

Covering all California Children: Getting the Job Done

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The Children's Partnership, 100% Campaign

Californians for Healthy Kids

- Launched December 14, 2004 by 100% Campaign and PICO California Project
 - Goal of Covering All Kids
 - More than 300 Supporters
- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Local CHIs | Parents |
| Business | Teachers |
| Labor | Foundations |
| Legislators | Health Providers |
| Health Plans | Consumer Advocates |
| First 5 Coalitions | |

Uninsured Children in California

- 779,000 uninsured children in California
- 55% currently eligible for Medi-Cal or Healthy Families
- In Alameda County, more than 20,000 low-income uninsured children
- Alameda Alliance for Health launched Healthy Kids in Oct. 2005 with capacity for 1,150.



2005 Legislative Effort

- AB 772 (Chan)
- SB 437 (Escutia)
- AB 1199 (Frommer)



2005 Legislative Effort

Governor vetoes AB 772 and AB 1199

“I believe that children should be insured but this bill fails to address a critical question: How to pay for it?”



Unexpected Opportunity

- Invited to join Coalition for a Healthy California in filing initiative
- Funds numerous public health initiatives
- Includes the dollars needed to ensure access to affordable coverage for all kids



The Initiative

- Called the Tobacco Tax Act of 2006
- Increases tobacco tax by \$2.60 per pack*
- Raises \$2.1 billion total
- \$371 million reserved for covering children
- November 2006 ballot

* California's current tobacco tax: \$.87/pack



The Initiative: Covering All Kids

Ensures all children have access to affordable health insurance

- Children under 19 with family incomes at or below 300% FPL, not currently eligible for MC/HF, will be eligible for Healthy Families
- Pilot projects to develop coverage strategies for children with family incomes above 300% FPL



The Initiative: Covering All Kids

Makes it easier for families to enroll their children and keep them covered

- Paperwork reduced
- Enrollment simplified and expedited, using various doors: CHDP, School Lunch, WIC
- Renewal process redesigned
- Smooth transition for children moving from CHIs to Healthy Families



The Initiative: Covering All Kids

Creates Healthy Kids Oversight and Accountability Commission

- Consumers and consumer advocates, health care providers, health plans, local CHIs, schools, business, organized labor and county agencies
- Guides implementation of the initiative
- Ensures taxpayer dollars are spent wisely



The Initiative

Timeline

- February 15, 2006: Began signature collection
 - Need 600,000 valid signatures
 - Must collect nearly 1 million
- End of April: Signatures submitted for qualifying
- November 7, 2006: Election Day



Other Efforts to Secure Children's Health Insurance this Year

- State budget process
- Legislation



Next Steps/Getting Involved

- Learn about the initiative and other efforts to secure children's health coverage
 - www.healthycalifornia.org
 - www.100percentcampaign.org
 - www.picocalifornia.org
- Call Oakland Community Organizations/PICO to get involved
 - 510-639-1444
