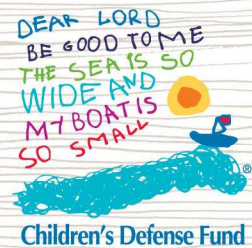


# Children's Defense Fund Health Coverage for All Children: District of Columbia



October 2009

## All Children Need Health Coverage that is Affordable, Comprehensive, and Simple.

### Health Coverage for the District of Columbia's Children:

- 9,000 children are uninsured (7.6% of all children). \*
- 77,529 children are enrolled in Medicaid. \*\*
- 8,746 children are enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). \*\*\*

### How affordable is health coverage for the District of Columbia's children? †

- Children's eligibility is up to 300 percent of poverty (\$66,150 for a family of four) through the District of Columbia's Medicaid expansion program (includes CHIP).

### How simple are enrollment procedures in CHIP and Medicaid for the District of Columbia's children?

- Simplification procedures:
  - No waiting period
  - No face-to-face interview
  - No asset test
- Barriers that remain:
  - No 12-month continuous eligibility
  - No presumptive eligibility—which forces children to wait until their application is processed before they can see a doctor
  - No administrative verification of income—the state requires parents to provide proof of income before a child can get health coverage

### Do children in the District of Columbia's CHIP program receive the same comprehensive benefits as children in Medicaid?

- Yes. The District of Columbia has used CHIP funding to cover all children eligible for CHIP and Medicaid under one program. As a result, children in CHIP in these states receive the same comprehensive health and mental health coverage (through the Early and Periodic Screening Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) benefit) that all children in Medicaid receive.

**Call your Member of Congress and tell them:** *Health reform needs to make sure that ALL children in the District of Columbia and America have health coverage that is affordable, comprehensive, and simple.*

**Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton (D)**

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<sup>†\*</sup> U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey, 2007, 2008, and 2009 Annual Social and Economic Supplement (ASEC); and U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, "State Single Year of Age and Sex Population Estimates: April 1, 2000 to July 1, 2008 - RESIDENT," at <<http://www.census.gov/popest/states/asrh/files/SC-EST2008-AGESEX-RES.csv>> . Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

<sup>\*\*</sup> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, FY2006 Medicaid Statistical Information System, at <http://msis.cms.hhs.gov/>, accessed June 5, 2009. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, SCHIP Statistical Enrollment Data System, January 20, 2009, at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/NationalCHIPPolicy/downloads/FY2008StateTotalTable012309FINAL.pdf>, accessed June 2, 2009. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

<sup>†</sup> Georgetown Center for Children and Families; "State Snapshot—Medicaid and CHIP Eligibility Levels and Enrollment and Renewal Procedures." <http://ccf.georgetown.edu/index/cms-file-system-action?file=statistics/snapshot.pdf>, accessed October 12, 2009.