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A Project of ABC for Health, Inc.
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HealthWatch Wisconsin Update

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Read All About It

- Info on the new Milwaukee County Core Plan Application Fee Trust
- New Case Tips and the latest news on the health reform debate
- Request for Nominees for the **Health Watch Wisconsin Awards**
- and more!

Packers vs. Vikings - You Could Be There!



Health Watch Wisconsin brings you the chance to win a pair of **Green Bay Packers Tickets** to the **Packers v. Vikings game on Nov. 1!** See below for more details, and [Click here](#) for more information about Health Watch Wisconsin and the ticket drawings. Sign up today for an individual HealthWatch Wisconsin membership, and you could be a winner!

Coalition Meetings by County

Barron: TBA, 1:00-2:00pm. Barron County Workforce Resource, Inc.,

Milwaukee County BC+ Core Application Trust

The Milwaukee County BadgerCare Plus Core Plan Application Fee Trust Fund was implemented on Sept. 28 to aid Core Plan

331 S. Main St., Ste. 6, Rice Lake. Contact Mike Rust at (715) 485-8525 or miker@co.polk.wi.us with questions.

Chippewa: November 10, 10:45am-12:00pm. Chippewa County Courthouse, Room 121, 711 N. Bridge St., Chippewa Falls. Contact Rose Marsh at 1-800-400-3678 or rmarsh@co.chippewa.wi.us with questions.

Dane: October 5, 9:00-11:00am. Campus Community Partnerships, 2300 S. Park St., Ste. 1B, Madison. Contact Erin McBride at (608) 261-6939, ext. 211 or emcbride@safetyweb.org with questions.

Dunn: November 11, 11:45am-1:00pm. Red Cedar Medical Center (Education Center), 2321 Stout Rd., Menomonie. Contact Patrick Rebman at (715) 233-7309 or rebman.patrick@mayo.edu with questions.

Eau Claire: November 5, 12:00-1:30pm. Luther Hospital Cafeteria, Dining Room 1, 1221 Whipple St., Eau Claire. Contact Lou Kelsey at (715) 834-4455 or lkelseyefww@sbcglobal.net or Pat Perkins at (715) 839-4718 or pat.perkins@co.eau-claire.wi.us with questions.

Milwaukee: October 14, 9:30am-11:30am. Aurora Family Services, 3200 W. Highland Blvd., Milwaukee. Contact Kari Mattson at (414) 449-4777, ext. 145 or karim@communityadvocates.net or Tanya Atkinson at (414) 289-3749 with questions.

Milwaukee CHASE (Children's Health Access for the Special and Equal): October 14, 11:30am-1:30pm. ARC of Milwaukee, 7203 W. Center St., Milwaukee. Contact Brad Holman at (414) 266-3189 or bholman@chw.org with questions.

applicants unable to pay the \$60 fee. The trust will identify applicants who are Milwaukee residents, under 100% FPL, have a chronic medical condition and have not yet paid the fee within fifteen days of filing the application. As of Sept. 25 there were 948 such individuals. Their fees will be paid and their applications processed, and they will receive the following [letter](#) explaining the trust. The state will run a weekly assessment to identify additional qualifying applicants. The Trust Fund Work Group has provided a [fact sheet](#) meant for **enrollment partners, advocates and provider organizations only.**

BC+ Core Plan: DHS Resources

Core Plan members are beginning HMO registration. Keep this information nearby to help clients navigate this often complicated process.

Online Resources

- [To Apply Online \(ACCESS\)](#)
- [Core Plan Publications Page](#)
- [ForwardHealth Enrollment and Benefits Booklet](#)
- [BadgerCare Plus Policy Handbook \(Core Plan is Ch. 43\)](#)

Phone Support

- For questions from **applicants: The Enrollment Services Center: 1-800-291-2002**
- For questions and coordination issues from **advocates/professionals: (608)261-9305 or 1-888-415-2116.** (DHS has asked that this number not be shared with the public.)

