Children’s Health Fireside Chats

As a leader in your community, you are invited to participate in three virtual panel discussions hosted by Connecticut Children’s as part of our 2020 Family Advocacy Week—all via Zoom. Tune in to learn more about how children are faring through the COVID-19 pandemic and how we all can help improve the health and emotional wellbeing of children in our state. We hope you are able to join us!

How are Connecticut’s Kids Doing Right Now?
Monday, August 10, 4:00-5:00 PM

Now more than ever, kids are experiencing a tremendous amount of stress, anxiety, and behavioral health issues. Connecticut Children’s Chief Behavioral Health Officer Howard Sovronsky will moderate a discussion on how kids are doing right now in the wake of the pandemic and what we can all do to help kids get through this challenging time.

Panelists include:
- Howard Sovronsky (moderator) – Chief Behavioral Health Officer, Connecticut Children’s
- Dr. Robert Keder—Developmental Pediatrician, Connecticut Children’s
- Jeana Bracey—Associate Vice President of School & Community Initiatives, Child Health and Development Institute of Connecticut (CHDI)

Register here
Healthy Homes, Healthy Kids  
Thursday, August 13, 12:00-1:00 PM

With the need for quarantining, social distancing, and at-home-schooling, kids are spending more time in their homes than ever before. What does this mean for children’s health? Join us for a conversation moderated by Marcus Smith, Senior Manager of the Connecticut Children’s Healthy Homes Program to learn more about how a child’s built environment affects their health and how community partners can work together to make homes and kids healthier.

Panelists include:
- Marcus Smith (moderator)—Senior Manager, Healthy Homes Program, Connecticut Children’s
- Dr. Patricia Garcia—Hospitalist and Medical Director for the Healthy Homes Program, Connecticut Children’s
- Elysa Gordon—Vice President & Senior Advisor, Hartford Foundation for Public Giving
- Melvyn Colón—Executive Director of the Southside Institutes Neighborhood Alliance (SINA)

Register here

Transforming Pediatric Primary Care: Golden Opportunity or Burning Platform?
Friday, August 14, 10:00-11:00 AM

Join us for a discussion led by Dr. Paul Dworkin on the importance of community pediatricians and how we can transform pediatric primary care to improve the health of kids and families in our state. How do we best engage parents in their child’s health care delivery and how can we work together to coordinate child health services across communities?

Panelists include:
- Dr. Paul Dworkin (moderator)—Executive Vice President for Community Child Health & Founding Director of the Help Me Grow National Center, Connecticut Children’s
- Tanya Barrett—Senior Vice President, United Way of Connecticut (2-1-1 Health and Human Services)
- Vicki Veltri—Executive Director, State Office of Health Strategy
- Dr. Ruth Loomis—Primary Care Pediatrician, Pediatric Associates of Bristol
- Dr. Nancy Trout—Primary Care Pediatrician, Connecticut Children’s

Register here