

CHAMP-Net News

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CHAMP-Net is a program of the National Health Foundation (NHF).

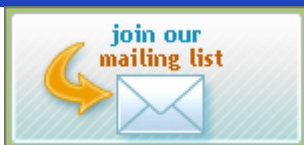
Click [here](#) to visit NHF's website.

[Important Links/Information April 2009](#)

[AIM-California Residency Requirement Changed](#)

[April 2009 CHAMP Training Schedule](#)

[Healthy Families Premium Increases- Effective February 1, 2009](#)



Hello CHAMPers,

Spring is a time for turning over new leaves, and for the CHAMP Team it is the time when we release our revised manual with the new Federal Income Guidelines. Each year in the months leading up to April 1st, the CHAMP Team reviews and revises all of the manuals and training materials to ensure that the information is accurate and up-to-date. We work with program staff and experts verify the information before it gets to you.

During this time we also update the Federal Income Guidelines, in the manual and on [CHAMP-Net](#), which are used to determine eligibility for the public and private healthcare coverage programs for children and adults that we all work with on a daily basis. Please make sure to visit the [handout section](#) of CHAMP-Net to download the updated Federal Income Guidelines effective April 1, 2009.

This issue of CHAMP-Net News highlights some important topics of interest to health advocates including:

- News & Events
 - Fresno County: "WE Connect" and One-e-App
- Healthcare Coverage Program Updates
 - Medi-Cal - NO MSR's for children
 - Kaiser Permanente Child Health Plan - Application Information
- CHAMP-Net's Tip of the Month - Federal Income Guidelines
- Ask the Trainer Question/Challenge of the Month
- CHAMP Training - Oral Health Training
- CHAMP-Net's County of the Month - San Luis Obispo

Best,

Brooke Fox, Program Manager

News and Events

[Fresno County: "WE Connect" and One-e-App](#)

Have a question/
comment regarding
CHAMP-Net or CHAMP-
Net News? Please
share your suggestions
by contacting
Nabihah Basrai at
nbasrai@nhfca.org or
213.538.0745. We
look forward to hearing
from you!

Great News! Fresno County has been chosen as the pilot for the state to integrate the additional programs available in "WE Connect" into One-e-App, as well as make the tool available to the public. One-e-App is an online application tool that will allow children 0-18 to apply for Medi-Cal, Healthy Families, Kaiser Permanente Child Health Plan and Healthy Kids in one easy online application.

Fresno County is pleased to be chosen as a pilot for the state, and looks forward to using a streamlined approach in order to assist families' access much needed care.

[Read more about this exciting pilot program.](#)

[Quick Links](#)

[CHAMP-Net](#)

[Previous Newsletters](#)

[Ask The Trainers](#)

[Spotlight on: Self Pay Study](#)

*Each month CHAMP-Net
News will highlight a
current NHF program.*

Self Pay Study - The National Health Foundation is currently conducting a Self Pay Study in Los Angeles, Riverside, and San Bernardino Counties. The study will provide trend data on the number of emergency department (ED) visits and inpatient admissions of self pay patients to hospitals in the three counties. Data from these analyses will enable the Hospital Association of Southern California to answer four questions about trends in uninsured hospital care from 2000 to 2008: 1) have these counties seen increases in the total number of uninsured ED visits and inpatient admissions, 2) has there been a shift in where uninsured go for their hospital care (e.g., public to private), 3) if there has been a shift, in which hospitals or regions is it occurring, and 4) how have recent reductions

Healthcare Coverage Program Updates

Medi-Cal

NO MSR's for Children

Good News! After several months of confusion, we would like to confirm that the Medi-Cal Mid-year Status Reports (MSRs) have been put on hold in Los Angeles County awaiting changes by the California State Legislature.

In January, Medi-Cal implemented the Mid-year Status Reports (MSRs) for children, previously only required for adults. However, the Federal Stimulus Package requires that in order for the state to receive higher federal matching funds the state must make changes to the current MSR requirements. As such, the MSR has been put on hold in Los Angeles County for children only.

What does this mean?

It means that, a child or children on a Medi-Cal case will not be disenrolled from Medi-Cal if the MSR form of any adult living in the household is not returned. This is great news for our children!

In spite of this, families with children may still receive the MSR form through this month to be returned to their local DPSS office. It's important that assistors communicate this with families and assist them in filling out and returning the form to their local DPSS office if an adult is on the case, as MSR requirements have not changed for adults and the county will take action to close the case if the form is not returned. However, if only a child is on the Medi-Cal case, there will be no action taken.

Kaiser Permanente Child Health Plan (KPCHP)

Application Information

affected the hospital system.

If you have any questions about this program, please contact Heather Kun: hkun@nhfca.org

KPCHP is currently open to new enrollment in Los Angeles and Orange Counties and all Northern California Service areas. There are currently two versions of the KPCHP application that will be accepted:

- August 2008 Revision
- January 2009 Revision

There are a number of changes in the January 2009 version however both versions will be accepted until the end of 2009. Starting January 1, 2010, only the January 2009 version will be accepted.