Nominees Sought for Health Watch Awards

Health Watch Wisconsin is seeking nominees for its First Annual Health Watch Awards, to be delivered at the Third Annual Health Watch Wisconsin Conference. The Council seeks to recognize outstanding work in healthcare advocacy and service in the following categories:

- Advocate of the Year
- Legislator of the Year
- Outstanding Media Coverage Award
- Outstanding Outreach Efforts Award

To nominate someone for an award, send your name and workplace, the nominee's name and workplace, and why you think the nominee deserves to be recognized, in 200 words or less, to emcbride@safetyweb.org by October 21, 2009 at 11:59

Polk: TBA, 10:45am-12:00pm. Polk County Health Department, Conference Room A & B, 100 Polk County Plaza, Balsam Lake. Contact Mike Rust at (715) 485-8525 or miker@co.polk.wi.us with questions.

Coalitions Under Development

La Crosse: Contact Lindsey Schwarz at (608) 785-5841 or Schwarz.lindsey@co.la-crosse.wi.us with questions.

Tri-County Coalition: Winnebago, Calumet and Outagamie Counties. Sept. 16 at 9:00am at Goodwill Industries, 1800 Appleton Rd., Menasha, WI. Contact Susan Garcia Franz at susan.garciafranz@ppwi.org for more information.

Other Meeting Notices

ForwardHealth Portal Training for Providers: From June-November 2009, DHS is conducting trainings on the ForwardHealth Portal Fundamentals. Registration is required, but there is no fee to attend. There will also be a webcast posted online at the end of July for those who cannot attend the trainings. Several trainings will be held in Madison, Hayward, Appleton, Waukesha, Eau Claire, Wausau and Minocqua. For more information, including specific dates and times, please [click here](#).

Resources

Domestic Abuse Intervention Services (new website!) - Offers crisis support, shelter and advocacy to victims of domestic abuse and their families in Dane County. www.abuseintervention.com

PM.

Ops Memos

Click below for new [Ops memos](#):

- [09-51](#): Disability Determinations for Family Care
- [09-53](#) : Voluntary Health Insurance Premium Payment Program
- [09-54](#) : Well Woman Medicaid Enrollment and Renewals Now Being Handled by EM CAPO
- [09-56](#) : Asset Exemption Policy for Children

Case Tips

Case Tip: Signing Disability Applications on Another's Behalf

Individuals with disabilities who are interested in Medicaid will need to complete an Elderly, Blind, Disabled Medicaid (EBD) application along with a Medicaid Disability Application (MADA). Individuals suffering from a severe medical condition may find it impossible to complete, sign and submit the applications on their own. Therefore, advocates and providers should help locate someone to sign forms on that individual's behalf. The MA Handbook Chapter [2.5.1](#) states that when filing out the Medicaid Applications, someone "acting responsibly for the individual" may sign the forms on that individual's behalf as long as the individual is incompetent or incapacitate.

For Example: Jim, an uninsured 58 year old, suffered a brain aneurism earlier this month. He has been in a coma-like state ever since his admission to the hospital and his prognosis is poor. The nurse and social worker were unable to locate any of Jim's family. Since Jim is in an incapacitated state, the nurse can apply for Medicaid on Jim's behalf.

Case Tip: What is Considered "Health Insurance" for BC+ Core Plan?

DHS does not allow people to enroll in the BadgerCare Plus Core Plan for Adults Without Dependent Children if they have health insurance, or have had access to health insurance in the past year. But what exactly defines "health insurance"? How are employer-sponsored HIPAA plans different from COBRA? Does Aflac count? This [chart](#) from the BadgerCare Plus handbook, Ch 52.1, defines health insurance by type and tells whether that type is considered coverage for Core Plan enrollees.

For Example: Shawna elected COBRA when her

Energy Services, Inc. of Dane County: The home energy plus program can help with high energy costs. To apply for energy assistance, call (608) 267-8601. Grants are available, as well as home weatherization. For those who are homebound due to physical disability, a worker will visit the home. ESI also provides emergency after-hours assistance – just call! Call ESI for more information on qualifying and applying.

