NC InCK NC INTEGRATED CARE FOR KIDS

May 2025

Updates, insights, and opportunities to engage with NC Integrated Care for Kids

Dear NC InCK friends and supporters,

Over the past year, the NC InCK team has been conducting in-depth evaluations of our model to understand what is working for children and families and where we have opportunities to improve and innovate further. With your help, we've gathered important feedback and data that help us understand NC InCK's impact on health outcomes. We've also refined and expanded our community referral pathways to ensure we are identifying all children who might benefit from care management.

We are excited to share some findings from this work with you all in our webinar tomorrow! Our shared work continues to generate valuable insights that can inform future policies and programs that will improve child and family well-being across North Carolina.

As we approach the end of our federal funding period in December 2026 and continue to navigate a challenging policy environment, we are focused on translating the lessons we have learned into action. Simultaneously, we remain committed to health equity and strong, collaborative partnerships with community organizations. We know this work is not possible without you. We value your engagement and feedback as we continue to connect and learn with you.

In partnership,

Chelsea Swanson, MPH
NC InCK Managing Director

Rushina Cholera, MD, PhD
NC InCK Executive Director

Upcoming Events

NC InCK Webinar: May 29, 2025, 12:00 pm–1:00 pm
Join us for our NC InCK Webinar on May 29, 2025, from 12:00 pm-1:00 pm. NC InCK Webinars are open to anyone interested in learning about our work and recent updates. If you are interested in attending, please register using this link. If you have any questions, please reach out to info@ncinck.org.

Integrated Care Rounds: Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Part 2: June 12, 2025, 12:00 pm–1:30 pm
Building on our May discussion, join the NC InCK Behavioral Health Workgroup and guests as we continue exploring how to support early evaluation and resource access for children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). Integrated Care Rounds are open to anyone working to promote whole-child and family well-being. To attend, email info@ncinck.org.

NC InCK: 2024 in Review

The end of 2024 marked the third anniversary of NC InCK's launch. Since 2022, the model has demonstrated the power of integrated care, serving roughly 3,000 children and families across five counties.

This year, NC InCK aimed to understand which parts of the model have the greatest impact on child and family wellbeing and how these components can be improved and continued in the future.

Read more about NC InCK's work.

"This is an excellent program. Anything you need. They do the research. **I really feel like they do care.**"

"[Our Family Navigator] just kind of pulled miracles for me. Honestly, like, **she was relentless on trying to get me resources** and everything else."

"I think the most important thing is having somebody that's hearing it. **Sometimes we just need people to hear us.** We need people to see that we need the assistance."

Feedback from families engaged in the NC InCK model

Medical Students Present NC InCK Care Management Research at APA Conference

Two NC InCK medical student researchers, Claire Sibold and Hartlee Lidsky, presented their findings on care management at the 2024 APA Region IV Conference in Charlottesville, VA.

Their research highlighted the importance of compassionate, flexible support for families. Data showed that caregivers were more likely to stay engaged with NC InCK care management when communication is flexible, and care managers are compassionate and nonjudgmental.

"A good care manager makes all the difference," one caregiver noted. "I see her name and immediately feel relieved—she's someone I can trust."

Learn more about their important work.



Hartlee Lidsky presenting her findings titled, "Engaging Caregivers in Care Management: Mixed-Methods Lessons from NC InCK"

NC InCK Community Engagement: Book Harvest Program

Collaborating with the Book Harvest program, a non-profit dedicated to making sure children have access to books, a small but mighty group of 6 NC InCK team members sorted through a pallet of about 3,000 donated books.





NC InCK team members sort books for the Book Harvest program.

While "harvesting" board books, picture books, early chapter books, and more advanced chapter books for children in North Carolina, the 2 hours flew by as multiple generations of readers chatted and reminisced about a shared love of reading!

NC InCK Reading Room

We work hard to create and update resources that help children and families receive the best care possible. The NC InCK website includes many resources and educational events.Take a moment to take a moment to read, watch, and share! A few recent materials include:

- Medicaid Overview for Families (English | Spanish)
- Updated Core Child Service Areas Guides
- Integrated Care Rounds on Interpersonal Violence

Stay Connected

Check out NC InCK's news stories or attend one of our upcoming events.

NC InCK is now on LinkedIn! Follow us to connect and stay updated on upcoming events.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please email us at info@ncinck.org.