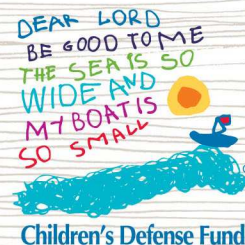


# Children's Defense Fund

## Health Coverage for All Children: Kentucky

October 2009



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

#### Health Coverage for Kentucky's Children:

- 103,000 children are uninsured (9.6% of all children). \*
- 403,101 children are enrolled in Medicaid. \*\*
- 67,717 children are enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). \*\*\*

#### How affordable is health coverage for Kentucky's children? †

- CHIP eligibility is up to 200 percent of poverty (\$44,100 for a family of four).
- Medicaid eligibility is 185 percent of poverty (\$40,793) for children 0-1; 150 percent of poverty (\$33,075) for children 1-19.

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

- Simplification procedures:
  - No face-to-face interview
  - No asset test
  - Joint application
- Barriers that remain:
  - No 12-month continuous eligibility
  - 6 month waiting period
  - 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 Kentucky's CHIP program receive the same comprehensive benefits as children in Medicaid?

- Yes. Kentucky provides children in its CHIP program 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 Kentucky 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.*

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<sup>1</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>2</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>3</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>4</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-filesystem-action?file=statistics/snapshot.pdf>, accessed October 12, 2009.