

CHAMP-Net News

November 3, 2008 | Volume 2, Issue 19



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

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

[Important Links/Information](#)
November 2008

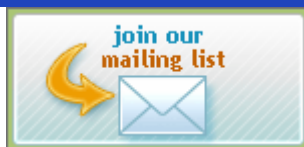
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Have a question/comment regarding CHAMP-Net or CHAMP-Net News? Please share your suggestions

Hello CHAMPers!

National Health Foundation's CHAMP Training Team is excited to announce the launch of the NEW and IMPROVED [CHAMP-Net](#). As you know, CHAMP-Net is an interactive website that allows healthcare advocates to access updated healthcare coverage program information and much more! [Click here to take a peak!](#)

There have been many changes in the healthcare field recently, with most of the changes hurting rather than helping our families. The complicated system continues to pose challenges for families wanting to access healthcare.

In the midst of all this turmoil, the CHAMP Team introduces a transformation! As we have long been promising, the birth of a new website is here! We have launched the new and improved [CHAMP-NET!](#)

We have taken your suggestions into account and hope you will find [CHAMP-NET](#) easier to navigate! The new website provides more useful information for families and will provide you with tools to better assist families!

Along with this exciting news, we are also beginning the registration for the *2008 Los Angeles County CAA Forum: A Decade of Assistance*. Please keep reading for more information and to register for this free event! We hope to see all Angelino CAA's and Health advocates there!

Here are some of the items we will cover in October's edition of CHAMP-Net News:

- 2008 CAA Forum - Los Angeles County
- Healthcare Coverage Program Updates
 - Healthy Families - Open Enrollment & Premium Increases
 - Kaiser Permanente Child Health Plan - Open in Los Angeles & Orange County
- CHAMP-Net's Tip of the Month: Native American Heritage Month / Premium Waiver
- Ask the Trainer Question of the Month
- CHAMP Training - Review & Update Training

by contacting
Nabihah Basrai at
nbasrai@nhfca.org or
213.538.0745. We
look forward to hearing
from you!

[Quick Links](#)

[CHAMP-Net](#)

[Last Month's Newsletter](#)

[Ask The Trainers](#)

***Spotlight on:
[Type 2 Diabetes
Screening and
Education Program](#)
Each month CHAMP-Net
News will highlight a
current NHF program.***

To address the rising rate of Type 2 diabetes in communities, four members of the Chronic Disease Management Consortium (CDMC) (California Hospital, Good Samaritan Hospital, Huntington Hospital and National Health Foundation) collaborated to create the Type 2 Diabetes Screening and Education Program (Diabetes Program). The Diabetes Program works to increase early identification of diabetes, promote behavioral changes that prevent its development and provide disease management education and support to patients. This community-based education project includes extensive outreach and screening efforts, prevention workshops for individuals at risk of developing diabetes, and intervention workshops for those diagnosed with diabetes. All components of the Diabetes Program draw upon existing authoritative materials and resources to provide culturally appropriate health information and education to participants. Extensive evaluation is supported by a dedicated web-

- CHAMP-Net's County of the Month: San Bernardino

Please do not hesitate to contact us with feedback regarding the new and improved CHAMP-Net. We would love to hear from you!

Sincerely,

Sara Train, Program & Education Specialist

Upcoming Events

2008 Los Angeles County CAA Forum: A Decade of Assistance

The 2008 Certified Application Assistant (CAA) Forum will take place at The California Endowment on December 16! This free, day-long event will be filled with valuable updates on healthcare program and policy and will be a great networking opportunity. Please register below and we look forward to seeing you there!

[Register for the 2008 CAA Forum on CHAMP-Net!](#)

Healthcare Coverage Program Updates

Healthy Families

Open Enrollment is coming!

As you know, Open Enrollment for the Healthy Families Program was delayed this year. This year Open Enrollment will start on November 15, 2008 and will last until December 15, 2008.

During this time families are allowed to change their health, dental and vision plans. They will receive a packet that lists the different plans that the families can choose from. Once the families have chosen their plans, they must return their packets to Healthy Families by December 31, 2008 and, if the transfer is approved, the start date for the new health plan will be February 1, 2009.

This year, Open Enrollment is especially important since some health plans in which families are currently enrolled may no longer be available. If that is the case, the families will have to choose a new health plan.

Please remember that Healthy Families has to receive the packets by December 31, 2008. If families don't select a new plan, Healthy Families will choose one for them.

If you have any questions please contact Healthy Families at 1-866-848-9166.

based data collection and reporting system. To-date, over 1,000 individuals have participated in the diabetes workshops. Preliminary analysis show positive effects on the health knowledge and behaviors of participants. In addition, intervention participants showed improved clinical outcomes such as 16% of participants moving below the hemoglobin A1c cut-off of less than 7%.

