

Community Health Improvement Partners

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Access to Care for Children Team (ACT) Report Unveiled ***Report identifies where income eligible, yet unenrolled children for Medi-Cal are located in San Diego County***

More than half of all uninsured children in California are eligible for Medi-Cal or Healthy Families, but are not enrolled. Various estimates put the number of uninsured children residing in San Diego County between 54,000 and 91,000. Community Health Improvement Partners (CHIP), in collaboration with the County of San Diego Health & Human Services Agency (HHS) has completed a report that addresses:

- Where uninsured children who are income eligible for Medi-Cal but not yet enrolled are located;
- Barriers to outreach, enrollment, utilization and retention for Medi-Cal and Healthy Families;
- Solutions to address the barriers, and;
- Comprehensive recommendations identifying next steps that can be taken to facilitate access to care for these children.

The report is available for download at www.sdchip.org (under the publications section).

The reports includes the approximate number of children income eligible for Medi-Cal but are not currently enrolled by region and uses GIS technology to compliment the analysis with maps and demographic profiles. The maps serve as guides to find those children in specific communities needing health insurance.

Guided by the maps, public-private partnerships among HHS and community based organizations can use the report's solutions and recommendations to improve the health and well-being of children by enrolling more children into publicly available health insurance programs. Report solutions also provide ways to creatively outreach to families, educate them about using preventive services and to help families retain insurance for long term coverage. Report recommendations are organized in the following three categories:

- Customer service improvements;
- Collaboration with community groups and trusted leaders, and;
- Education of parents.

*CHIP will hold a community forum on **Thursday, February 21, 2008** to unveil the Access to Care for Children Team Report. The community forum will also highlight three additional reports including: Charting the Course V Needs Assessment, Emergency Department Discharge Summary Annual Data Report, and When Words Get in the Way: A Collaborative Plan to Address Health Literacy in San Diego County.*

The Community Health Improvement Partners (www.sdchip.org) is a public-private partnership of San Diego health care systems, hospitals, community clinics, insurers, physicians, universities and community-based organizations that are committed to improved health for San Diego through collaboration and assessment.