

# Pediatric Disaster Centers of Excellence

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# DISCLOSURE

The Pediatric Disaster Centers of Excellence are supported by awards from the Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (Gulf7 #6 U3REP220671-01-01, Region V for Kids #U3REP190615-10-10, and Western Regional Alliance for Pediatric Emergency Management #6-U3REP190616-01-02).



# THE NEED

Recent health crises exposed and exacerbated disparities: mental health crisis, respiratory surge, COVID-19.

Disproportionate risk, limited resources and infrastructure, and high consequence outcomes!



# 25%

Percent of U.S. population - children -  
with unique healthcare needs

# 47.5%

Hospitals with pediatric-specific  
disaster plan

# 30 MILLION

Children who seek emergency care  
each year

# 69.5/100

Median score of Emergency Departments  
pediatric readiness in the U.S.



# Three Pediatric Disaster Centers of Excellence

- Funded by the Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response (ASPR)
- Bring together children's hospitals, private and public entities, and national organizations
- Designed to disseminate best practices in pediatric disaster preparedness, response, and recovery on a regional level



## Gulf 7-Pediatric Disaster Network

- Awarded in 2022
- Anchored at Texas Children's Hospital (Houston, TX)
- 7 states/territories: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Puerto Rico, Texas



## Western Regional Alliance for Pediatric Emergency Management (WRAP-EM)

- Awarded in 2019
- Anchored at UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital (Oakland, CA)
- 6 states: Arizona, California, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington

