

CHAMP-Net News

Volume 2, Issue 17 | September 1, 2008

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

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



Important Links *September 2008*

[DRA Flyers for CAAs and Families](#)

[September 2008 CHAMP Training Schedule](#)

[CHAMP's Adult Healthcare Coverage Manual for 2008-2009](#)

[2008-2009 Federal Income Guidelines](#)

[Updated Handouts for 2008-2009](#)



Quick Links

[CHAMP-Net](#)

Hello CHAMPers,

It's not easy for families to get their kids back to school after a long summer break. Trendy back-to-school clothes and school supplies are a few of many items parents are concerned about during this busy time. Throughout the back-to-school rush, remind families not to overlook their children's medical needs. Ensure that parents know which immunizations their child needs, and encourage them to take their child to the doctor for an annual check-up. Healthy kids won't miss school or get their classmates or parents sick!

Here are some important items that we will cover in September's edition of CHAMP-Net News.

- CHAMP-Net Expansion
- Program Updates
 - Healthy Kids - Orange County
 - Kaiser Permanente Child Health Plan - Los Angeles & Orange County
 - Medi-Cal - Deficit Reduction Act (DRA)
- Tip of the Month: Income Documents
- CHAMP-Net's Ask the Trainer Question of the Month
- CHAMP Training: Review & Update Training
- CHAMP-Net's County of the Month: Merced

Sincerely,

Nabihah Basrai, Program & Education Specialist



CHAMP-Net Expansion!

If you haven't already heard, CHAMP-Net is expanding its services to Fresno, Imperial, Kern and Shasta Counties! We would like to thank everybody who took the time to complete our survey regarding CHAMP-Net's services. The new and improved CHAMP-Net is scheduled to launch November 2008! If you have any suggestions about the website, feel free to contact Nabihah at 213.538.0745 or e-mail nbasrai@nhfca.org. Thank you!

Program Updates

[Last Month's Newsletter](#)



[Ask The Trainers](#)

Have a question or 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 look forward to hearing from you!

Spotlight on:
Healthy Pregnancy,
Birth and
Interconception Care
Interval Project
Each month CHAMP-Net News will highlight a current NHF program.

In response to extremely elevated 2002 African American infant mortality rates in the Antelope Valley, Antelope Valley Hospital Healthy Homes was funded by the California Endowment to conduct the three year Healthy Pregnancy, Birth, and Interconception Care Interval Project (AVHPBII). This project, which began in October 2005, targeted 300 women at-risk of adverse pregnancy and birth outcomes (70% via home visits and 30% via classroom education) to encourage healthy behaviors and increase pregnancy related health knowledge and thereby improve pregnancy, birth and interconception care outcomes.

To document their program's successes and areas needing improvement, Healthy Homes hired the National Health Foundation (NHF). Over the last three years, NHF staff collaborated with Healthy Homes to develop tools to measure program success and reports to share what works and avoid pitfalls related to the pregnancy,

Healthy Kids *Orange County*

Attention all Health Advocates in Orange County: The Healthy Kids program has opened 150 slots through the One-E-App system. Currently, children on the waiting list are being contacted. Please note that no paper applications are being accepted at this time.

Healthy Kids is a healthcare program that covers children age 0 through their 19th birthday with family incomes up to 300% of the FIG. Immigration status does not matter for this program. If you have any questions regarding One-E-App please contact Dawn Mai at dmai@chioc.org or 714.347.3280. For questions regarding Healthy Kids eligibility please contact the CHAMP team at askthetrainers@champ-net.org.

And don't forget that the Kaiser Permanente Child Health Plan is currently open for enrollment in Orange County (see below). The CHAMP team can provide more information and forms for either one of these programs. Thank you for all your efforts in helping family's access healthcare services. Keep up the good work!

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

The Kaiser Permanente Child Health Plan is still open in Los Angeles and Orange Counties. This program is available for children ages 0 through 19 and does not require satisfactory immigration status. Please only submit the January 2008 version of the application. All applications must be complete with all supporting documents in order to be processed. It is very important that you double-check the application to ensure that all information is complete before sending.

If you would like more information regarding the application process, sample documents used when filling out the application, ordering applications, etc., please contact CHAMP at askthetrainers@champ-net.org.

Medi-Cal *Deficit Reduction Act (DRA) - Pregnant Women*

If a pregnant woman requires services through Medi-Cal, the fastest way for her to access these services is through Presumptive Eligibility. She should request that her case worker put her on Restricted Medi-Cal (which covers only pregnancy-related services) during the period of time where she is making a "good faith effort" in trying to comply with the DRA requirements.

birth, and interconception care intervention.

