

# CHAMP-Net News

November 1, 2009 | Volume 3, Issue 11



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



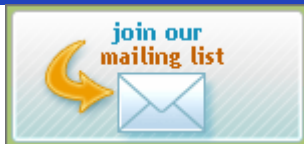
Click [here](#) to visit NHF's website.

[Important Links/Information November 2009](#)

[November 2009 CHAMP Training Schedule](#)

[Healthy Families is OPEN for enrollment](#)

[LA County Department of Public Health H1N1 Flu Resources](#)



Have a question/

Hello CHAMPers!

As the holiday season rapidly approaches, it has brought with it the start of cold weather. Getting prepared for flu and cold season is essential to maintaining a healthy lifestyle especially as there is a new flu virus, H1N1. Please share with your families the importance of being prepared for the cold season. For more information about H1N1 and FREE flu vaccines, please read the CHAMP-Net's [Tip of the Month](#) for more information on how to protect yourself and your families.

While you celebrate this November, join the CHAMP team in spotlighting [American Diabetes Month](#). Talk to families about the importance of accessing their health benefits with routine medical check-ups and the significance of being informed about health conditions that run in the family, such as diabetes, cancer, mental illness. This season, don't let families leave their health or the health of a loved one to chance. Many conditions can be prevented entirely or identified early if families know they are at risk.

We can all help in the fight against Diabetes by getting families insured and accessing benefits!

The CHAMP team wishes you and your family a healthy and wonderful Thanksgiving.

In this month's issue of CHAMP-Net News, we highlight the re-opening of the Healthy Families Program as well as many other important topics of interest to health advocates:

- [News & Events](#)
  - SEIU Local 99's Social & Economic Justice Presents the 1st Annual Community Health and Resource Fair
  - Mejor Salud, Mejor Vida/Better Health, Better Life
  - Children's Day
  - Healthy Families Program: Monitoring the Impact of the Enrollment Freeze and Waitlist
- [Healthcare Coverage Program Updates](#)
  - Healthy Families Re-Opens & Program Changes

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!

- Healthy Families & AIM Proof of Income
- Adult Medi-Cal Optional Benefits
- CaliforniaKids
- [CHAMP-Net's Tip of the Month](#) - H1N1 Vaccine Clinics
- [Ask the Trainer Question](#)
- [CHAMP Training](#) - Trainings for Parents & Community Members
- [CHAMP-Net's County of the Month](#) - Contra Costa

Best,

Jeanette Peña, Program & Education Specialist

### [Quick Links](#)

[CHAMP-Net](#)

[Previous Newsletters](#)

[Ask The Trainers](#)

***Spotlight on:  
NHF and HASC Building  
H.O.P.E for Health  
Campaign  
Each month CHAMP-Net  
News will highlight a  
current NHF project.***

In an effort to build a widespread movement to promote prevention and healthy communities, the Hospital Association of Southern California (HASC) and National Health Foundation (NHF) are launching the H.O.P.E "Hospitals Offering Prevention for Everyone" for Health Campaign. This Campaign will unite hospitals around a shared vision to improve the health of patients and communities by replicating programs developed and successfully piloted by the Los Angeles Chronic Disease Management Consortium, a multi-hospital collaborative facilitated by NHF.

Through involvement in the H.O.P.E for Health campaign,

## News and Events

### **SEIU Local 99 Presents the 1st Annual Community & Resource Fair**

Come get information about services available to students through the Los Angeles Unified School District. In addition, other vendors/services will be available with information about screening regarding health issues that affect our families and communities. There will also be activities for children. This event is *FREE*.

Date: November 7, 2009

Time: 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Location: Ahmanson Senior Center, 3990 South Menlo Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA 90037-1212

### **Mejor Salud, Mejor Vida/Better Health, Better Life**

Information and lectures in Spanish on heart, stroke, nutrition and exercise to improve your family's health. *FREE* seasonal flu shots will be provided from 1-2 pm for event participants that qualify. *FREE* lunch and child care will provided with pre-registration by **November 12, 2009** only. For more information and registration, please call 626-744-6530 or please see the [flyer](#) for more information.

Date: November 21, 2009

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Location: Villa-Parke Community Center, 363 E. Villa Street,  
Pasadena, CA

### **Children's Day: A Salute to Kids**

The San Fernando Valley Coalition on Gangs and the various City and County organizations collaborating on this significant event, would like to invite you to come and participate in the Second

hospitals can play a critical role in helping to combat the rise in chronic disease and related medical costs by providing patients and communities access to needed chronic disease preventive education, care and services. Hospitals will benefit by demonstrating a visible, measurable and meaningful impact on chronic disease in the communities they serve.