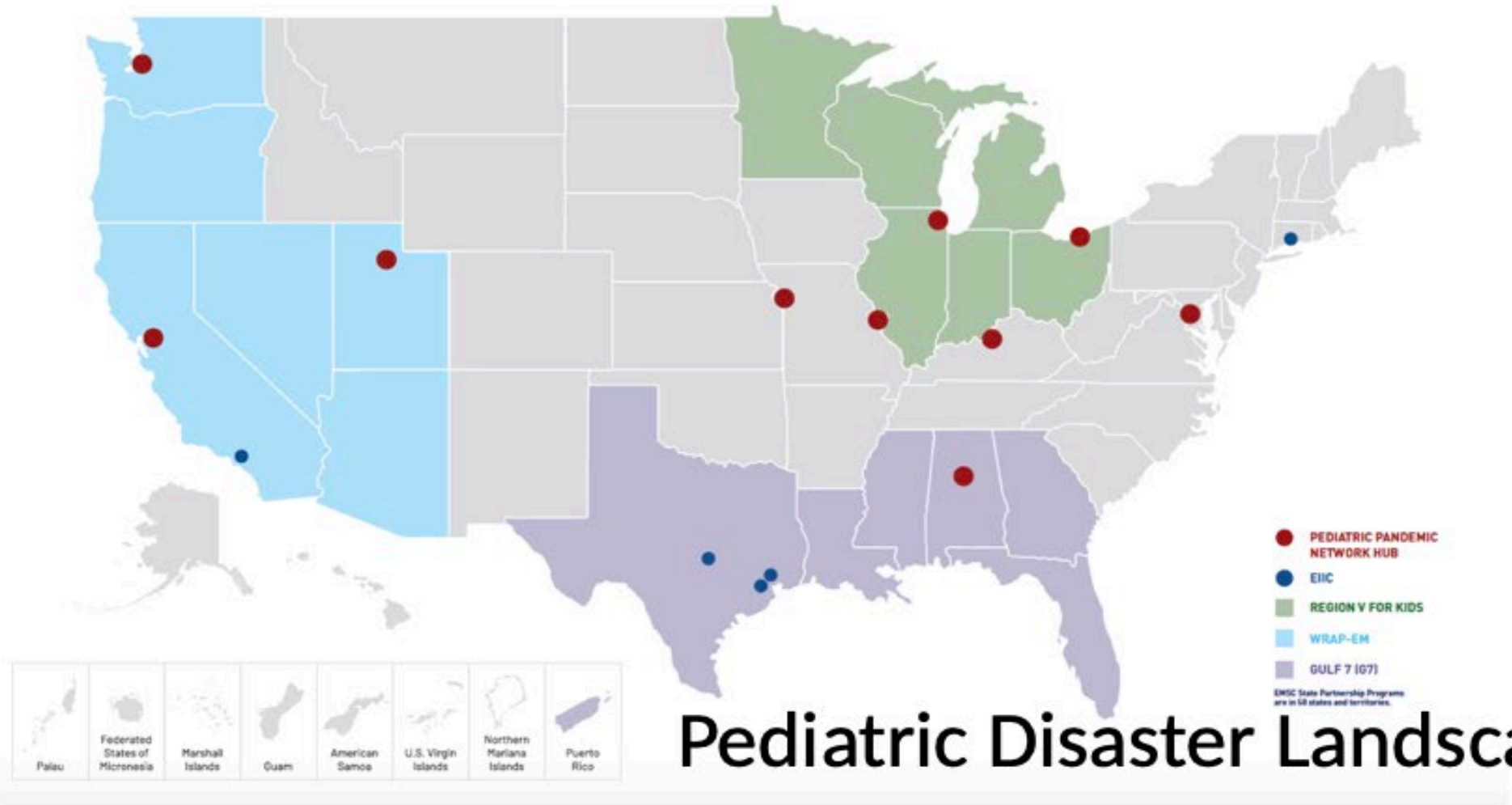


## Region V for Kids (formerly EGLPCDR)

- Awarded in 2019
- Anchored at UH Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital (Cleveland, OH)
- 6 states: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin



# Federally Funded Networks for Children in Disasters



## Pediatric Disaster Landscape





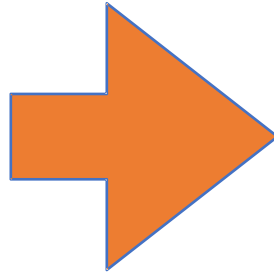
# RDHRS Goals

The four primary goals of the RDHRS are to:

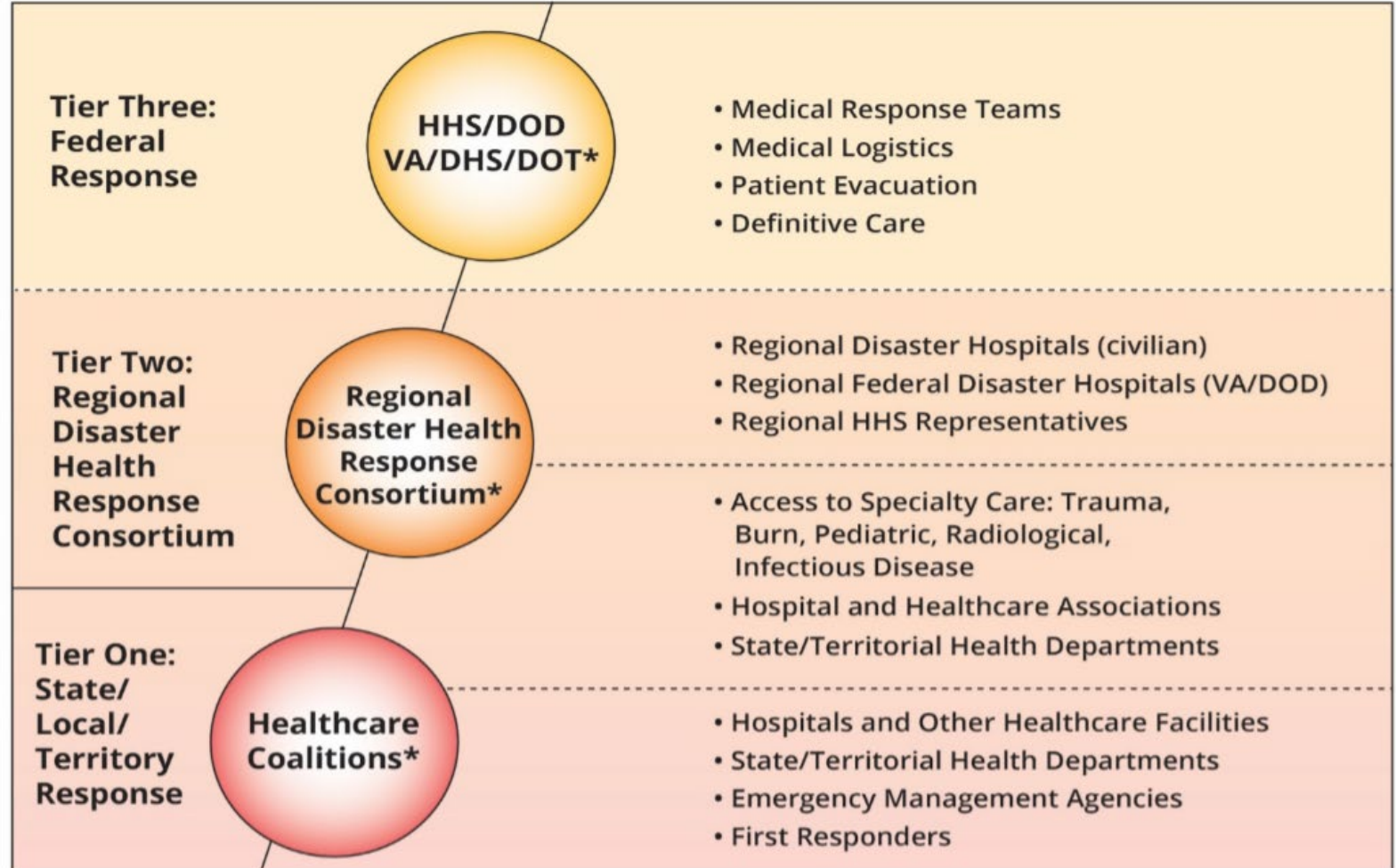
- RDHRS 1 ( Northeast)
- Region 7 (Central)
- Mountain Plains (Colorado)
- Region 4 (Emory)