Kaiser's Consumer-Directed Health Care (CDHC) Resources: A narrated slide tutorial on principles and different models of CDHC (click here), its companion issue module on the latest research and policy analysis on CDHC (click here), and the results of Kaiser's Health Poll Search on CDHC (click here) are all available from the Kaiser Family Foundation.

Knowledge Path is a web-based guide from the Maternal and Child Health Library at Georgetown University that points to current, high-quality resources on caring for CYSHCN. Separate sections list resources on specific aspects of care and development, such as adolescent transition, advocacy, financing, and screening. To access this resource, please click here.

Wisconsin First Step can help you find resources for children birth to 21 with special needs. Staff are on-hand 24 hours a day to answer calls and can provide follow-up and materials on specific diseases or conditions. Call (800) 642-7837 with questions. Language interpretation and TTY services are available. You can also email wispubhealth@mch-hotlines.org or [visit their website](#).

Links of Interest

Catalyst Center – A national center dedicated to improving

job ended in June. It is clear from the chart that COBRA is considered health care coverage for the Core Plan, and Shawna must wait twelve months from the date her COBRA coverage ends to apply.

Save the Date: 15th Anniversary Gala

15th Anniversary Gala Celebration and Fundraiser

Date: October 22, 2009

Place: Best Western Inn on the Park, Top of the Park Ballroom, 22 S. Carroll St. Madison, WI

Time: Lecture Panel 3:00-4:00 pm; Gala Celebration 4:30-7:00 pm

Ticket Price: \$35 per person

Registration: Register [online](#) or download the [registration form](#).



The staff and students at ABC for Health are excited to celebrate ABC for Health's 15 Years of advocacy and benefits counseling for children and families. This is an opportunity for us to say thank you to our community for helping us to continue our mission of helping families and patients to get health care coverage and services.

The event will begin with a speakers' panel on the topic: "Wisconsin and Health Care Reform: Perspectives from Regulators, Policy Makers & Advocates." Featured speakers include Secretary of Health Services Karen Timberlake, Wisconsin's Commissioner of Insurance Sean Dilweg, members of the Wisconsin Legislature, and Bobby Peterson. Following the discussion, friends and supporters of ABC for Health will celebrate with music, hors d'ourves, and chances to win or bid on special items, including *the chance to win tickets to the Packers/Vikings game at Lambeau Field Nov. 1!* Comments or questions? Contact Brynne at 1-800-585-4222, ext. 210, or bmcbride@safetyweb.org.

It's Not Too Late! Renew or Begin Your HealthWatch Wisconsin Membership Today!

The new HealthWatch Wisconsin annual membership year began on July 1, 2009 and runs through June 30, 2010.

It's never been a better time to become a member of HealthWatch Wisconsin. Whether you are joining for the first time or renewing your membership, you are teaming up with an impressive new effort in Wisconsin that will work to focus and amplify the voices of health care advocates across the state. By becoming a member of HealthWatch Wisconsin, you will receive:

health care insurance and financing for CYSHCN. www.hdwg.org/

• **The Commonwealth Fund** – A private foundation working toward a high performance health system. <http://www.cmwf.org>

• **Cover the Uninsured Web site** – Organization that sponsors annual Cover the Uninsured Week. <http://covertheuninsured.org>

• **Family Voices**– Speaking on behalf of CYSHCN. www.familyvoices.org

• **Kaiser Family Foundation** – A non-profit, private operating foundation focusing on the major health care issues facing the nation. www.kff.org/

• **Parent to Parent USA** – A national non-profit organization committed to assuring access and quality in Parent to Parent support across the country. www.p2pusa.org

Events and Trainings

Training for Professionals on the Medicare Part D Benefit - Aug. 12 - Oct. 23, 2009. A series of trainings across the state for professionals working with Medicare Part D Beneficiaries. Hosted by Disability Rights Wisconsin. [Click here](#) for a schedule and registration form, and contact Linda Apple at (608) 267-0214 or apple@drwi.org for more information.

