

CHAMP-Net News

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

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

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Have a question/comment regarding CHAMP-Net or CHAMP-Net News? Please share your suggestions by contacting Nabihah Basrai at nbasrai@nhfca.org or

Happy New Year!

Dear CHAMPers,

It is with mixed emotions that I would like to tell you that today is my last day at the National Health Foundation. Over the last couple years, I have had the privilege to meet many of you personally, whether it be through working together in collaboratives or through conducting trainings.

As I move into a new chapter of my life, I don't want to miss the opportunity to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that families in our community have access to healthcare. Your work and support helps our community become healthier. I am proud to say that I had the privilege to witness the difference you all have made.

I am leaving with a feeling of sadness but excited to know that you will continue working towards helping our community to receive the support and care they need and deserve. It is people like you who make the world a better place.

Please find the following important information in this month's CHAMP-Net News:

- Events
 - 13th Annual ITUP Conference
 - National Covering Kids & Families Network's Annual Meeting
- Healthcare Coverage Program Updates
 - Medi-Cal - Mid-Year Status Reports
 - Healthy Families - No Waitlist / New Community Provider Plan Changes
- CHAMP-Net's Tip of the Month - Updating Information
- Ask the Trainer Question of the Month
- CHAMP Training - Adult Training
- CHAMP-Net's County of the Month - Santa Cruz

Best always,

Diana Andrade, Senior Program & Education Specialist

213.538.0745. We look forward to hearing from you!

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Spotlight on: Pandemic Flu Project

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

What would happen to the hospital system if the pandemic flu were to hit Los Angeles? Would there be enough beds for patients?

To answer these critical questions, the National Health Foundation has been working on a simulation model that will allow Los Angeles County hospitals to better gauge how the hospital system would be impacted if the pandemic flu were to hit.

The growing concern over unpredictable public health emergencies have led to disaster planning by hospitals and governments. However, little evidence exists to guide these planners on how surges in the numbers of patients requiring hospital care will affect local hospital systems.

For example, a pandemic flu event will create a temporary increase in demand for hospital care but it is unclear if this increase will exceed our current supply of hospital beds. NHF is working to identify how the pandemic flu would impact hospital inpatient capacity, to determine if there will be more people needing hospital services than hospitals can currently provide for, and where more

Upcoming Events

13th Annual Insure the Uninsured Project (ITUP) Conference

The 13th Annual ITUP Conference will take place on February 3-4, 2009 in Sacramento. This conference is devoted to exploring and building consensus for coverage expansion options that can be initiated by the local, state and federal levels of government as well as the private sector. The hope is to increase knowledge and encourage discussion and action towards successful, sustainable and broadly supported healthcare reform.

The conference will be held at the Sacramento Convention Center, starting with a Networking and Awards Dinner on February 3rd at 6:00 PM followed by a full day's worth of expert and engaging speakers on February 4th. For more information about the conference and a list of the speakers please [click here](#).

National Covering Kids & Families Network's Annual Meeting

The National Covering Kids & Families (NCKF) Network's Annual Meeting - *Realizing Our Vision Together* is to be held January 27-28, 2009 at the Renaissance Mayflower Hotel, 1127 Connecticut Avenue NW, Washington, DC. Member participation will determine the NCKF Network's priorities and strategies for moving forward into 2009 and for building the Network's capacity to support its work towards quality healthcare coverage, expansion, outreach, simplification and coordination. Please feel free to share this information with your partners and others who might be interested in attending the NCKF Network's Annual Meeting.

[Click here to register](#)

There is no fee to attend the Annual Meeting. Please register by January 9, 2009.

Healthcare Coverage Program Updates

Medi-Cal

Mid-Year Status Reports

The 2008-2009 California State Budget imposes Mid-Year Status Reporting for children enrolled in Medi-Cal. This means that children will be required to verify their eligibility every six months, or twice per year. The current system requires that children are only verify their eligibility for Medi-Cal annually, while adults must verify every six months. Under the new requirement, the entire case will be terminated if one member

beds need to be added to meet these expected increases.

If you have any questions about this project, please contact Andrew Barnes at abarnes@nhfca.org.

of the household fails to complete the mid-year status report. Therefore it is crucial that every family member enrolled in Medi-Cal (besides those that are exempt) submit their mid-year status report on time to ensure that nobody loses coverage.

There are some categorical and program exemptions to the new semi-annual reporting requirement, including pregnant women, foster children, Breast and Cervical Cancer Treatment Program, Cal/Works/SSI and others. The requirement does not affect Deemed Eligible (DE) newborns. For more information about implementation of this new requirement in your county, contact your local DPSS office. Check [CHAMP-Net](#) for updates about this new requirement.

Healthy Families

No Waitlist!

There will be NO freeze in Healthy Families enrollment, so you can keep enrolling children into this program.

As you know, there were talks about implementing a waitlist for the Healthy Families Program this month due to a budget shortfall. However, the First 5 California Commission will be providing \$16.8 million to MRMB, which administers the Healthy Families Program in California. This money will allow the Healthy Families Program to continue enrolling children instead of capping enrollment. We are excited and relieved that children eligible for Healthy Families will not be forced onto a waitlist.

CHAMP-Net will keep you posted about any additional information. Also, you can visit our ["What's New"](#) for updates. Make sure you bookmark this site to stay updated on all programmatic changes!

Thank you and keep up the great work!

