

# 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 June 2009](#)

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[AIM-California Residency Requirement Changed](#)

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



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

Hello CHAMPers,

Welcome to our June CHAMP-Net Newsletter. We hope everyone is doing well and getting ready to enjoy the warm summer ahead.

We want to remind you that the CHAMP team is available to answer questions or help you troubleshoot any scenarios regarding healthcare coverage programs. Please do not hesitate to contact us [directly](#) or visit our [website](#) for further information.

We look forward to continually supporting your outreach and enrollment needs.

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

- News & Events
  - First Annual South Los Angeles Health and Human Rights Conference
- Healthcare Coverage Program Updates
  - Kaiser Permanente Child Health Plan - Currently Closed in Orange County
  - Los Angeles County: Ability to Pay (ATP) and Outpatient Reduced-Cost Simplified Application (ORSA) Programs
- CHAMP-Net's Tip of the Month - Have a fun and safe trip!
- Ask the Trainer Question/Challenge of the Month
- CHAMP Training - Spanish Materials
- CHAMP-Net's County of the Month - San Mateo

Best,

Nabihah Basrai, Senior Program and Education Specialist

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### [\*Spotlight on: Physician Workforce Shortage Issues in Rural California Hospitals\*](#)

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

This report discusses results of a survey of federally and state designated rural hospitals regarding physician workforce recruitment issues. NHF conducted this survey per the request of the Executive Management Group of the California Hospital Association. In light of current financial stress on California hospitals and the geographic maldistribution of physicians, this survey examines retention and recruitment issues for rural hospitals in order to identify possible solutions. Eighty-six percent of California's 69 state and federally designated rural hospitals in California participated in the survey.

The survey identified the following key findings:

1. Rural Hospitals do not have sufficient physician coverage; specifically specialists and primary care physicians.
2. Rural location and the lack of spousal job opportunities deter physicians from practicing in rural areas.
3. Access to healthcare in the community is diminished due to the lack of adequate physician coverage.

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## News and Events

### First Annual South Los Angeles Health and Human Rights Conference

The First Annual South Los Angeles Health and Human Rights Conference will take place on Friday, June 5 in Los Angeles.

Location: California Science Center, Exposition Park

39th Street & Figueroa Street

Los Angeles, CA 90037

Cost: [Register for free](#)

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## Healthcare Coverage Program Updates

### Kaiser Permanente Child Health Plan Currently Closed in Orange County

We are sad to announce the closure to new enrollment in the Kaiser Permanente Child Health Plan in Orange County effective Friday, May 22, 2009.

Los Angeles County will remain open to new enrollment and is the only county open to new enrollment in Southern California.

All new KPCHP applications received in the Kaiser office in Oakland, CA after May 22nd, will be returned to sender. Agencies who submit KP Child Health Plan applications through One-E-App, will not have the ability to submit them after May 22nd.

A future reopen date has not been determined. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the CHAMP Training Team at [askthetrainers@champ-net.org](mailto:askthetrainers@champ-net.org).

### Los Angeles County - Ability to Pay (ATP) and Outpatient Reduced-Cost Simplified Application (ORSA) Programs

The Los Angeles County Department of Health Services has distributed new flyers describing how to get no-cost or low-cost medical care at county hospitals, comprehensive health centers,

4. In California, reimbursement from Medi-Cal is not adequate to cover patient care & the payer mix and population size in rural communities cannot support a specialists practice.  
5. Competition in the form of large medical groups and urban opportunities divert physicians from rural areas.  
6. Rural hospitals use creative approaches to recruit and retain physicians.  
7. The inability for rural hospitals to employ physicians serves as a

barrier and roadblock that deters physicians from practicing in rural areas.

To download the report, click [here](#). For more information about this report, contact Heather Kun at [hkun@nhfca.org](mailto:hkun@nhfca.org)

and multi-service ambulatory care centers through ORSA and ATP.

The following flyers will help individuals in need of medical care find the appropriate program and facility based on their medical needs. To download the flyers, visit [CHAMP-Net's Los Angeles County page](#) and click on Ability to Pay - Locations for ATP and Outpatient Reduced-Cost Simplified Application - Locations for ORSA.

## CHAMP-Net's Tip of the Month: Have a fun and safe trip!

Summer is a time when families like to travel, so it is important to remind them about staying healthy, especially when traveling away from home. CAAs can help by sharing these tips with families for accessing healthcare services away from home.

- Know your benefits! Find out what benefits are covered when you are away from home by contacting your healthcare coverage plan.
- Take your health insurance card! Each family member should travel with proof of their health insurance coverage, so taking your family's health insurance card(s) everywhere you travel to ensure access to services if needed during your trip.
- Locate providers! Contact your healthcare coverage plan to find out which providers, including clinics, are covered in the area where you will be traveling.

## Ask The Trainer Question of the Month

*CONGRATULATIONS TO THE COMMUNITY ACTION  
PARTNERSHIP OF KERN - FAMILY HEALTH CENTER*

*FOR ASKING THE FIRST 'ASK THE TRAINER' QUESTION IN MAY. IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR AGENCY'S NAME AND QUESTION HIGHLIGHTED IN THIS SECTION OF CHAMP-NET NEWS, MAKE SURE YOU ARE THE FIRST TO ASK A QUESTION IN JUNE! Email us at: [askthetrainers@champ-net.org](mailto:askthetrainers@champ-net.org).*

*Dear Trainer,*

I'm constantly faced with this question from families: our employer-sponsored insurance is ending at the end of the month; do we qualify for Healthy Families? What circumstances are deemed understandable and will not affect the application's approval if a child has employer-sponsored insurance?

