



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

### Health Coverage for Wisconsin's Children:

- 77,000 children are uninsured (5.5% of all children). \*
- 423,949 children are enrolled in Medicaid. \*\*
- 52,940 children are enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). \*\*\*

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

- Children's eligibility is up to 250 percent of poverty (\$55,125 for a family of four) through Wisconsin's Medicaid expansion program (includes CHIP).
- Wisconsin has a state-funded expansion program for children up to 300 percent of poverty (\$66,150 for a family of four).

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

- Simplification procedures:
  - No face-to-face interview
  - No asset test
  - Presumptive eligibility for newborns under 250 percent of poverty, age 1-5 under 185 percent of poverty, and age 6-18 under 150 percent of poverty
- Barriers that remain:
  - No 12-month continuous eligibility
  - 3 month waiting period for children above 150 percent of poverty.
  - No automatic enrollment and renewal—which results in children being dropped from coverage
  - No administrative verification of income—the state requires parents to provide proof of income before a child can get health coverage

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

- Yes. Wisconsin 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.

*Despite difficult economic times, Wisconsin was one of 23 states that took steps to improve health coverage for children in the last year. In 2009, Wisconsin expanded presumptive eligibility to newborns with family income at or below 250 percent FPL, children ages one to five with family income at or below 185 percent of poverty, and to children ages six to 18 with family income at or below 150 percent of poverty. Wisconsin also extended 12-month continuous eligibility to infants eligible for Medicaid born to non-citizen women. †*

**Call your Member of Congress and tell them:** *Health reform needs to make sure that ALL children in Wisconsin 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>\*</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.

<sup>‡</sup> 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-filesystem-action?file=ccf publications/health reform/weathering the storm.pdf](http://ccf.georgetown.edu/index/cms-filesystem-action?file=ccf%20publications/health%20reform/weathering%20the%20storm.pdf), accessed October 1, 2009.