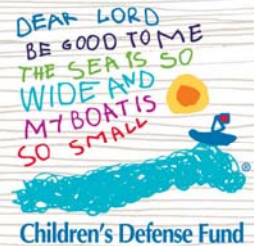


Children's Defense Fund

Health Coverage for All Children: Vermont

October 2009



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

Health Coverage for Vermont's Children:

- 10,000 children are uninsured (7.0% of all children). *
- 67,499 children are enrolled in Medicaid. **
- 6,496 children are enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). ***

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

- CHIP eligibility is up to 300 percent of poverty (\$66,150 for a family of four).
- Medicaid eligibility is 225 percent of poverty (\$49,613).

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

- Simplification procedures:
 - Administrative verification of income
 - No face-to-face interview
 - No asset test
 - Joint application
- Barriers that remain:
 - 30 day waiting period
 - No 12-month continuous eligibility
 - No presumptive eligibility—which forces children to wait until their application is processed before they can see a doctor

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

- Yes. Vermont 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 Vermont 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 Bernard Sanders (I) #

Washington DC: (202) 224-5141
Burlington Office: (802) 862-0697
Brattleboro Office: (802) 254-8732
St. Johnsbury Office: (802) 748-9269

Senator Patrick Leahy (D)

Washington DC: (202) 224-4242
Burlington Office: (802) 863-2525
Montpelier Office: (802) 229-0569

Representative Peter Welch (D) #

Washington DC: (202) 225-4115
Burlington Office: (802) 652-2450
Toll-Free in VT: (888) 605-7270

¹ 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.

² 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.

³ 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.

⁴ Georgetown Center for Children and Families; "State Snapshot—Medicaid and CHIP Eligibility Levels and Enrollment and Renewal Procedures." <http://ccf.georgetown.edu/index/cms-filessystem-action?file=statistics/snapshot.pdf>, accessed October 12, 2009.