This campaign will begin with the implementation of the HELP (Healthy Eating Lifestyles Program), childhood obesity program and will progress by targeting additional chronic diseases including diabetes and cardiovascular disease.

For more information on the HOPE for Health campaign, contact Mia Arias at [marias@nhfca.org](mailto:marias@nhfca.org).

Annual San Fernando Valley **CHILDREN'S DAY, A SALUTE TO KIDS**. There will be over 150 information and resource booths! Admissions is **FREE!** Please visit the [Children's Day](#) website for more information.

Date: November 21, 2009

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Location: Woodley Park, Van Nuys, CA (located between Victory Blvd & Burbank Blvd.)

### **Healthy Families Program: Monitoring the Impact of the Enrollment Freeze and Waitlist**

Community Health Councils (CHC) / Covering Kids and Families (CKF) is launching a project to track the impact of the Healthy Families Program (HFP) enrollment freeze and waitlist in California by collecting family stories and experiences. The [Tracking Tool](#) has been developed for outreach and enrollment organizations to collect information on the experiences of the families they assisted that were placed on the HFP waitlist.

The information collected will be critical in helping inform administrators and policymakers of the impact the HFP enrollment freeze and waitlist has had on families. This includes families' experiences with the waitlist process and whether families were able to access alternative healthcare, had delayed care, or incurred any financial hardship while their children were uninsured. We have already received commitments from some of our partners statewide in collecting this information.

### **Organizational Commitments**

Please contact Michelle Wood via phone at 323-295-9372, extension 225 or via [email](#) if your organization can commit to participating in this important project. The data collected on the Tracking Tool will be reported as a summary to best assess the impact of the enrollment freeze/waitlist. Please see the [tracking tool and instructions](#) sheet for more information. We will be collecting the tracking tool forms between **now and December 7th, 2009**. We will be hosting a short informational conference call on **November 2, 2009** to share the project's broader purpose/goals, targeted counties, the tracking tool, and organizational commitments.

### **Informational Conference Call (Please RSVP)**

When: November 2, 2009

Time: 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM

Call-in Information: 712-338-7116; Access Code: 261-976-723

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## Healthcare Coverage Program Updates

### Healthy Families Program Re-Opens

As you know, the Healthy Families Program re-opened to new enrollment on September 17, 2009. Due to the number of applications on the wait list, there has been some delay in processing applications, and families on the wait list who provided income verification that is 45 days or older will be contacted by the Healthy Families Program to provide current income documentation. This does not affect families who submitted an income tax statement as income documentation.

The California Department of Health Care Services issued an All County Letter regarding the Healthy Families Wait List Issue. Please click [here](#) to read the letter along with clarification of some of the timing issues in the letter.

As a reminder, beginning November 1st, [premium increases as well as co-payment increases](#) for Categories B and C will take into affect. Families should have received letters detailing these changes. Also, effective November 1st, families that did not have any child enrolled in the HFP for at least 2 (two) consecutive years may have limited dental plan choices.

As the Healthy Families Program has gone through many changes, we applaud your continuous efforts in assisting families navigate through these difficult and challenging times. As always, the CHAMP team will continue to keep you updated on any program changes. Please visit [CHAMP-Net](#) for more information.

### Healthy Families Program and AIM: Proof of Income

The Healthy Families and AIM Program have added an additional proof of income for individuals that receive unemployment insurance income benefits. The following forms of proof are accepted:

- Pay stub,
- Award letter, **OR**
- A copy of the pay check

The pay check must include **the name of the person receiving the unemployment insurance benefits income, the amount received and the check must be within 45 days from the date Healthy Families receives the documentation.**

*Please note:* Stimulus payments are not considered income for HFP or AIM Programs. If the \$25 additional stimulus payment is included with UIB it will be subtracted from the income amount.

### **Various Medi-Cal Providers Continue to Cover Some Adult Medi-Cal Optional Benefits**

Earlier this year, the Medi-Cal program was forced to reduce certain adult benefits due to a change in state law. However, there is good news! Members of Anthem Blue Cross, Care 1st, Community Health Plan, Kaiser Permanente, L.A. Care Health Plan and Health Net will continue coverage on the following benefits:

- Audiology services
- Speech therapy services
- Incontinence creams, washes and related products
- Optometric examinations

These services will be provided at no cost when there is a medical need. If you have any questions about this information or if you are not sure about these benefit changes, please contact the member's Services Department for the health plan. Click [here](#) to view the informational flyer.

