

**U.S. House and Senate Notification**  
**Friday, April 16, 2010**

**To: Congressional Health Staff**

**From: Amy Hall**  
**Director, Office of Legislation**  
**Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services**

**Re: HHS Announces Funding to Enroll Eligible American Indian and Alaska Native Kids in Health Care**

Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced grants to 41 health programs operated by the Indian Health Service; tribes and tribal organizations; and urban Indian organizations. The grants will help improve outreach and enrollment of American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) uninsured children eligible for, but not enrolled in, their state's Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Programs (CHIP).

The grants awarded today are part of a broader effort to find and enroll uninsured children who are eligible for Medicaid or CHIP but not enrolled. The Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009 (CHIPRA) set aside \$100 million between 2009 and 2013 expressly to help enroll these children, including \$10 million specifically to be awarded to Indian health providers. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services was tasked with awarding available funds to programs that best targeted geographic areas with high rates of eligible but uninsured AI/AN children, many of whom live in some of the most remote and economically depressed areas of our country.

The HHS press release can be view online at <http://www.hhs.gov/news>. The press release includes the list of grants awarded by State.

For more information about the outreach and enrollment grants, go to [www.cms.hhs.gov/CHIPRA](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/CHIPRA). General information about CHIP can be found at [www.insurekidsnow.gov](http://www.insurekidsnow.gov).

If you have any additional questions, please contact the CMS Office of Legislation. Thank you.