For more information on the Type 2 Diabetes Screening and Education Program or CDMC, please contact Mia Arias, MPA at marias@nhfca.org or (213) 538-0743.

Healthy Families Premiums

Starting February 1, 2009 some families will have increased monthly premiums. Families whose income indicates they are in Category B will have \$3 increase and families in Category C will have \$2 increase; families in Category A will have no change in their monthly premium.

Please visit the "What's New" section on [CHAMP-Net](#) to view more information about premium increases.

Kaiser Permanente Child Health Plan *Open in Los Angeles & Orange County!*

As many of you already know Kaiser Permanente Child Health Plan (KPCHP) is currently open in Los Angeles and Orange Counties. Uninsured children under age 19 may be eligible for KPCHP if they are not eligible for other public or private coverage and their family income is at or below 300% FIG. Children who are currently enrolled in Healthy Kids, either in Los Angeles or Orange County, are not eligible for KPCHP.

Other important information about the program:

- As of October 1, 2008, membership will be renewed at 24 months from the effective date of coverage instead of every 12 months.
- Only applications with the revision date of January 2008 and August 2008 will be processed. Effective January 1, 2009, only applications with a revision date of August 2008 will be accepted.

The newest information about KPCHP can be found [here](#).

CHAMP-Net's Tip of the Month: Native American Heritage Month

November is Native American Heritage Month, and this year's theme is "Guiding our destiny with heritage and traditions and a native prescription: balancing mind, body and spirit." With this theme in mind, let's ensure that Native American families we work with know their options regarding healthcare coverage and are enrolling into the appropriate programs, ultimately helping them better balance their health and their checkbooks.

If children 0-19 can provide proof that they are Native American, Healthy Families will waive their monthly premiums and co-payments. Please ensure that you let the family know

what proof to send in with their application.

Any one of the following documents can be used to show Native American Indian ancestry:

- Copy of American Indian enrollment document from a federally recognized tribe
- Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) from the Bureau of Indian Affairs
- Certificate of Indian Heritage from an Indian Health Service Facility operating in the State of California

If you have any questions, please contact the [CHAMP Team](#).

Ask The Trainer Question of the Month

Dear Trainer,

A client who is a father or children eligible for Medi-Cal is reluctant to apply for health care coverage for his child because he thinks that he will have to repay all the benefits if Medi-Cal finds out that he and his wife are undocumented. Can you please give me some information regarding this issue?

Thanks!

Jesse

Dear Jesse,

Thanks for your question. This is an issue that many families face. They are really worried about accessing services for their children because they think that they will have to pay them back or that getting healthcare coverage will affect their opportunity of getting a green card (commonly known as Public Charge).

When a family is applying for coverage for their children, parents don't have to provide their social security numbers as the program only takes into consideration the children's immigration status. There are a couple of things to keep in mind when talking to families about this issue. One, is that only families that provide misinformation and commit fraud will have to repay the services they used, regardless of their documentation status. And two, accessing medical care services only, such as Medi-Cal , Healthy Families, etc. will not affect the opportunity of the family to obtain their green card. Only services that provide cash assistance such as CalWorks, Supplemental Security Income, etc. may affect their immigration case.

[If you would like to obtain more information on Public Charge please click here.](#)

-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: Review & Update Training

When was the last time you attended a CHAMP Review & Update Training? If you haven't attended one lately, come learn about all of the important changes and updates we have included! We recently added information regarding the Kaiser Permanente Child Health Plan, including determining family size and family income, what forms are needed with the application, and much more! Because Kaiser Permanente's rules are slightly different from Medi-Cal and Healthy Families, we want to ensure that all health advocates have all of the updates and information they need to assist families better.

If you or anyone at your agency could benefit from this training, please contact Tricia Fitzgerald at 213.538.0778 or tfitzgerald@nhfca.org to schedule a training. We look forward to seeing you soon!

CHAMP-Net's County of the Month: San Bernardino

San Bernardino County works to build a healthier community by providing community and preventive health services, strengthening individuals and families, enhancing quality of life and valuing people. In this issue, we will highlight some programs and services available at low or no cost to San Bernardino County residents.

Healthy Kids

In San Bernardino County, the Healthy Kids Program is low-cost health insurance that provides health, dental and vision coverage to children with incomes up to 300% FIG up to their 19th birthday.

For more information and to apply over the phone, contact the bilingual enrollment assistants at Inland Empire Health Plan: 1-866-294-IEHP (4347)

Inland Empire Health Plan
303 E. Vanderbilt Way
San Bernardino, CA 92408
www.iehp.org

More Resources

The San Bernardino County Department of Public Health offers two resources to assist families, providers and advocates access the services they need. To download Where to Turn for Help, a directory of service agencies and groups to assist low-income families, [click here](#). To download a handy guide to community resources [click here](#). For more information about available services, contact the Department of Public Health at 909-387-6280.

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.