### **CaliforniaKids Update**

As of October 8, 2009 the CaliforniaKids Program has opened to new enrollment in Los Angeles County. CaliforniaKids 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.

CaliforniaKids only covers outpatient benefits and 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 visit [CHAMP-Net](#) for more updates.

[Back to top](#)

**CHAMP-Net's Tip of the Month: H1N1 Vaccine Clinics**

Flu season is here and it is important to take precautions to avoid getting sick. The CHAMP Team reminds you to:

- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve when you cough or sneeze
- Wash your hands frequently using water and soap for 20 seconds each time. Use alcohol-based hand sanitizers when water and soap aren't available
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth
- Avoid close contact with sick people
- If you or your child is sick, stay home or keep your child home so you can recover and avoid spreading illness to others
- Get an H1N1 flu vaccine. Just like the seasonal flu, it is the best protection from getting sick and protecting others from getting sick.

The Los Angeles Department of Public Health is currently offering H1N1 flu vaccine clinics for people in established priority groups who do not have a usual source of care. These groups include:

- Pregnant women,
- People who live with or care for children younger than 6 months of age,
- Health care and emergency services personnel
- Persons between the ages of 6 months through 24 years of age, and
- People from ages 25 through 64 years who have chronic health disorders or compromised immune systems.

For a list of upcoming vaccine clinics click [here](#) or visit [www.publichealth.lacounty.gov](http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov).

[Back to top](#)

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## Ask The Trainer Question of the Month

*CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CHAMP OFFICE AT THE LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR ASKING THE FIRST 'ASK THE TRAINER' QUESTION IN OCTOBER. 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 NOVEMBER! Email us at: [askthetrainers@champ-net.org](mailto:askthetrainers@champ-net.org)*

*Hi Trainers,*

I would like to know how to get the correct income from the income taxes if the parent is self employed and receives income from a rental unit?

Sincerely,

Jesse

*Hi Jesse,*

Since the parent is self-employed you will need the following forms: Income Tax Form 1040 and Schedule C (profit or loss from business). In order to calculate the monthly income:

1. Add lines 13 and 24b from the Schedule C form to line 12 of income tax form 1040
2. Next, add lines 7 through 21 of income tax form 1040 (remember to replace line 12 with the new value you calculated in step 1). Negative amounts are counted as zero.
3. Lastly, divide the total by 12. This will give you your monthly income.

Do not worry about the rental unit income, it is already accounted for on line 17 of income tax form 1040. Also, if the family does not have the appropriate forms, they can fill out a 3-month [profit/loss statement](#).

Sincerely,

*The CHAMP Team*

[Back to top](#)

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## CHAMP Training: Available to Parents & Community Members

Did you know that some cities within southern California have some of the highest numbers of uninsured in the nation? Join the

CHAMP team in getting the word out and helping our communities get informed! The CHAMP training sessions are not only for enrollment entities, they are also designed for parents and community groups who would like more information about public and private health insurance options that can help pay for their and their families' healthcare costs. The training sessions provide basic information about benefits, cost and eligibility.

If you, your group and/or organization would like more information, please contact, please contact Tricia Fitzgerald at 213.538.0778 or [tfitzgerald@nhfca.org](mailto:tfitzgerald@nhfca.org) to schedule a training. We look forward to seeing you soon!

[Back to top](#)

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### CHAMP-Net's County of the Month: Contra Costa

Contra Costa Health Services (CCHS) cares for and improves the health of all people in Contra Costa County with special attention to those who are most vulnerable to health problems. CCHS offers a number of services to promote health and health coverage programs for county residents. To download a brochure of all health coverage programs for Contra Costa County residents, click [here](#). For more information about all services offered by CCHS, visit their website:[www.cchealth.org](http://www.cchealth.org).


#### **Basic Care**

Basic Health Care is a temporary health coverage program for low-income, uninsured United States citizens or permanent legal residents of Contra Costa County ages 0-64. Medical care covered by this program is provided at Contra Costa Regional Medical Center or at one of the Health Centers located throughout the county. For more information click [here](#). To apply call 1-800-771-4270.

#### **Health Coverage Initiative**

The Health Coverage Initiative (HCI) is a health coverage program for uninsured Contra Costa County residents who meet certain eligibility rules, such as a household gross income that is below a specified amount. This program covers doctor's visits, lab tests, X-rays, prescription drugs, preventative health care and other health care services that are provided at Contra Costa Regional Medical Center (CCRMC) and Health Centers. With prior authorization, health care may be provided at La Clínica de La Raza, or Brookside Community Health Center. For more information click [here](#) or call 1-800-771-4270.

[Back to top](#)



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.