

# 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.

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Hello CHAMPers!

As the holiday season quickly approaches and we look forward to new beginnings in the coming year, we will not forget this past year's events. While many of the changes have been challenging, the CHAMP Team would like to applaud your commitment and continuous efforts to ensure that our children and families have access to health care that they need to remain healthy. Cheers to another great year!

In this month's issue of CHAMP-Net News, we highlight some important topics of interest to health advocates including:

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All the best,

Marilyn Ventura, Program & Education Specialist,  
& the entire CHAMP Team

## News and Events

### Hacia Una Vida Digna y Sana: Promotora and Community Health Worker Conference

The Visión y Compromiso (VyC) coordinates a unique conference



Have a question/  
comment regarding  
CHAMP-Net or CHAMP-  
Net News? Please share  
your suggestions by  
contacting  
the CHAMP team at  
[askthetrainers@champ-net.org](mailto:askthetrainers@champ-net.org)  
or 213.538.0774. We  
look forward to hearing  
from you!

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**Spotlight on:**  
**[Pregnant and Parenting  
Teen Program](#)**  
*Each month CHAMP-Net  
News will highlight a  
current NHF project.*

National Health Foundation (NHF) provides educational sessions to pregnant and parenting teens in 7 LAUSD high schools through the Harold Cares about Your Future: Pregnant Teen and Parenting Support Program, a 10-week school-based program that combines individual and peer group educational sessions.

In the beginning of its third year, the program has diligently worked with 4 LAUSD high schools reaching out to over 59 students this fall. The participating students have since attended a series of workshops and presentations with the goal of succeeding in the following areas: avoid a subsequent pregnancy; remain in high school with the

experience that provides Promotores and Community Health Workers (CHWs) the opportunity to network, share best practices, develop leadership skills, and build their capacity as critical resources to their communities.

Date: December 4 & 5, 2009

Time: All Day

Location: Los Angeles Marriott Burbank Airport, 2500 Hollywood Way Burbank, California 91505.

Cost: For Promotoras/Community Health Workers: \$15; \$160 for non-promotras (includes 2 days)

\*Please note: this conference is conducted in Spanish. Please click [click here](#) for more information.

#### **LULAC Veterans Summit**

The League of United Latin American Citizens, the U.S. Veterans Administration and the GI Forum are hosting a free summit to address the needs of Hispanic veterans.

Date: December 3-5, 2009

Time: All Day

Location: Millenium Biltmore Hotel, 506 South Grand Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90071

Cost: Free

For more information and to register [click here](#).

#### **Childrens Hospital Los Angeles Parent University: Common Childhood Illnesses, When to Call a Doctor**

Childrens Hospital Los Angeles Parent University is a program designed to educate and empower parents with knowledge about their child's health. Open to parents of children of all ages, these **free** classes are held on the first Saturday of every month at Childrens Hospital Los Angeles. The 12-1p class is taught in English and the 1-2p session is taught with Spanish interpretation. Each class focuses on a different general pediatrics topic.

Date: December 5, 2009

Time: 12 pm to 1 pm English Session/ 1pm to 2 pm Spanish Session

Location: Page Conference Room, Ground Floor Childrens Hospital Los Angeles, 4650 W Sunset Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90027

To register, please [click here](#).

#### **The Kern County Network for Children Present: A Life Interrupted**

A Life Interrupted is a powerful and interactive program presented by the Bakersfield Police Department in partnership with families of victims who have died as the result of an automobile crash involving alcohol, drugs or unsafe driving practices by young and inexperienced drivers. The program was

goal of graduation; gain enhanced parenting abilities; and utilize appropriate health care for self and child. This December, NHF will celebrate and honor a new set of teen parents and soon-to-be parents as they graduate from the program. We thank all program partners as they have been instrumental in our continued success and sustained support to students and their families.

For more information about this program, contact Brooke Fox at [bfox@nhfca.org](mailto:bfox@nhfca.org).

conceived by the Bakersfield Police Department in 2002 in response to an increasing number of teen auto fatalities.

