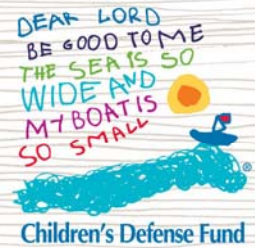


Children's Defense Fund

Health Coverage for All Children: Pennsylvania



October 2009

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

Health Coverage for Pennsylvania's Children:

- 222,000 children are uninsured (7.5% of all children). *
- 1,016,075 children are enrolled in Medicaid. **
- 256,627 children are enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). ***

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

- CHIP eligibility is up to 300 percent of poverty (\$66,150 for a family of four).
- Medicaid eligibility is 185 percent of poverty (\$40,793) for children 0-1, 133 percent of poverty (\$29,327) for children 1-5, and 100 percent (\$22,050) for children 6-19.

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

- Simplification procedures:
 - 12-month continuous eligibility for CHIP only
 - No face-to-face interview
 - No asset test
 - No waiting period for children under 200 percent of poverty
 - Joint application
- Barriers that remain:
 - No 12-month continuous eligibility for children in Medicaid
 - 6 month renewal period for children in Medicaid
 - 6 month waiting period for children between 200-300 percent of poverty (children under 2 are exempt)
 - 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

Call your Member of Congress and tell them: *Health reform needs to make sure that ALL children in Pennsylvania 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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Representative Joe Sestak (D) #

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* 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.