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Our grandson, Niko Molfese, is nine years old. Last month he was suddenly diagnosed with type 1 diabetes and rushed to Longmont United Hospital, where it was found that his levels were so high he was almost in a coma. He was transferred to Children's Hospital in Denver. Thank God for the CHPs program – he has received excellent care.

Niko requires intense on-going medical care. He has to test his blood six times a day, and have injections of insulin that vary depending on his levels. He has not stabilized yet, causing anxiety for all of us. When his levels dropped too low, his father had to stay up all night, wake him and test his blood every two hours to make sure that he hadn't lapsed into a coma.

Lots of unanticipated expenses for hospitalizations, phone calls and office visits to his physician, medical supplies for testing equipment and medications, training for his parents in how to manage his home care. And this will continue for the rest of Niko's life.

This is the kind of unforeseen medical emergency that could happen to anyone, and to any family, at any time.

Everyone in Colorado, every family in our state needs affordable healthcare. That's why we support Senator Irene Aguillar's bill to create a non-profit healthcare co-operative for all the residents of our state.

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