Date: December 8, 2009

Time: Registration begins at 8:30 a.m.; Training begins at 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Location: University Square Building, 2000 "K" Street, Room US-1 Bakersfield, CA

\*Please park in the parking structure adjacent to the building

Please register online at the [Kern County Network for Children](#).

### **Save the Date: CAA Conference 2010**

Attention all CAAs: mark your calendars! The California Partnership of Health Care Advocates (CPHA) will be holding the next CAA Conference on **March 11, 2010** at the Hyatt Regency in Orange County. Please be sure to check with [CHAMP-Net](#) for more information on how to register for the conference. See you in 2010!

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## **Healthcare Coverage Program Updates**

### **Healthy Families Program Enrollment**

Many families were placed on the wait list when they applied for the Healthy Families Program earlier in the year. These families are gradually being enrolled in the program as MRMIB works to process all of the waitlisted applications. For families that were placed on the wait list, applications are being processed based on the date they were received, with the oldest applications being processed first. Proof of income and other documentation is acceptable if its is current within 45 days of the date of application. Families will be contacted if additional information is needed. Healthcare coverage will begin 10 days after enrollment. For more information, check [CHAMP-Net](#) for updates or visit the [Healthy Families website](#).

### **Reminder: CaliforniaKids is OPEN**

We would like to remind all health advocates that CaliforniaKids (CalKids) Program is OPEN to new enrollment in Los Angeles County. CalKids is accepting [applications](#) for children ages 2-18 regardless of income, immigration status or medical condition. The premium cost is \$49 per child, per month and co-payment costs vary by service. CalKids is a great resource for families who are ineligible for other health insurance coverage programs and are looking to cover their outpatient health care costs. Note: CalKids does not cover any inpatient and vision services. For

more information about which outpatient benefits are covered and co-payment costs please click on [Summary of Benefits](#) or visit the [CaliforniaKids website](#)

Please call the Customer Service Department at (818) 755-9700 to request applications or download them [here](#). Be sure to visit [CHAMP-Net](#) for more updates.

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## CHAMP-Net's Tip of the Month: Remind Families of Limited Dental Plan Choices for New Enrollment to Healthy Families

As of November 1, 2009, the Healthy Families Program placed a limit on the dental plan choices for families who have not had any children enrolled in the program for 2 consecutive years. Children that are new to the program will have limited dental plan choices during the first 2 consecutive years of enrollment. Be sure to remind your families that if they are new to the program, they cannot choose **Delta Dental** or **Premier Access** if other dental plans are available in their county and zip code area.

However, this new change does not apply to the following if:

- The child has been **enrolled** in the Healthy Families Program **before November 1, 2009**
- The child has been **enrolled** in the Healthy Families Program for **2 consecutive years with NO break in coverage**
- **If there has been any child in the families that was previously enrolled in the Healthy Families Program for 2 consecutive years, then other children enrolling into the program are not limited to the dental plan choices.** Regardless if the child previously enrolled in the program is no longer enrolled, the family can still choose any dental plan for the newly enrolled child
- **Children who select Special Population Plan (SPP)** because the family is Native American Indian, seasonal or migrant worker

Children enrolled in Healthy Families before November 1, 2009 **are not** affected by this change. Please visit the [Healthy Families](#) website for more information.

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## Ask The Trainer Question of the Month

*Hi Trainers,*

I am 7-months pregnant and in need of dental services. I am currently covered under Medi-Cal, however, I recently heard that Medi-Cal is no longer providing coverage for dental services for adults. I am confused and unsure if my dental services will be covered. Please let me know whether or not Medi-Cal will cover for my dental services and what my approach should be if I cannot access services through my provider.

