



# Connecting Kids to Coverage National Campaign

## MULTICULTURAL OUTREACH READY-MADE ARTICLE

Community newspapers, school newsletters, church bulletins, local community organizations, websites, and blogs are frequently in need of content. The ready-made article below can be used to help spread the word about year-round enrollment and eligibility through these channels and more!

**\*Insert your state's income limit for a family of four at 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). To find the annual FPL figure, visit [ASPE Poverty Guidelines](#). To find the specific FPL guidelines for your state, check [InsureKidsNow.gov](#) or contact your state's Medicaid or CHIP program for information. Note: The income level figure will change from year to year based on the annual release of FPL guidelines.**

*Approximately 487 Words*

### **Access to Care is Vital for Healthy Outcomes in Hispanic Children**

The health of any population is determined by several factors including the physical, emotional, socioeconomic, and environmental circumstances in which they live. For Hispanics in the US, these factors can be daily challenges often resulting in poor health outcomes especially for their children. As a result, Hispanic children have higher rates of obesity and diabetes and lower levels of physical activity as non-Hispanic white children. They also are at least twice as likely to be uninsured.

To help reverse these outcomes, it is important for Hispanic children and youth to enroll in health coverage and have access to preventive care. Children who have health coverage are shown to have better developmental outcomes, educational gains and long-term economic well-being. Through Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), Hispanic kids can get the immunizations, regular check-ups, eye exams, dental visits, mental health services, prescriptions and other care they may need to thrive at school and in life.

Medicaid and CHIP provide free or low-cost health insurance for children in families with low and moderate incomes. Each state varies in the name of the program, eligibility requirements and services offered. For example:

**CALIFORNIA - Medi-Cal** is free or low-cost health coverage for all children regardless of immigration status in the state of California. Essential health benefits include outpatient (ambulatory) services, emergency services, hospitalization, maternity and newborn care, mental health and substance use disorder services, including behavioral health treatment, prescription drugs, physical and occupational therapy, laboratory services, preventive and wellness services and chronic disease management, and oral and vision care. To find out if you qualify, you can visit your [local county human services agency](#) or over the phone by calling (800) 300-1506. You can also visit [CoveredCA.com](#).

**TEXAS** - Children in Texas without health insurance may be able to get free or low-cost health coverage from the **Texas Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) or Children's Medicaid**. Both programs cover office visits, prescription drugs, dental care, eye exams, glasses and much more. To apply, call 2-1-1.

Pick a language and then press 2. If you need help in applying, go to <https://tch-redcap.texaschildrens.org/REDCap/surveys/?s=JPJAYRLN9R> to find assistance in your local community.

**FLORIDA** - Through **Florida KidCare**, the state offers health insurance for children from birth on up. Some of the services **Florida KidCare** covers include doctor visits, check-ups and shots, hospitalizations, surgery, prescriptions, emergencies, vision and hearing screenings, dental work, and mental health. For more information about **Florida KidCare** or how to apply, go online to [www.floridakidcare.org](http://www.floridakidcare.org) or call toll-free 1-888-540-5437 (KIDS). You can also search <https://access-web.dcf.state.fl.us/CPSLookup/search.aspx> for local community partners to assist with applications.

**All three states have resources available in Spanish to make it easy for families to enroll. Visit [InsureKidsNow.gov](http://InsureKidsNow.gov) and [Espanol.InsureKidsNow.gov](http://Espanol.InsureKidsNow.gov) to find Medicaid and CHIP eligibility information for your state. To apply in person, visit <https://localhelp.healthcare.gov>.**

Families can apply any time for Medicaid and CHIP coverage for children and parents. **To learn more, call 1-800-318-2596 (TTY: 1-855-889-4325) or visit [InsureKidsNow.gov](http://InsureKidsNow.gov).**

*The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services provided this information.*