



CHAMP-Net News

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



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Hello CHAMPers!

Your continued dedication and commitment to ensuring that all families receive health care coverage is needed more than ever! As you may know, many more Californians are living without health insurance as many families face job loss, unemployment and hard financial times.

This month, our team would like to invite you to raise awareness and share solutions for uninsured families. We encourage all health advocates to plan, organize and work together on events that will assist families in obtaining the health coverage they, their children and loved ones deserve. Remember together we can build a healthier and safer community!

Here are a few ways you can help:

- Host an enrollment event at a local clinic, hospital or school
- Organize a health coverage forum in the community
- Distribute information about available no- and low-cost health coverage programs and services for uninsured individuals and families.

As always, don't forget to visit [CHAMP-NET](#) for more information, latest news, and highlights on public/private health care programs.

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

- [News & Events](#)
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Best,

Jeanette Peña, Program & Education Specialist

News and Events



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
or 213.538.0774. We
look forward to hearing
from you!

[Quick Links](#)

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**Spotlight on:
[Orange County
Recuperate Care
Project](#)
Each month CHAMP-Net
News will highlight a
current NHF project.**

The Orange County Recuperative Care Program officially opened its doors on January 8th in Costa Mesa to provide a clean and safe place with medical oversight for homeless individuals who are being discharged from area hospitals, but require further recovery for their illness or injury. The program for the homeless will be provided at the Costa Mesa Motor Inn, which is operated by the Illumination Foundation, a non-profit organization that addresses homelessness in Orange County through integrated services. There are 18 Orange County hospitals participating and National Health Foundation is the single point of contact for

CAA Network March Madness: Battling the 2010-2011 Budget Bea\$T

The CAA Network would like to invite all CAAs to one of three network meetings that will be held throughout Los Angeles County. The objective of the meetings will be to provide an overview of the State Budget proposals and its impact. We will discuss your reaction to the budget and advocacy strategies to address the reduction of funds for health and human services.

Dates: March 1st, 2nd & 3rd

Location: March 1st: Sun Valley; March 2nd: Long Beach; March 3rd: Citrus Valley

For more information, please contact [Shelia Claverie](#).

2010 CAA Conference-Print Your Workshop Presentations!

March is already here and CHAMP-Net would like to remind those who registered for the 2010 CAA/Health Advocate Conference that this year, the CAA Conference is going green! All workshop presentations are available for download on [CHAMP-Net](#). Please visit [here](#) to download workshop materials for the 2010 CAA/Health Advocate Conference today! See you on March 11th in Orange County!

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Healthcare Coverage Program Updates

Program Updates: State Budget

On January 8th, Governor Schwarzenegger released his proposal for the 2010-2011 state budget. The proposal included many changes and cuts to the healthcare programs and services families in our communities rely on. However the budget process is not over, and both the state legislature and Governor will make numerous proposals and adjustments before passing a final budget. In the meantime it is important to stay updated about the status of these programs and help families avoid confusion, enroll in available programs and retain and use their benefits. The CHAMP team has prepared a matrix of available healthcare coverage options that will be updated regularly to reflect any changes. You can download the matrix [here](#). For summaries and analysis of the budget proposals, the [California Budget Project](#) is an excellent resource. Remember to check [CHAMP-Net](#) regularly for program updates.

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CHAMP-Net's Tip of the Month: Income Verification

Did you know there are several ways to provide income documentation? The following documents can be used to provide income verification (except for self-employed):

- Pay stub (pay period ending within 45 days of application)
- Federal income tax return
- Employer letter

hospital referrals and facilitation of patient transfers from the hospitals to the program. Hospitals are notified within four business hours if a patient has been accepted for the program; the hospitals pay a set daily fee for the administrative service and for the medical oversight the patients will receive. The length of stay for each patient is agreed upon by the hospital and the Illumination Foundation prior to patient discharge. The patient is connected to additional resources for temporary or permanent housing, medical care, and/or other services at the time of discharge from the recuperative care program.