4th Annual Trainings on Brain Injury for Professionals - Oct. 8 thru Nov. 13th, 2009: The Brain Injury Association will hold a series of workshops across the state designed to inform professionals dealing with brain injury patients on the effects of and strategies for

- Access to detailed publications on advocacy strategies and tips,
- Discounted registration for conferences, events and trainings, including a HUGE discount for the annual HealthWatch Wisconsin Conference,
- Access to online and live trainings on health care coverage programs, and
- Much more!

And who can forget this BONUS: HealthWatch Wisconsin individual members qualify for regular prize drawings to win FREE deluxe indoor club seats for a **Green Bay Packers** game at Lambeau Field! [Click here](#) to register NOW!

• **Your individual membership fee is still only \$20** and ensures that you are lending your voice and passion toward developing a more comprehensive system of health care and coverage. You can be part of the solution by linking people to all available health care coverage options in Wisconsin. Visit www.healthwatchwisconsin.org to read more about the great benefits of becoming a member.

And new for 2009 to 2010: **Organizational Memberships!**

• HealthWatch Wisconsin is excited to begin offering an additional membership option: organizational memberships! You can still join the statewide HealthWatch Wisconsin organization as an individual member, but now your workplace can join as a member agency!

• In response to member requests, the HWW Council and its Executive Committee have voted to offer an organizational membership for groups that would be interested in becoming registered as member agencies under our statewide umbrella organization. You asked for this and we're excited to make it happen! If you have questions about your group or individual membership, please contact Brynne at 1-800-585-4222, ext. 210.

• For only \$75 per year, your organization can become a member of this public health group dedicated to connecting people to health care and coverage options and strengthening the public health workforce!

• Each HealthWatch Wisconsin member organization would select a representative, who would serve as the contact person for that organization. The representative will receive the emailed benefits of membership, such as detailed publications and notices for conferences and trainings, to share with others at the organization. For any training or event, the organization will be able to select ANY THREE INDIVIDUALS from their organization to attend at the discounted rate reserved for registered members. These individuals will not need to be the same three people for each event, but will need to volunteer for

assisting these clients. Registration deadlines for Oct. sessions is Aug. 21, and registration deadline for November sessions is Sept. 14. For details, contact Myrt Sieger, TBI Training Coordinator, Brain Injury Association of WI at (608) 442-0317 or siegerfam@gmail.com.

Senator Feingold Listening Session - Columbia and Dodge Counties: Oct. 5, 2009.

The Senator will continue his series of listening sessions around Wisconsin at the Waupun City Hall Auditorium, 201 E Main St., Waupun at 10:15 am and Portage Jr. High School Gymnasium, 2505 New Pinery Rd, Portage at 11:30 am. For more information, check the Senator's [website](#) or call the Middleton office at 608-828-1200.

Medicaid Madness: A Public Interest Attorney CLE Opportunity - Oct. 29, 2009.

A two-track seminar for those with a beginner's knowledge of Medicaid and more experienced advocates looking to sharpen their skills. Keynote Speaker is Sarah Somers of the National Health Law Program (NHELP). American Family Insurance Corporate Headquarters, 6000 American Pkwy, Madison, WI, 9:00am-4:45pm. Registration begins at 8:30am. To register, call the State Bar at 1-800-728-7788. Public Interest Law Section Members: \$50.00. Non-Section Members: \$90.00. Non-Attorney Advocates \$65.00. CLE credit opportunity: up to 6 credits.

New Materials

Read the health reform bills: The National Health Law Program (NHELP) posted the most recently released drafts of the [Senate Finance Committee's bill](#), the HELP

or be employed by the organization that holds the membership. No member organization or its employees/volunteers will be eligible for the Packers Tickets Prize Drawings, unless otherwise registered as an individual member for the current membership year.

Register your organization **today** to get the most out of your membership!

■ CKSN Corner ■

Covering Kids with Special Needs



Mark Your Calendars Now

Check Out These Excellent Events in 2009!