Sincerely,

Community Action Partnership of Kern  
Family Health Center

*Hello,*

We hope you are well. Yes, families whose employer-sponsored insurance is ending do qualify for the Healthy Families Program. There are certain circumstances that allow families to be eligible for Healthy Families: 1) if families have lost or will lose employer-sponsored insurance; 2) if there have been a change in job status; 3) the family has moved; 4) benefits have ended to all employees; 5) a death, legal separation or divorce; 6) or COBRA coverage has ended, families can be eligible for the Healthy Families Program.

We hope this information helps! If you have any further questions, please let us know.

-The CHAMP Team

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## CHAMP Training: Spanish Materials

Did you know that you can access CHAMP program materials in Spanish?

For health advocates assisting families whose primary language is Spanish, this is a great tool and resource! Advocates can download the 2009 CHAMP program materials in Spanish directly from the [CHAMP-Net](#) website. These materials include: the entire CHAMP manual, helpful health coverage program handouts, program applications, sample documents, and other valuable program information. These forms can help Certified Application Assistants discuss the programs with families and assist them with eligibility information, income documentation, program deductions and much more! As always, we strive to provide you with the most up-to-date information, as such, all CHAMP program materials have been revised to include the 2009 Federal Income Guidelines and all current program changes.

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## CHAMP-Net's County of the Month: San Mateo

The San Mateo County is committed to individuals and families by promoting better health, economic self sufficiency, community and family strength, and works to ensure safety and well-being. This month, CHAMP would like to highlight some of the programs available in this county.

### **General Field Nursing**

The primary focus of the work of the General Field Nursing staff is case management, assessment, health interventions and education for families and clients of all ages. Public Health Nurses and Community Workers provide case management services in the clinic, home, community, office and/or school to promote healthy living and prevent illness. The goal is to provide clients with support services and access to community resources.

For more information, please call:  
(650) 573-2501

### **Childhood Injury Prevention Program**

Injuries are the leading cause of death among children ages 1 to 19, and most of these injuries can be prevented. The Childhood Injury Prevention Program was established to

serve as a clearinghouse and coordination center to address the issue of reducing childhood injuries in San Mateo County. Activities include outreach and education to community-based organizations, day care centers, schools, professional groups, law enforcement agencies, as well as individual citizens.

For more information, please contact:  
Patrice Christensen, PHN, Coordinator  
Phone: (650) 573-2364

**San Mateo County Immunization Program**

The San Mateo County immunization program provides general health exams and immunizations at no cost to children and youth under 18 years of age at selected clinics. The minor must be accompanied by a parent or caregiver and should bring all available immunization records with them.

For more information, please call:  
(650) 573-2877

**Women's Health Spa**

This is an interactive nutrition education program with a "Spa" theme for women of all ages. The two to three hour workshop focuses on women's health issues as they relate to nutrition. Topics of interest include: weight management, skin care, cancer, diabetes, body image, food preparation and exercise. This workshop is available to agencies serving low-income women such as shelters, clinics, church groups, senior citizen's groups and other community groups. There is no fee for this program.

For more information, please call:  
Lydia Guzman, MPH, RD  
(650) 573-2025

**Network for Healthy California**

This program focuses on nutrition education for food stamp recipients and other low-income families, with a special emphasis on prevention of chronic disease. Nutrition education presentations are available in English and Spanish to parent groups, church groups, ESL classes and other community organizations providing services in low-income communities. We produce bimonthly low-literacy nutrition bulletins in Spanish. To be

placed on the mailing list or to receive multiple copies for your clients, please call Gloria Cahuich at (650) 573-3665.

For basic information or to request services, please call:

Lydia Guzman, MPH, RD  
(650) 573-2025.

**Keller Center for Family Violence Intervention**

The Keller Center helps the victims of child abuse, elder abuse, sexual assault, and domestic violence. The Services provided include medical, emotional, social, and legal care and support. The Keller Center is nationally recognized for providing comprehensive services to victims including; emergency medical treatment, medical exams, forensic exams, child interview specialists, safety plans and patient follow-up, expert witness in court cases.

For more information, please call:  
(650) 573-2623

**Adolescent Family Life Program (AFLP)**

The Adolescent Family Life Program (AFLP) provides voluntary case management services for pregnant and parenting teens. Public Health Nurses and Community Workers provide services primarily through home visits, school visits, and other community outreach. The program is designed to enhance the health, social, economic, and educational well-being of pregnant and parenting adolescents and their children.

For more information call:  
Phone: (650) 573-2501

**Comprehensive Perinatal Services Program (CPSP)**

The purpose of CPSP is to offer prenatal and postpartum care for Medi-Cal eligible pregnant women. In addition to obstetric care, CPSP participants receive prenatal vitamins, health education, nutrition services, assistance with family, financial and personal concerns, and referrals to community agencies. Some CPSP Provider sites also offer classes of interest to pregnant women and her family. This model of care is based on evidence that pregnancy and birth outcomes improve when routine obstetric

care is enhanced with specific nutrition, health education, and psychosocial services.

For more information, please contact your local CPSP provider in San Mateo County.

The information above was obtained from the San Mateo County Department of Health website, to be linked to their website please click [here](#).

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NHF is an independent, charitable, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) corporation dedicated to improving and enhancing the healthcare of the underserved by developing and supporting innovative programs that 1) can become independently viable, 2) provide systemic solutions to gaps in healthcare access and delivery and that 3) have the potential to be replicated nationally.