

# HOW

## can I work with my child's doctor to build a medical home?

Building a medical home is a team effort! You can help your health team or nurse practitioner do a great job.

1

Keep a list of questions or worries as you think of them. Bring your list to your doctor or nurse practitioner so that you can talk through your questions.

2

Ask your doctor or nurse practitioner to explain things you don't understand.

3

At the end of each visit, ask your doctor or nurse practitioner to write down a list of things you need to do or remember.

4

Be positive!

When your child's health care team does something great, let them know.

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**Children's Health Fund**  
[www.childrenshealthfund.org](http://www.childrenshealthfund.org)

**Children's Health Fund** is a national organization, founded in 1987 by singer/songwriter Paul Simon, and pediatrician /advocate Dr. Irwin Redlener, that serves a broad network of 22 programs and 2 affiliates in 15 states and the District of Columbia and provides services at nearly 300 urban and rural sites around the country. **Children's Health Fund** partners with many of the nation's leading universities and community health centers to deliver comprehensive, continuous and accessible care to at-risk children via 38 mobile medical clinics, fixed-site clinics and school based sites.

In addition to delivering medical, mental and dental health care to poor and homeless children, **Children's Health Fund** responds to public health crises, and advocates nationally on behalf of all children. To date, the programs have provided more than 1.8 million patient visits.



**Children's Health Fund**



# MEDICAL HOME

The care your child needs and deserves



# The Medical Home is a place where:

- Your child gets complete health care services as he or she grows from a baby to a young adult;
- Your child's doctor or nurse practitioner is available to listen to your questions and provide expert advice about your child's health whenever you need it;
- Your child can be connected to other medical, mental and dental health specialists, when needed; and
- You and your family feel respected.

## Your Child's Medical Home Should:

### Be There For You

- Build a relationship with you and your child.
- Have the same doctor or nurse practitioner available on most of your visits.

### Care For The Whole Child

- Talk to you about how to keep your child healthy.
- Talk to you about your child's growing body and mind.
- Talk to you about your child going to a dentist.
- Help your child have a healthy mind.
- Keep up-to-date medical records for your child.

### Be Easy To Access

- Be close to where you live or easy to get to.
- Speak to you on the phone when needed.
- Take your insurance or medical plan.
- Have someone you can talk to 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

### Respect Your Family

- Respect your right to make decisions about your child's health.
- Explain about your child's health, treatment and medicine in a way you can understand.
- Understand how your family works together.

### Help You Find What You Need

- Send you to a specialist when needed.
- Help with other services your family needs.

### Be Kind And Understanding

- Make you and your child feel comfortable.
- Let you ask questions and talk about your concerns.

### Respect Your Culture

- Speak your language or have someone who can speak with you in your language.
- Respect your cultural beliefs, religion and health care practices.
- Respect you as a person.

