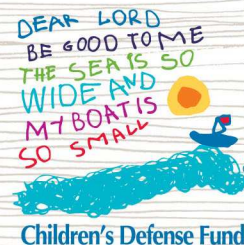


Children's Defense Fund

Health Coverage for All Children: Iowa

October 2009



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

Health Coverage for Iowa's Children:

- 41,000 children are uninsured (5.5% of all children). *
- 215,605 children are enrolled in Medicaid. **
- 50,390 children are enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). ***

How affordable is health coverage for Iowa's children? †

- CHIP eligibility is up to 300 percent of poverty (\$66,150 for a family of four).
- Medicaid eligibility is 200 percent of poverty for children 0-1, and 133 percent of poverty (\$29,327) for children 1-19.

How simple are enrollment procedures in CHIP and Medicaid for Iowa's children?

- Simplification procedures:
 - 12 month continuous eligibility
 - No face-to-face interview
 - No asset test
 - Joint application
 - No waiting period
- Barriers that remain:
 - No administrative verification of income—the state requires parents to provide proof of income before a child can get health coverage
 - Presumptive eligibility not yet implemented

Despite difficult economic times, Iowa was one of 23 states that took steps to improve health coverage for children in the last year. In 2009, Iowa expanded CHIP eligibility from 200 to 300 percent of poverty and made efforts to increase Medicaid and CHIP enrollment for children by including presumptive eligibility, simplified income verification, paperless renewals, and an individual coverage mandate. Implementation dates for these provisions, however, have not yet been determined. Iowa also expanded Medicaid and CHIP coverage to all lawfully residing immigrant children with family income up to 300 percent of poverty. ‡

Call your Member of Congress and tell them: *Health reform needs to make sure that ALL children in Iowa and America have health coverage that is affordable, comprehensive, and simple. A pound sign (#) designates Members who serve on one or more of the committees that developed the health reform bills being considered in the House and Senate.*

Senator Tom Harkin (D) #

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Dubuque (563) 582-2130
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Senator Chuck Grassley (R) #

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Davenport (563) 322-4331
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Sioux City (712) 233-1860
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Representative Leonard Boswell (D)

Washington, D.C. (202) 225-3806
Des Moines (515) 282-1909

Representative David Loebsack (D) #

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Cedar Rapids (319) 364-2288
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Representative Bruce Braley (D) #

Washington, D.C. (202) 225-2911
Waterloo (319) 287-3233
Davenport (563) 323-5988
Dubuque (565) 557-7789

Representative Tom Latham (R)

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Ames (515) 232- 2885
Clear Lake/Mason City (641) 357-5225
Fort Dodge (515) 573- 2738

Representative Steve King (R)

Washington, D.C. (202) 225-4426
Creston (641) 782-2495
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Spencer (712) 580-7754
Sioux City (712) 224-4692
Storm Lake (712)732-4197

* 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.

** 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.

*** 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.

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

‡ Georgetown Center for Children and Families; "Weathering the Storm: States Move Forward on Child and Family Health Coverage Despite Tough Economic Climate." September 2009. [http://ccf.georgetown.edu/index/cms-filesystem-action?file=ccf publications/health reform/weathering the storm.pdf](http://ccf.georgetown.edu/index/cms-filesystem-action?file=ccf%20publications/health%20reform/weathering%20the%20storm.pdf), accessed October 1, 2009.