The ASPR  
 Vision of  
 Pediatric  
 Disaster  
 Centers of  
 Excellence



## 21st Century National Disaster Medical System Framework A Tiered Response Structure

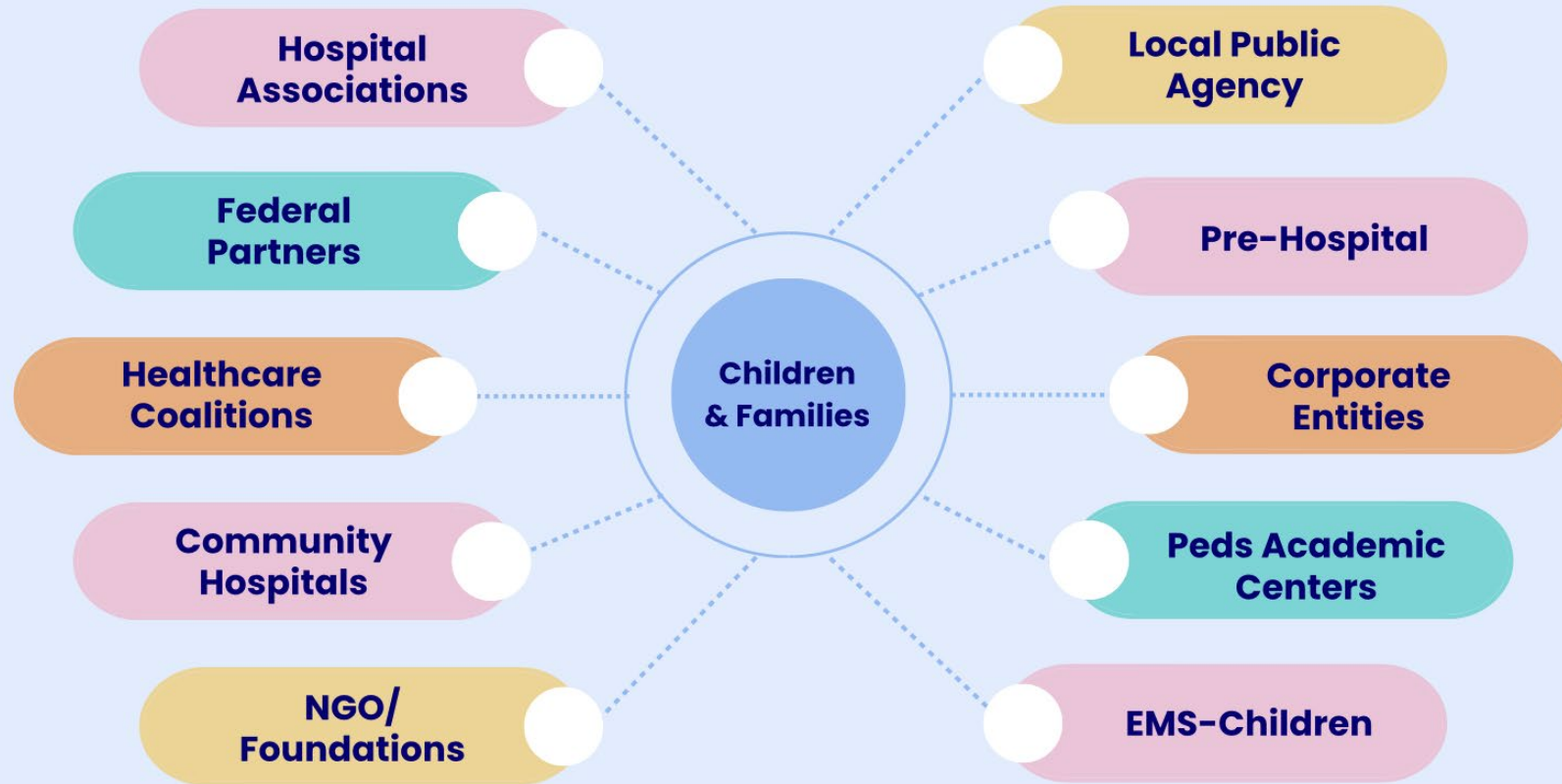


\*Disaster response coordinating entity at the local/state, regional, and federal levels.





# PDCOE Partners



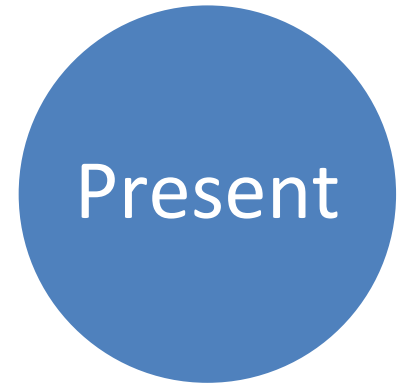
# The PDCOE's are making a difference today



[St. Louis Missouri City Emergency Management Agency](#)



2019



- **1984** – EMSC Program Authorized