For more information on the Orange County Recuperative Care Program, please contact Elizabeth Yang at 714-703-1875 or evang@nhfca.org

- Affidavit

Individuals who are self employed can use the following documents to provide income verification:

- Federal tax return 1040 + Schedule C or CEZ
- Federal tax return 1040 + Schedule F
- 3 month profit loss statement

The 3 month profit loss statement can be used when the tax form is not available or does not reflect the families' current circumstances or if the family has a new business.

REMEMBER: Negative net profits count as zero! If you have any questions regarding income documentation or how to calculate income, please email the CHAMP team at askthetrainers@champ-net.org.

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Ask The Trainer Question of the Month

Dear Trainer,

Can individuals who receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits also be eligible for food stamps?

Sincerely,

Jesse

Hi Jesse,

In California, people who receive SSI benefits cannot get food stamps because the state adds extra money to the federal SSI payment instead. This additional income is also known as the supplemental security payment (SSP).

However, you may be able to get food stamps:

- While you are waiting for a decision on your SSI application
- If your application for SSI is denied; or
- If you move to another state.

Please visit the [SSA website](#) for more information.

Hope this helps!

Sincerely,

The CHAMP Team

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CHAMP Training: Orange County Trainings

If you are a Certified Application Assistant (CAA) or health advocate currently working in Orange County, please read below!

The CHAMP Team is pleased to announce March's comprehensive trainings for new and experienced Certified Application Assistants (CAAs) and health advocates to help uninsured families enroll in healthcare coverage programs. All trainings will take place at CalOptima in Orange, CA. For more information or to register for a training in Orange County,

please visit CHAMP-Net's [Upcoming Trainings](#) or contact Tricia Fitzgerald at (213) 538-0778 or tfitzgerald@nhfca.org.

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CHAMP-Net's County of the Month: Madera

The Public Health Department of Madera County protects and promotes the health of the community by means of preventive medical, sanitation, and educational services. This department is also responsible for enforcing all State and local health laws. These are some of the programs that are available to Madera County residents:

Madera County Public Health Department participates in the **Central Valley Immunization Information System**, a regional Immunization Registry. Its goal is to increase the rates of fully immunized children and reduce the number of unnecessary immunizations. For immunization schedule and a clinic listing, please click [here](#).

Madera County Public Health Department offers **free** Confidential & Anonymous HIV Testing and Counseling services. Testing is offered at regular scheduled clinics, or by appointments. Please contact the Madera County Department of Public Health at (559) 675-7627.

The Early Intervention Program(EIP) at Madera County Public Health Department is one of five projects of the Central Valley Rural Early Intervention Project. EIP has two primary goals: (1) to prolong the health and productivity of HIV-infected persons, and (2) to interrupt the transmission of HIV. For more information or to apply call 559-675-7627 or 1-800-427-6897. All services are **free**.

Madera County Public Health Department is the enrollment site for **ADAP** in Madera County. The purpose of the program is to purchase HIV related formulary drugs which cannot be paid for through other sources. For more information or to apply call 559-675-7893 or 1-800-427-6897. Please visit [here](#) for more information on any of the programs mentioned above.

The PHCA program provides free health assessments, screenings, education, counseling and referrals to persons 50 and over to help them to achieve and maintain their highest level of health and independence. Comprehensive health screenings and counseling are provided by public health nurses. Please click [here](#) for more information on the PHCA program.

Tobacco Control and Education Program provides technical assistance to school districts, health organizations, governments, and private citizens on health issues regarding tobacco prevention and environmental tobacco smoke. For more information, please click [here](#).

Kaiser Permanente Child Health Plan (KPCHP) provides affordable healthcare coverage to children in Madera County who are not eligible for government healthcare coverage, such as Medi-Cal or Healthy Families, or healthcare coverage that are paid for, in any part, by an employer. Please click [here](#) 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.