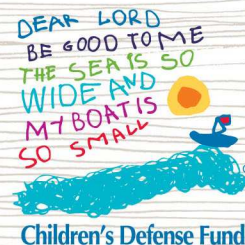


# Children's Defense Fund

## Health Coverage for All Children: Minnesota

October 2009



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

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

- 94,000 children are uninsured (7.1% of all children).\*
- 383,656 children are enrolled in Medicaid.\*\*
- 5,621 children are enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).\*\*\*

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

- Children's eligibility is 280 percent of poverty (\$61,740 for a family of four) for children 0-1; and 275 percent of poverty (\$60,638) for children 1-19, through Minnesota's Medicaid expansion program (includes CHIP).

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

- Simplification procedures:
  - No face-to-face interview
  - No asset test
- Barriers that remain:
  - No 12-month continuous eligibility for children
  - 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.
  - 4 month waiting period for children under the Medicaid 1115 waiver

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

- Yes. Minnesota is one of 13 states (plus the District of Columbia) that 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 Minnesota 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 Amy Klobuchar (D)**

Washington DC: (202) 224-3244  
Minneapolis Office: (612) 727-5220  
South Office: (507) 288-5321  
Northwest & Central: (218) 287-2219  
Northeast Office: (218) 741-9690

**Senator Al Franken<sup>#</sup>**

Washington, DC: (202) 224-5641  
St. Paul office: (651) 221-1016

**Representative Michele Bachmann (R)**

Washington DC: (202) 225-2331  
Woodbury Office: (651) 731-5400  
Waite Park Office: (320) 253-5931

**Representative Keith Ellison (D)**

Washington DC: (202) 225-4755  
Minneapolis Office: (612) 522-1212

**Representative Betty McCollum (D)**

Washington DC: (202) 225-6631  
St. Paul Office: (651) 224-9191

**Representative John Kline (R)**

Washington DC: (202) 225-2271  
Burnsville Office: (952) 808-1213

**Representative Erik Paulsen (R)**

Washington DC: (202) 225-2871  
Eden Prairie Office: (952) 405-8510

**Representative James Oberstar (D)**

Washington DC: (202) 225-6211  
Brainerd Office: (218) 828-4400  
Duluth Office: (218) 727-7474

**Representative Colin Peterson (D)**

Washington DC: (202) 225-2165  
Detroit Lakes Office: (218) 847-5056  
Redwood Falls Office: (507) 637-2270  
Willmar Office: (320) 235-1061

**Representative Timothy Walz (D)**

Washington DC: (202) 225-2472  
Mankato Office: (507) 388-2149  
Rochester Office: (507) 206-0643

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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-filesystem-action?file=statistics/snapshot.pdf>, accessed October 12, 2009.