



Care Coordination Between Schools and Medical Providers for Children with Developmental Disabilities

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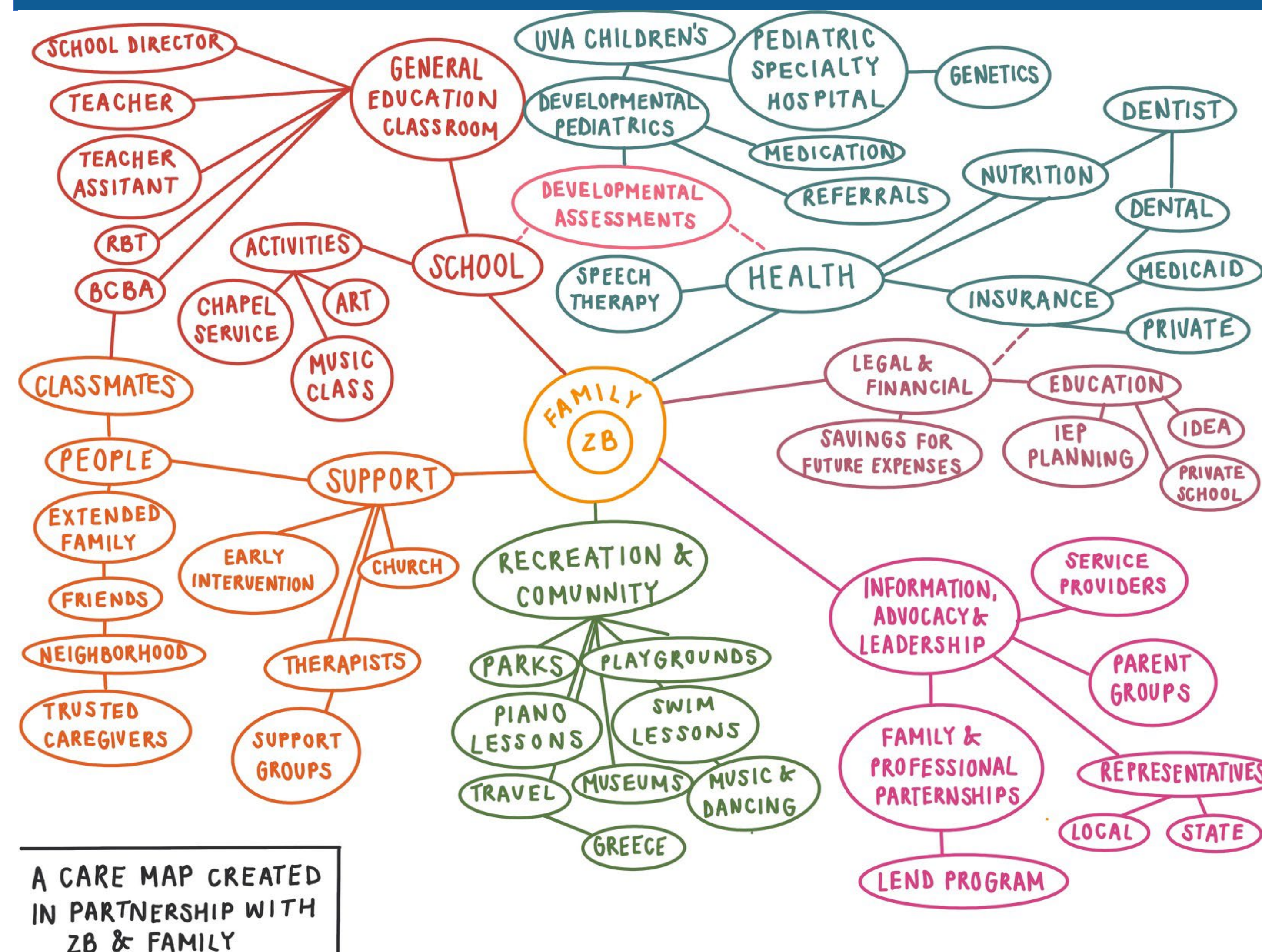
Introduction

- School systems and pediatric clinics represent two out of touch systems of care for children with developmental disabilities (DD)¹
- Disconnect between service providers results in decreased quality of patient care, delayed treatment and diagnosis, increased cost of care, duplication of services and wasted resources⁴
- Care coordination (CC) involves patient and family-centered, assessment-driven, team-based activities designed to meet the needs of children and youth³
- In rural areas the barriers to CC are greater due to increased instances of low resources and geographic distance to providers²

Objectives

- Examine the history of CC programs and policies
- Understand role of CC stakeholders (*i.e.*, SPED staff, medical providers, school nurses and psychologists, trained professionals and family members)
- Assess proposed platforms and frameworks to make recommendations for future CC efforts

A Visual



Findings

- School nurses and rural communities benefit from greater access to student EHRs
- Teachers struggle to complete symptom rating scales and recognize DD and effects of medication
- Stakeholders possess misconceptions about the application of FERPA and HIPAA to student record sharing
- Existing online platforms and programs for CC include: Care Map App, ADHD Care Assistant, School Medical Autism Review Teams and electronic health records (EHRs)

Method

- Reviewed extant literature on CC for children with disabilities including searches for:
 - Established CC programs and platforms
 - Relevant laws for education and medicine
 - Role of stakeholders in CC
 - CC in rural areas

Recommendations

- Policy advocacy for increased access and improved functionality of a shared EHR system
- Disability identification and management educational programming for teachers and school nurses
- Guidance for medical providers and teachers on FERPA and HIPAA
- Trial implementation of SMART model, including the SMART tool and team virtual assessments, in other counties

References

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