THE CHILDREN’S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM

Essential Coverage for Children of Color

Since 1997, the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) has served as a strong, bi-partisan federal-state partnership that has reduced the number of uninsured children in the United States to an all-time low. CHIP also covers some pregnant women for pre-natal care – a vital service for women and children of color.

Congress Must Fund CHIP

While CHIP is authorized until 2019, funding expires on September 30, 2017. Some states will run out of their CHIP funds by December 2017. The Medicaid and CHIP Payment and Access Commission (MACPAC) recommends that Congress extend funding for CHIP for 5 years.

CHIP Has Narrowed the Coverage Gap for Children of Color

CHIP, together with Medicaid, have helped to narrow the coverage gap for children of color. CHIP and Medicaid cover half or more of all African American, Latino/a, and American Indian/Alaska Native children. If CHIP and Medicaid funding is cut, children of color could see coverage losses.

Health Insurance Coverage for Children of Color

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Covered through CHIP/Medicaid (%)</th>
<th>With any type of coverage (%)</th>
<th>Remaining uninsured (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian American</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indian and Alaska Native</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latino/a</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African American</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>96%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
But Disparities in Coverage Remain

Despite CHIP’s success in covering children, children of color remain more likely to be uninsured than white children.

Amongst children who are eligible for CHIP/Medicaid, but remain uncovered, 65% are children of color.

CHIP Means Better Health and Outcomes for Children of Color

Children of color are more likely to suffer from preventable and treatable chronic diseases than white children. CHIP provides critical access to preventive care and consistent treatment, so that chronic conditions that impact the life of a child can be identified early and improve health outcomes for years to come.

The rate of new diagnoses of Type 2 Diabetes in Asian American and Pacific Islander children rose 8.5% annually between 2002-2012, compared to 4.8% amongst all youth.

African American children are 4x more likely to die from asthma than white children.

Latino/a children are 1.8x more likely to be overweight than white children.

American Indian/Alaska Native children are 60% more likely to have asthma than white children.

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For works cited, please visit: