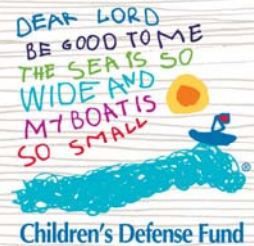


Children's Defense Fund

Health Coverage for All Children: West Virginia



October 2009

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

Health Coverage for West Virginia's Children:

- 26,000 children are uninsured (6.5% of all children). *
- 194,751 children are enrolled in Medicaid. **
- 37,645 children are enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). ***

How affordable is health coverage for West Virginia's children? †

- CHIP eligibility is up to 250 percent of poverty (FPL) (\$55,125 for a family of four).
- Medicaid eligibility is 150 percent of poverty (\$33,075) for children 0-1; 133 percent of poverty (\$29,327) for children 1-5; 100 percent of poverty (\$22,050) for children 6-19.

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

- Simplification procedures:
 - 12-month continuous eligibility
 - No face-to-face interview
 - No asset test
 - Joint application
- Barriers that remain:
 - 6-month waiting period for children under 200 percent of poverty, 12-month waiting period for children between 200-250 percent of poverty
 - No presumptive eligibility—which would allow children to see a doctor while their application is still being processed
 - No administrative verification of income—the state requires parents to provide proof of income before a child can get health coverage

Despite difficult economic times, West Virginia was one of 23 states that took steps to improve health coverage for children in the last year. In 2009, West Virginia expanded CHIP eligibility from 220 to 250 percent of poverty. ‡

Call your Member of Congress and tell them: *Health reform needs to make sure that ALL children in West Virginia 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 Jay Rockefeller IV (D) #

Washington DC: (202) 224-6472
Beckley Office: (304) 253-9704
Charleston Office: (304) 347-5372
Martinsburg Office: (304) 262-9285

Senator Robert Byrd (D)

Washington DC: (202) 224-3954
Charleston Office: (304) 342-5855
Eastern Panhandle: (304) 264-4626

Representative Shelley Capito (R)

Washington DC: (202) 225-2711
Charleston Office: (304) 925-5964
Martinsburg Office: (304) 264-8810

Representative Alan Mollohan (D)

Washington DC: (202) 225-4172
Clarksburg Office: (304) 623-4422
Morgantown Office: (304) 292-3019
Wheeling Office: (304) 232-5390
Parkersburg Office: (304) 428-0493

Representative Nick Rahall (D)

Washington DC: (202) 225-3452
Beckley Office: (304) 252-5000
Bluefield Office: (304) 325-6222
Huntington Office: (304) 522-6425
Logan Office: (304) 752-4934

^{*} 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-file-system-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-file-system-action?file=ccf publications/health reform/weathering the storm.pdf](http://ccf.georgetown.edu/index/cms-file-system-action?file=ccf%20publications/health%20reform/weathering%20the%20storm.pdf), accessed October 1, 2009.