Sincerely,

*Jesse*

*Hi Jesse,*

As of July 1, 2009, Medi-Cal discontinued payment coverage for several services, including dental benefits, for adults 21 years of age and older. However, certain individuals were exempted from these changes. Pregnant women were among the exempted group that can still access dental benefits under Medi-Cal. These services include: dental exams, cleanings, gum treatment and other benefits and services to treat conditions that might cause difficulties to the pregnancy. Note: Dental and other benefits and services may also be available 60 days after the baby is born. Please refer to the [Notice of Reduction of Medi-Cal benefits](#) for more information.

If at any time, you are turned away by a provider and cannot access the services mentioned above, you can contact the Department of Health Care Services, Dental Services Division by calling the benefit toll free line (1-800 322-6384) to get referrals to other providers. For more information about the Department Of Health Care Services, please visit their [website](#).

You can also visit [CHAMP-Net](#) for further information and updates.

Sincerely,

*The CHAMP Team*

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## CHAMP Training: Oral Health Trainings

The CHAMP team is very excited to introduce its Oral Health Curriculum Trainings. In these trainings we highlight specific tips

on oral health and provide in depth information on the dental coverage provided by 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, please contact Tricia Fitzgerald at 213-538-0778 or [tfitzgerald@nhfca.org](mailto:tfitzgerald@nhfca.org) to schedule your training.

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## CHAMP-Net's County of the Month: Sacramento

The goal of the Sacramento Primary Health Services Division is to improve the health of the public at large through the provision of accessible, quality multidisciplinary health care and nutrition services. Currently, the Primary Health Services Division is comprised of five operating units:

- The Clinic Services Branch provides primary health care services to medically indigent adults and eligible adults and children, and provides public health care to all county residents.
- The Pharmacy and Support Services Branch provides pharmaceutical and medical supplies to support health and mental health programs.
- The Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program provides supplemental food and nutrition education to low income pregnant and breast feeding women, and to parents of children under five years of age.
- County Medically Indigent Service (CMIS) Case Management Program is available to provide specialty care and hospitalization for Sacramento County residents who have no other resources for healthcare and who meet the program's eligibility requirements.

Please visit the [Primary Health Services Division](#) for more information on the programs that are available to Sacramento County Residents.

**Sacramento County Mental Health** is committed to providing resources for the community to learn about and access mental health services. We are committed to increasing accessibility to information for the entire community. Please visit [here](#) for more information on the different programs available to Sacramento Residents.

The **Childhood Illness & Injury Prevention Program's** mission is to reduce the number of preventable injuries, diseases and poisonings among children under 14 years of age through education and the promotion of health and safety practices. For more information on how to apply for the program, please call (916) 875-58690 or visit the program's [webpage](#).

The **Immunization Assistance Program** provides information about immunizations and services available to children and adults in the County of Sacramento. Additionally, the program refers clients to immunization services in their area, provide consultation services to parents, community based organizations, medical providers, daycare providers, schools, hold flu clinics, and run the Perinatal Hepatitis B Outreach Program where pregnant women living with Hepatitis B receive assistance on how to protect their families from the virus. Please call (916) 875-7468 for more information.

The mission of the **Alcohol and Drug Services Division** is to promote a healthy community and reduce the harmful effects associated with alcohol and drug use, while remaining responsive to, and reflective of the diversity among individuals, families and communities. Please visit [here](#) for more information on the programs available to Sacramento County Residents.

**Healthy Kids Healthy Future** is the first regional agency administering the Healthy Kids insurance program. A collaboration between Sacramento, Colusa, El Dorado, Yuba and Placer Counties, HKHF helps low-income families with uninsured children get enrolled into health coverage programs. Healthy Kids is a children's health insurance program offering medical, dental and vision care for children from birth to age 18 in low-income families who are ineligible for Medi-Cal or Healthy Families plans. First 5 Sacramento is participating by funding the insurance costs for Sacramento County children ages birth to age five who are enrolled in the Healthy Kids program. In Sacramento County, HKHF is partnering with the Cover the Kids program who will do the actual enrollments. Cover the Kids will help you complete your child's application for health insurance in your language Call toll free (866) 850-4321 for more information.

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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.