinate care among different providers. This adds to caregiver stress and may cause safety concerns.
- Medical and community providers lack a way to join, with the family, to set goals and make strategies across systems.
- Communication among all of the systems that serve

The Result

Comprehensive care plans result in:

- Strong relationships with the care team characterized by trust and respect
- Better communication among the care team¹
- Engagement of families, children, and youth as partners in care Increase in confidence in care and quality of care²

The Solution

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- The SPoC is comprehensive. It includes the high-level aspects of medical and social concerns that relate to the family and the child's condition.
- The SPoC is integrated. It allows providers to work together so care is not duplicated, and care plan goals can align.
- The SPoC lets the team work with the family to make solutions to care concerns.
- The SPoC results from a process of family-centered, team-based coordination. This is developed jointly with the child, family, medical staff, and community providers.
- Family goals and aspirations are at the center of the SPoC. The SPoC communicates the family's care values to each provider and guides treatment methods.

¹ McAllister, J. W. (2014). *Achieving a Shared Plan of Care with Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs* (Rep.). Palo Alto, CA: Lucile Packard Foundation for Child's Health

² Adams, S., Cohen, E., Mahant, S., Friedman, J.N., Macculloch, R., & Nicholas, D.B. (2013). Exploring the usefulness of comprehensive care plans for children with medical complexity (CMC): A qualitative study. *BMC Pediatrics BMC Pediatr*, 13(1), 10.