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

Individuals EXEMPT from the DRA requirements:

- Women with Presumptive Eligibility coverage
- Babies born to women who are on either full-scope or restricted Medi-Cal (deemed eligible infants)

If you have any questions regarding the DRA, please do not hesitate to contact us at askthetrainers@champ-net.org.

→ CHAMP-Net's Tip of the Month: Income Documents

Did you know that the number one reason for denied application is lack of appropriate income documents? This month we want to highlight the importance of including the proper income documents when submitting an application. Here is a list of possible documents that can be used:

- Paycheck stub (less than 45 days old)
- Letter from employer (must have the signature of the employer and state pay rate and frequency)
- Income tax forms from the year previous
- 3-month profit and loss statement (good option for people that are self employed)
- Self affidavit (use this one in the case of last resort; the programs prefer to receive one of the other options. However, if this is your only choice use it.)

If you ever have a question regarding what type of documents to submit, please contact askthetrainers@champ-net.org.

→ CHAMP-Net's Ask The Trainer Question of the Month!

Dear Trainer,

What is the fastest way for a pregnant woman to apply for medical coverage? Is it better to use the Health-e-App system or the Joint Healthy Families/Medi-Cal mail-in application? Also, what are the required documents she would need to send with the application?

Thanks!

Jesse

Dear Jesse,

The fastest way to get medical coverage for a pregnant woman is by referring her to a Presumptive Eligibility (PE) provider. When the pregnant woman goes to a PE provider, if eligible, she will be able to receive services right away. You can contact the Department of Health Services office in your county to obtain a list of PE providers in your area.

PE lasts for up to two months, so ensure that your client fills out the Medi-Cal application to continue receiving services. This application can be filled out directly at the PE providers office, or by visiting a local DPSS office. The application can take up to 45 days to process.

To submit a complete application, the applicant must also send income documentation, proof of California residency and proof of citizenship (if undocumented, she can still receive services related to her pregnancy, and if documented, may be eligible for full-scope Medi-Cal).

Regarding Health-e-App and the Joint Healthy Families/Medi-Cal mail in application, we highly recommend not using this route to enroll pregnant women. Through this system, the application is submitted to Single Point of Entry in Sacramento and it will only delay the process. The only time you may consider using this system is if you are assisting a pregnant woman and her children, but even then, Presumptive Eligibility is the best option.

We hope this information helps!

-The CHAMP Team



CHAMP Training: Review & Update Training

Has it been more than six months since you brushed up on all the changes to Medi-Cal and Healthy Families? If so, CHAMP's Review & Update Training is just what you need! This training reinforces program information and eligibility screening concepts introduced in the CHAMP Children's training. Participants will review basic information on eligibility factors (i.e. family size and calculating family income) used to pre-screen families for program eligibility and will receive the most recent programmatic and policy updates. If you are interested in learning more, attending a training or scheduling a training for your agency, please visit www.CHAMP-Net.org or call Tricia at 213-538-0778.



CHAMP-Net's County of the Month: Merced

Merced County's Health Department is committed to promoting, protecting and preserving healthy lifestyles, and a healthy environment in the multi-cultural community of Merced County, through effective health education, prudent regulation and professional health services. In this issue we will highlight some of the services provided in Merced County.

Healthy Kids

The Merced County Children's Health Initiative is currently enrolling uninsured children ages 0-18 with family income below 300% FIG who are not eligible for Medi-Cal or Healthy Families into comprehensive health care coverage. Families pay monthly premiums ranging from \$4 to \$15 and have access to medical, dental and vision services.

For more information and for eligibility screening contact:

Merced County CHI
c/o Dept of Public Health
260 E. 15th Street
Merced, CA 95340
209-381-1267

First Steps Program

This program is aimed at providing health and social services to families with children from before birth through age five. In line with other Maternal and Child Health programs, First Steps aims to assure early and continuous prenatal care for all pregnant women, especially low-income women, and to reduce the use of tobacco, alcohol and other drugs during pregnancy in order to prevent serious medical problems in the infants born to women who use these substances. First Steps free services for eligible women include:

- Health and parenting skills education
- Referrals to health care and other social services
- Interpretation and transportation for medical reasons
- Assistance with enrollment in health care coverage, including Medi-Cal and Healthy Families
- Substance abuse counseling and treatment referrals

To make a referral to the program or for more information, call the Public Health Department at (209) 381-1140.

A similar program, Young Parents Program, is available for pregnant or parenting mothers under age 19 and teen fathers under age 21 who maintain involvement with the child. To make a referral to Young Parents Program or for more information, call (209) 381-1138.

