



Catholic
Charities
USA.®

Working to Reduce Poverty in America.

Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act (CHIPRA)

Catholic Charities USA

CHIPRA Program

- A consortium of 11 local affiliates
- CCUSA has over 1,600 member agencies and institutions nationwide providing help and creating hope for 8.5 million people
- Over 12,000 eligible children in 67 counties in ten states for \$957,617 in two years
- Each agency is a faith-based multi-purpose social service agency recognized as a leader within its community with a well-established history of public/private partnerships



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2008 Annual Survey

- 29% of people served were under the age of 18
- More than 4.9 million clients (57%) were living below the federal poverty line
- 54 agencies reported that they provided outreach to enroll 8,618 persons in health insurance

Children's Health Matters

2001 - 2005

- 84 Catholic Charities agencies and 121 CHA facilities assisted 600,000 families in completing applications for Medicaid and SCHIP
- More than 346,000 children enrolled
- 43,000 individuals were trained to assist families
- More than 1,300 health insurance training sessions for service providers
- 8500 community education events to raise awareness on the availability of free and low-cost health coverage

Target Populations

- **Immigrant families**
- **Children of migrant farmers**
- **Hispanic children**
- **Teens**, particularly those that are runaway, pregnant or parenting
- **Rural families**
- **Homeless children and youth**

Outreach Strategies

- Target linguistic minorities and immigrants, especially Latinos, employing culturally and linguistically diverse staff
- Communicate culturally relevant messages about the benefits of having health insurance
- Further simplify enrollment
- Address each family's specific needs, barriers and strengths
- Provide community outreach focused on reducing the stigma of using a public health insurance program

Community Based Outreach

- Community presentations in churches, schools, community events (e.g. *Cinco de Mayo* & KIDFEST in Wichita), and health fairs
- Local preschools, elementary, vocational and high schools
- School districts that have special departments for Migrant Education
- Shelters, Rescue Missions, Interfaith Hospitality and other agencies serving the homeless
- Events include one-on-one assistance

Outreach Example

- The Spanish Catholic Center (SCC) of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington will utilize current Montgomery County, MD programs, including its employment services, supplemental food, ESL, and medical clinic
- Distribute information on the eligibility conditions and requirements for participation, along with instruction on how to register for the program
- Utilize weekly program on Radio America to publicize services and to direct interested listeners to service locations and points of contact
- Conduct regular outreach in local Spanish-speaking parishes

Application Assistance

- Screening for CHIP and Medicaid included in intake for emergency assistance
- Individual enrollment assistance and follow-up provided
- Staff will address
 - Complexity of the enrollment process
 - Confusion about eligibility
 - Language difficulties

Sustainability

- Hartford, CT - Incorporating outreach and enrollment as routine elements of programming at family centers, school readiness, childcare and Migration and Refugee Services
- Salina, KS - Incorporating enrollment eligibility into new benefit bank software and the routine screening for youth programs will facilitate sustainability
- Wichita, KS Case manager training and the implementation of agency-wide assessment for CHIP eligibility for every child under 19 years will be SOP in all agency programming
- Virginia Beach, VA Supported by the United Way, local donations, fundraisers, local and government grants, the initiative would continue through the like-minded concern of local grantors

Performance Measures

All eleven agencies will collect the following numbers:

- Staff/volunteers trained in eligibility and enrollment
- Outreach events
- Participants reached at events
- Families assisted with eligibility determination# of applications referred

Performance Measures

- Children found eligible and successfully enrolled by target population
- Successfully enrolled children who retain eligibility at the annual redetermination
- Those referred who are denied and reasons for denial