- **2012** – Launch of National Pediatric Readiness Project
- **2016** – EMSC Innovation & Improvement Center replaces the National Resource Center

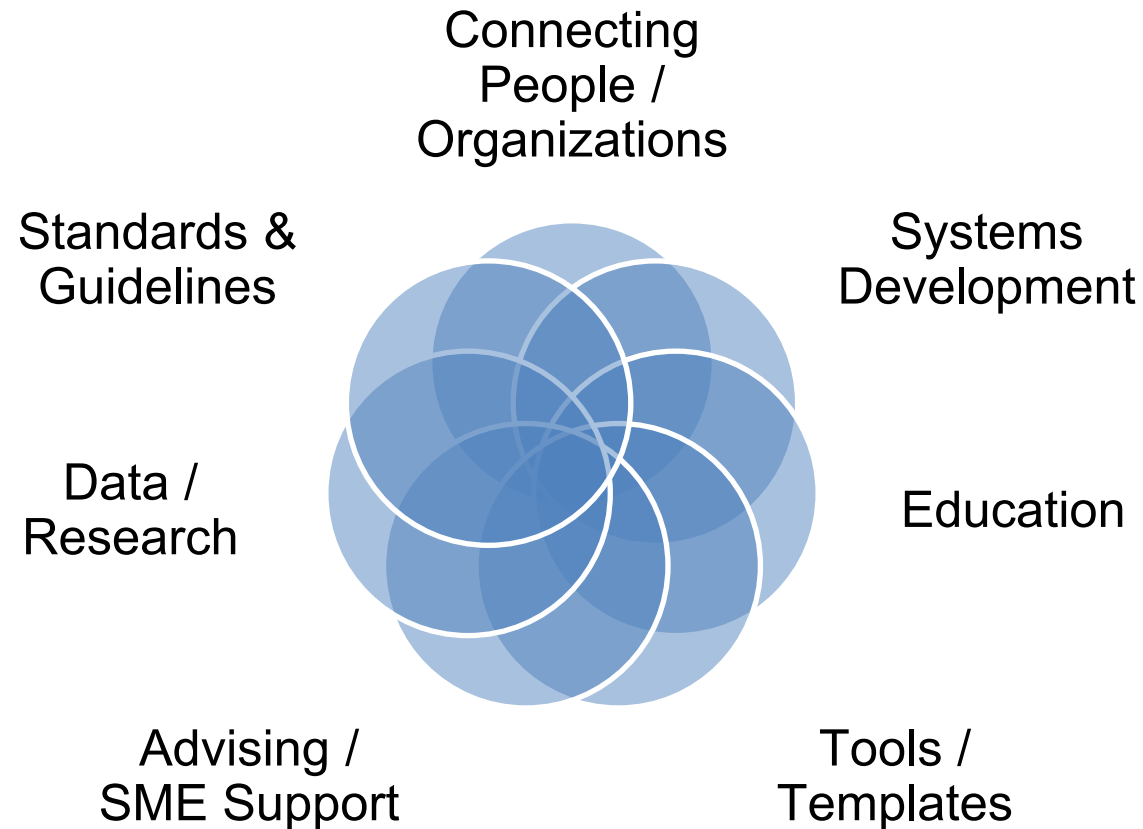
- Launch of **Prehospital Pediatric Readiness Project**
- ASPR Launches **Two Pediatric Disaster Centers of Excellence** (WRAP-EM & Region V for Kids)

- **2021-2022** – Creation of Pediatric Pandemic Network
- **2022** – ASPR Adds **Third Pediatric Disaster Center of Excellence** (Gulf 7)



# The PDCOE's:

WE ARE HERE FOR YOU.



