

# **The Massachusetts Consortium for Children with Special Health Care Needs**

2006-2007

Highlights and  
Challenges

# A brief history: 1999-2007

- Phase 1: Clearinghouse
- Phase 2: Collaborative projects
- Phase 3: Coordinated projects
- Phase 4: Consensus
- Phase 5: Crafting a 2010 action agenda
- Phase 6: Constructing a new organization
- Phase 7: Working towards sustainability

# The mission of the Consortium

**... Together we are committed to promoting and realizing the Healthy People 2010 national objectives of building a more responsive and family centered system of care for children with special health care needs.**

*(June 2001)*

# Discussion group Reports

- Family participation
- Medical home
- Adequate financing
- User friendly community-based systems of care
- Screening
- Transition

# The continuing lesson

- **Collaboration is critical**
  - To identify unmet needs and pinpoint critical barriers
  - To discover, test, promote, implement creative solutions
- **Responsibility for building a better system of care is shared**
- **Participation of many stakeholders is required**
- **Families have unique and critical expertise that is needed**

# Achievements of the past year 1

- Completion of MCHB financing grant
  - Development and spin-off of the Family Professional Partners Institute
  - Completion and publication of “Making the Case”
  - Framing of proposal for statewide care coordination

# Achievements of the past year 2

- Collaboration with Department of Public Health on Moving Forward Together grant
  - Transition Training Initiative
  - Medical Home Initiative
    - Access to dental care
    - Developmental screening
    - Study of residency training in the state

# Achievements of the past year 3

- Support for 3 work groups
- Progress towards completion of briefs on 6 national objectives for CYSHCN
  - Revise three briefs completed earlier
  - Move forward in three remaining areas
- New staff and new or expanded relationships
- Successful submission of grant on DME

# Ongoing strategic challenges

- Broaden and deepen collaboration
- Balance broad participation with advocacy
- Define and assure family role
- Provide leadership while keeping group open
- **Assure financial viability**
- **Define and pursue success in context of new state environment**