Healthy Families 2008-2009 Community Provider Plan (CPP) Changes

As you know, when a family chooses the CPP, they save \$3 a month on their premiums. Please refer to the list of counties below for changes to the CPPs for 2009. Please note that families enrolled in the the old CPP must change their CPP to keep their discounted rates. Also note that families enrolled into the new CPP will receive premiums at a discounted rates. If families express that they are having a hard time paying premiums, you can refer them to the CPP as one way to save money.

County	Old CPP	New CPP
Colusa	Health Net EPO	Anthem Blue Cross EPO
Del Norte	Blue Cross EPO	Blue Shield EPO
Kern	Kern Family Health Care	Anthem Blue Cross EPO
Merced	Health Plan of San Joaquin	Anthem Blue Cross EPO
Sacramento	Blue Cross HMO	Molina

Solano
Tulare
Yolo
Yuba

Blue Cross EPO
Health Net HMO
Blue Cross EPO
Health Net EPO

Health Net HMO
Anthem Blue Cross EPO
Health Net HMO
Anthem Blue Cross EPO

CHAMP-Net's Tip of the Month: Update Manuals, handbooks, and materials

The New Year comes to us all with new resolutions, commitments and changes. Many of the healthcare programs we refer families to are no exception and the programs have made new commitments and changes of their own for 2009. As healthcare advocates, keeping updated on the latest policy, trainings and materials is essential to ensuring that families obtain appropriate healthcare coverage. As such, our tip of the month is to update old Healthy Families Program & Access for Infants and Mothers reference manuals, handbooks and program materials.

The new versions of the Healthy Families Program (HFP) and Access for Infants and Mothers (AIM) Program handbooks are expected to be available by February 1, 2009. The 2009 handbooks will include information about the new coverage areas, new community Provider Plans (CPP) and new premium amounts. The current information is available [here](#). Also, community health workers, advocates and Certified Application Assistants (CAA) can access the online CAA test to review and keep updated with the latest changes. It is also a good tool to utilize during team gatherings, events and meetings.

Ask The Trainer Question of the Month

Dear Trainer,

When looking at a client's Form 1040 tax form, which line on the Form 1040 tax form shows the gross income? Is line 22 the correct line? I want to make sure to determine the correct client income.

Thanks!

Jesse

Dear Jesse,

You do look at line 22, but you have to take into account the following rules when it comes to healthcare coverage programs. Please refer to the information from the Healthy Families Reference Manual below. To sum it up, you are looking at line

22, but to get the final amount for line 22, you are adding up lines 7 to 21, and any number that is negative in lines 7-21 is counted as 0. This is further explained below.

Using the 1040 to Determine Monthly Income:

To estimate the monthly income using annual income, add all of the positive amounts of lines 7 through 21 on the Form 1040. Negative amounts are counted as zero. Divide the total positive amounts by 12 to estimate the monthly gross income. Earned income receives the \$90 work expense deduction

Additional Information that you might find useful:

For self-employed persons, divide the amount on line 12 of the Form 1040 by 12 to estimate the monthly gross income. Self-employment income receives the \$90 work expense deduction.

Example: A family is using a paycheck stub to prove the mother's income. The father is self-employed and using his 1040 and Schedule C to prove his income. He reports a net profit from his business income of \$13,789. This amount is divided by 12 to determine the estimated gross monthly income of \$1,149.08.

Please refer to page 4-24 of this [link](#) to view the information above.

Hope this helps!

-The CHAMP Team

*Please do not hesitate to send us a question or comment at askthetrainers@champ-net.org. Our trainers will respond to you within 48 hours.

CHAMP Training: Adult Training

Are you encountering several adults who need healthcare services and don't know what they would qualify for? CHAMP Adult provides fundamental information on healthcare service programs available to uninsured adults (ages 19-65). Programs covered include Medi-Cal, Healthy Way LA, ORSA, ATP, PPP, HIPP and other local and state sponsored programs available to special populations in California. Participants will be able to identify which programs best fit family needs and make referrals or assist adults with appropriate healthcare service programs. If you are interested in attending this free four-hour training please contact Tricia Fitzgerald at 213-538-0778.

CHAMP-Net's County of the Month: Santa Cruz

Santa Cruz County is dedicated to protecting and enhancing the health of its residents by providing programs in public and environmental health, medical care, substance abuse prevention and treatment and mental health.

This month we would like to highlight some programs available in Santa Cruz.

Teen Health Outreach Program

This school based program provides presentations about reproductive health and connects students to services within the community. These services are designed to reach males between the ages of 13 and 18 at risk of becoming teen parents and include multi-session education classes and advocacy, individual counseling, risk assessment and free clinical services.

Through this program teens can also receive free confidential reproductive health services.

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services

The objective of this program is to help youth stay in school by providing culturally appropriate and comprehensive community based mental health services. The program uses different approaches that help families achieve their own positive outcomes.

Services provided through this program include individual, family and group therapy, family support, school based day treatment and evaluation for psychiatric hospitalization.

To receive services families may contact the access team that will provide information and referrals for mental health services for all the children who reside in Santa Cruz and have Medi-Cal.

Families can contact the access team by calling (800) 952-2335.

Adult Mental Health

In collaboration with community based organizations, this program provides supportive services to transition youth and adults in need of mental health. This program offers services targeted to individuals with serious mental illnesses.

These services are based on primary goals of promoting recovery, resilience and improved quality of life for people affected by serious mental illness.

To obtain more information about these programs and other programs available in Santa Cruz County, call (831)454-4000 or go to <http://www.santacruzhealth.org/index.htm>

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.