

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.

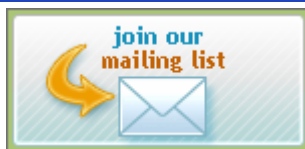
[Important Links/Information May 2009](#)

[2009-2010 Federal Income Guidelines](#)

[AIM-California Residency Requirement Changed](#)

[May 2009 CHAMP Training Schedule](#)

[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 or 213.538.0745. We

Hello CHAMPers,

I am excited to introduce this month's CHAMP-Net news and myself to you. My name is Marilyn Ventura and I am the newest member of the CHAMP team. During the past month, I have truly immersed myself in CHAMP by attending community meetings, trainings and learning about the different healthcare coverage programs. I have met many of you at community meetings and trainings and look forward to meeting many more.

As part of the CHAMP team, my goal is to promote healthcare coverage for uninsured families by providing training with up-to-date and relevant information in order to ensure healthcare access to our communities.

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

- CHAMP-Net's Tip of the Month - Ensuring Application Completion
- Ask the Trainer Question: Winner of Last Month's Challenge
- CHAMP Training - CHAMP/CAA Online Prep Course
- CHAMP-Net's County of the Month - Monterey

Best,

Marilyn Ventura, Program & Education Specialist

CHAMP-Net's Tip of the Month: Ensuring Application Completion

In recent months, many free and low-cost healthcare coverage programs have observed a high volume of applications being submitted as a result of the current economic situation facing the country. Many families have undergone a change in their family situation, for example job loss, loss of wages, decreased work hours, etc. For that reason, many families are seeking alternate care as they are faced with disenrollment from their employer sponsored health care insurance.

In view of this, it's important to note the steps a Certified Application Assistant or health advocate can take when assisting

look forward to hearing
from you!

[Quick Links](#)

[CHAMP-Net](#)

[Previous Newsletters](#)

[Ask The Trainers](#)

Spotlight on:

[National Health Foundation's New Website!](#)

The National Health Foundation's website has a new look! Please take a moment to visit the website and browse through the different projects we are currently working on. You can also view previous reports that NHF has published, make a donation, and contact staff directly on the website.

[Click here to visit the new website!](#)

Thank you! If you have any questions about the website, please contact Darrielle Ehrheart: dehrheart@nhfca.org

a family to help them receive coverage in a timely manner and minimize delays in the application process. During these difficult times, taking a few extra steps will go a long way in helping the family and the programs.

- 1) Make sure applications are correct, complete and contain the signature of the applicant (Tip: make a check list and check it off as you go through the application)
- 2) Check that all proof and needed documentation is included with the application
- 3) Keep up with the latest program updates (examples: new version of application, deductions, income guidelines, etc.)
- 4) Make sure the applicant is applying for the appropriate program (calculate family size, income and ages of family members to make appropriate determination)
- 5) Keep a log of helpline telephone numbers for each program and direct extensions of any contacts that have helped you in the past.
- 6) Keep copies and records of all applications you have assisted.

Keep up the great work and as always, keep assisting as many families to help them obtain the healthcare coverage they deserve!

Ask The Trainer Challenge/Question of the Month

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING DEPARTMENT AT THE KERN COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH FOR ASKING THE FIRST 'ASK THE TRAINER' QUESTION IN APRIL. 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 MAY! Email us at: askthetrainers@champ-net.org.

Dear Trainer,

Could you please verify this: Accelerated Enrollment only pertains to children, and not to pregnant women.

Sincerely,

Public Health Nursing

Kern County Department of Public Health

Hello,

We hope you are well. Yes, Accelerated Enrollment is for children 0-19 who have submitted the Joint Medi-Cal and Healthy Families Application and were screened for Medi-Cal at Single Point of Entry. Accelerated Enrollment is temporary free Medi-Cal coverage that the child receives until their Medi-Cal application has been processed.

If a pregnant woman requires access to health care, please refer her to a Presumptive Eligibility Provider to get her care as soon as possible. Let us know if you have any further questions.

Hope this information helps!

-The CHAMP Team

CHAMP Training: CHAMP/CAA Online Prep Course

Did you know that Enrollment Entities are reimbursed \$60 for successful applications submitted through Health-e-App by a Certified Application Assistant (CAA)? And any annual eligibility review applications leading to eligibility for another year are reimbursed at \$50 per application?

If you have staff who need to be trained and take the online course to become a CAA, NHF can help. Our two-day course provides comprehensive preparation for the CAA Online Certification Exam with a 98% pass rate! For more information or to find upcoming trainings, visit [CHAMP-Net](#) or contact Tricia Fitzgerald at 213-538-0778 or tfitzgerald@nhfca.org.

CHAMP-Net's County of the Month: Monterey

Monterey County is dedicated to promoting better health by preventing disease, promoting wellness and ensuring access to needed healthcare. This month, CHAMP would like to highlight some of the programs available in this county.

Adult Services assists individuals who have chronic and persistent mental illness (i.e. schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, and atypical psychosis) with mental health services,

medication support, case management and brokerage. The clinics listed on the website below accept Medi-Cal and services are provided in Spanish, Polish, American Sign, Tagalog, and Portuguese. Please visit the [Health Department](#) for locations.

The **Immunization Program** helps prevent the spread of diseases amongst children and adults. Without the proper immunizations, we are at risk of catching one of the vaccine preventable diseases. The Monterey County Health Department offers information, outreach and immunizations for children and adults. Please contact (831) 755-4683 for more information.

The **HIV/AIDS Prevention Program** was designed to stop the spread of HIV/AIDS through education and programs which are specifically designed to avoid infection and its efforts have been aimed at high risk populations. The programs include: outreach to substance abusers, education and prevention for people being tested at STD clinics, community awareness and outreach efforts, provide HIV testing and follow up counseling. Please visit the following sites for more information:

<http://johnxxiii.org/home/>

<http://www.mcap.org>

<http://hivinsite.ucsf.edu/InSite.jsp?page=li-07-11>

The **Managed Care Program** provides specialty mental health services for the residents in Monterey County and for those individuals who are Medi-Cal Recipients. The managed care benefits program covers the cost of specialty mental health services which are provided for individuals/families with life functioning impairments covered by the plan. Services include: assessment and psychiatric evaluation medication, individual, family and group therapy. Services are provided at no cost for individuals and families whose primary coverage is Medi-Cal with no share of cost. Please contact (888) 258-6029 for access to these services.

Alcohol and Drug Programs are conducted through community based organizations which then administers and coordinates comprehensive range of alcohol and other drug services. Services provided are: prevention, intervention, drug court, drug treatment, and narcotic replacement therapy. For more information pertaining to these programs please contact (831) 796-3066.