# PDCOE Pillars

- Develop a coordinated pediatric disaster care capability
- Strengthen pediatric disaster preparedness plans and coordination
- Enhance state and regional medical pediatric surge capacity
- Increase healthcare professional educational competency
- Enhance situational awareness of pediatric disaster care across the spectrum





# What do we do

Surge  
Planning

CBRN

Trauma /  
MCI

Education

Telemedicin  
e

Infectious  
Disease

Mental  
Health

Reunification

Pediatric  
Readiness

Legal

Movement /  
Coordination

Health  
Equity & DEI

Research

Tracking /  
Situation  
Awareness

Drills

CYSHCN



# HOW WE CONTRIBUTE TO PEDIATRIC PREPAREDNESS CAPABILITIES

- Approachable subject matter experts
- Trusted Consultation: preparedness & response efforts
- Real time situational awareness in region
- Identify gaps in addressing pediatric-specific concerns
- Create resources to educate pediatricians, hospitals, and caregivers of children
- Discussions inclusive of health disparities & inequities



# PDCOE in Action

- Respiratory Surge
- Responded to our regional Healthcare Coalitions
- Real-time Situational awareness
- Disseminated tools for Just-in-time
- Participated in 10 ASPR-hosted regional webinars to listen to HCC, hospitals and others



# JOINT PDCOE PEDIATRIC SURGE REPORT



**2021-2023**

Pediatric Disaster  
Centers of Excellence

[www.pediatricdisaster.org/](http://www.pediatricdisaster.org/)



# Core Principles



Public private  
partnership



Equity between  
states



Collaborative  
academic  
environment:

No Ego



Talented staff  
that is shared



Simple and constant  
communication



Operations  
focused





# Gulf 7 Pediatric Disaster Network

- **Pediatric Disaster Course:** G7 and TEEEX created a free 16-hour course for all seven G7 states/territories, focused on pediatric resiliency & recovery, emergency management, public health, & clinical preparedness.
- **G7 Pediatric Regional Exercises:** Each year, G7 has 1 functional exercise and 6 in-person tabletop exercises at hospitals in each of our states/territories.
  - **2023 Exercise scenario:** Radiologic Disaster-Pediatric Patient Surge
  - **2024 Exercise scenario:** Family Reunification Following a Natural Disaster
- **G7 Preparedness Packets:** Packets will include high-yield education, templates and examples of a preparedness/response plan, online module for education and/or parent education document.
  - Packet topics are Decontamination, Reunification, HID, Burn, MCI, and Evacuation.
- **Pediatric Trauma & Grief in the Aftermath of Natural Disasters:** TGCT (Trauma and Grief Component Therapy) Learning Collaboratives for School and Community-Based Clinicians/Counselors.



**WRAP-EM**

Western Regional Alliance for  
Pediatric Emergency Management



# Healthcare Coalition Virtual Exercises

## Pediatric Exercise Series

- Virtual tabletop exercise (VTTX)
- Audience: U.S. Healthcare Coalitions
- Objective: Evaluate pediatric plans
- Format: 3 hour facilitated discussion and breakout sessions

## Additional Benefits:

- Learning from other coalitions in debrief
- Meeting federal requirements for an exercise of protocols



# Just-in-time Resources

- [Quick Pediatric Reference Guide for Adult Healthcare Providers](#)
- [Just-in-time Videos on YouTube](#)
- [Pediatric Surge Playbook](#)



## PEDIATRIC SURGE PLAYBOOK

2023



# Ongoing Projects Region V for Kids

- National Pediatric Dashboard
- Reunification Learning Collaborative
- Pediatric HVA/Regional Metrics Scorecard
- Trauma Playbook for Pediatric Trauma Centers
- Emergency Department Professionals Perceptions of Pediatric Behavioral Health Management
- Education Modules for Healthcare Professionals (Pediatric Residents)
- CYSHCN Toolkit

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