When completing an application on behalf of a family, it is very important that the applicant's name as it is written on page one is the same as the name on their paycheck stub or signature line. Applications where this information does not match will be returned to the applicant for clarification causing a delay in processing. The person listed on the application as the parent or guardian must sign the application or it will be denied and returned to the applicant.

For more information about KPCHP, please use the following phone numbers:

Customer Service at 1-800-255-5053 for the following support:

- To inquire about the status of an application, if it's been approved or denied
- If your client receives a letter of denial and you have a question about it
- Account updates such as an address, name or phone number change

Member services for ALL benefit information: 1-800-464-4000

Billing department for ALL questions related to premium payments and terminations for non-payment: 1-800-236-4490.

As always, for information about how to order applications, please email askthetrainers@champ-net.org.

CHAMP-Net's Tip of the Month: Federal Income Guidelines

Did you know that you can fill out a Healthy Families Premium Re-evaluation form at any time? As you know, the Healthy Families Program has increased premiums in Categories B and C, and families who believe their income has dropped should fill out the Premium Re-Evaluation Form. Their lower income can either put them in a lower premium category of Healthy Families, or they may even be bridged to free Medi-Cal if their income

qualifies them for Medi-Cal. Please encourage families to fill out this form because it might mean lower monthly premiums or no premiums for them to pay.

Please find the English form [here](#), and the Spanish form [here](#). Let us know if you have any other questions at askthetrainers@champ-net.org.

Ask The Trainer Question of the Month

Dear Trainer,

A father grosses \$2400 monthly and his 14 year old son is receiving \$746 per month from Social Security benefits because his mother is deceased. Does the son's Social Security benefits count toward the household income or is it exempt because the son is still in school?

Sincerely,

Jesse

Dear Jesse,

The Social Security Benefits do count, but only for himself. So if his siblings are applying for coverage, that income will not count toward them, but will only count toward this particular child's eligibility.

Generally, only earned income (through work) is exempt if the child is in school. Most of the other income for the child does count, such as child support, etc.

Hope this helps!

-The CHAMP Team

Ask The Trainer Challenge of the Month

Do you have a new or commonly asked question for the trainers? Be the **FIRST** person in April to send the trainers a question and we will highlight your agency's name and question in May's newsletter! Watch out to see if your question was selected on May 1. Email us at: askthetrainers@champ-net.org.

CHAMP Training: *NEW* Oral Health

Training

The CHAMP team is very excited to introduce the oral health curriculum as part of our Children's Health Access and Medical Program training. We have highlighted specific tips on oral health and in depth information on the dental coverage in the different health care programs. If you are interested in increasing your knowledge of oral health and the dental coverage that is available to California residents call Tricia 213-538-0778 to schedule your training.

Now that we have the new Federal Income Guidelines this is the best time to sign up for our Review and Update training! The purpose of the Review and Update training is to keep assistors abreast of changes to healthcare coverage programs. This training reinforces program information and eligibility screening concepts introduced in the CHAMP Children's class. Participants will receive the most recent programmatic and policy updates.

CHAMP-Net's County of the Month: San Luis Obispo

The County of San Luis Obispo improves and maintains community health by identifying health issues, preventing disease and injury, influencing policy development, and promoting healthy behaviors through leadership, collaborative partnerships, education, direct services, surveillance, and case management and payment for eligible indigent medical care.

Communicable Disease Control and Prevention

The Communicable Disease (CD) Control and Prevention Program works in partnership with healthcare providers and the community to protect the public from the spread of contagious diseases that could result in illness, disability or death. The CD Program also provides consultations and information on contagious diseases, offers referrals for treatment of individuals exposed to certain communicable diseases, and conducts investigations on highly transmissible conditions.

For more information contact:
SAN LUIS OBISPO Public Health
2191 Johnson Ave
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
Phone: 805-781-5500 or after hours 805-781-4550
Fax: 805-781-5543

HIV/AIDS Program

The HIV/AIDS Program works to prevent the transmission of HIV/AIDS in San Luis Obispo County and to provide care and support services to those affected by the disease. The Public Health Department contracts with community-based organizations to provide HIV prevention information to people at risk for contracting HIV, individual counseling, group education, peer education and skill-building workshops. Case management and resource assistance is made available to people with HIV/AIDS and their families including medical care, AIDS drug assistance, social services and housing programs.

For more information call: 805-781-3660
or visit the website: <http://www.asn.org>

Early Support and First Time Mothers Program

The Early Support and First Time Mothers Program improves the health of newborns by helping parents learn positive parenting skills, practice healthy behaviors and assist families in setting future goals. The program provides in home services to eligible parents, child health and development screenings, Nutritional guidance, health education and parent support. The program supports parents in staying in school and finding a job and offers health education, prenatal care and pregnancy planning

For more information call:
805-781-5500 or 800-660-3313

Child Health and Disability Prevention Program (CHDP)

CHDP San Luis Obispo County provides free health and dental check-ups to help children stay healthy, find health problems early, and answer health questions. The services delivered by CHDP include: Complete health history, head-to-toe physical exams, growth and development check, nutrition information, vision and hearing tests,

For more information call: 1-800-660-3313 or visit the website <http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/chdp/Pages/default.aspx>

The above information was obtained from San Luis Obispo Public Health Department, for further information please refer to the website <http://www.slocounty.ca.gov>