- **InControl Wisconsin Conference on Self-Determination - Oct. 12-14.** Hyatt Regency Milwaukee, 333 West Kilbourn, Milwaukee. Conference for adults with disabilities and youth in transition on self-determination and supports in Wisconsin. Contact Fil Clissa at (608)266-5395 or fil.clissa@wisconsin.gov or visit the [website](#) for more information.
- **"Did You Know? Now You Know" Workshop - Oct. 21 AND Nov. 4.** A training on health care and community supports for children with special health care needs. 4:00p.m. - 8:30p.m. at the Salem Public Library, Salem, WI. The event is free but registration is required. Registration deadline is Oct. 14. Contact Brad Holman at 414-266-3189 or bholman@chw.org for more information.
- **Autism Society of Southeastern Wisconsin Parenting Series - Oct. 17 through May 15,** Nicolet High School, D-Wing Library, Glendale, WI, 9:30-11:30am. October's topic: No More Meltdowns. Call (414)427-9345 or email info@assew.org to register.
- **Wisconsin Community on Transition - Oct. 22,** 9:00am, Goodman Community Center, Madison. The topic for this event will be family involvement. To RSVP,

Committee's [Affordable Health Choices Act](#) and the House Tri-Committee's [HR 3200](#). For a section-by-section summary of the House bill, [click here](#).

The Colorado Health Institute has compiled a series of nonpartisan resources about the health care plan proposals before Congress.

The Catalyst Center released a new brief on [The Essential Components of Health Care Reform for Children With Special Health Care Needs](#).

The Center for Health Care Strategies released several briefs that explore identification and measurement strategies for beneficiaries with complex needs, including [Using Initial Health Screens to Select and Identify New Medicaid Beneficiaries with Care Management Needs](#) and [Measurement Strategies for Beneficiaries with Complex Needs](#).

The Kaiser Family Foundation's interactive [side-by-side health reform comparison tool](#) now includes the proposal from the Senate Finance Committee. Kaiser also offers a [Health Reform Subsidy Calculator](#) that allows users to calculate potential subsidies for individuals purchasing insurance based upon the proposed plan selected.

Calls for Submissions and Volunteers

The Autism Society of Wisconsin invites proposals for presentations at the 2010 Annual Conference, to be held Thursday through Saturday March 18-20, 2010, at the Hotel Sierra/KI Convention Center in Green Bay, WI. Conference planners try to provide information

please contact Sandy Hall at sghall@matcmadison.edu. The parking code is 3111. For more information about the Wisconsin Committee, please visit www.sharedwork.org and look under Community on Transition, Wisconsin; you will need to register on the [Web site](#).

- **ASW Fall Conference - November 4 and 5**, Hotel Sierra, Green Bay. Presenters Breanda Smith Myles, Ruth Aspy and Barry Grossman will speak on "The Ziggurat Model: A Framework for Designing Comprehensive Interventions for Individuals with High-Functioning Autism and Asperger Syndrome." Contact Jane Pribek at jpribek@asw4autism.org or at 920-973-4080 for more information.
- **20th Children Come First Conference - November 16 and 17**, Kalahari Resorts and Convention Center, Wisconsin Dells, WI. Theme this year: Ready, Set, Relationship! Featuring keynote speakers Barry Duncan, PsyD., a therapist, trainer, and Co-Director of the Institute for the Study of Therapeutic Change. He has over one hundred publications and fourteen books, and has appeared on *Oprah* and *The View*. Lucille Eber, Ed.D, is the State Director of the Illinois Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) Network. Dr. Eber coordinates technical assistance and evaluation in over 900 IL schools, and regularly publishes articles and chapters on wraparound, interagency systems of care and school-wide behavior supports. For more information, check www.wifamilyties.org after July 15.
- **Youth In Partnership with Parents for Employment (YIPPE) - SPACE STILL AVAILABLE**. This is a FREE five-part leadership training for youth with disabilities ages 15-20 and their parents. The training focuses on transition issues for youth entering the workforce and emphasizes building leadership skills. Families should commit to all five sessions. Location: Wintergreen Resort and Conference Center, Wisconsin Dells, WI. The training will be held on one weekend per month beginning Oct. 9-10, 2009 and ending April 23-24, 2010. Contact Phyllis Voelker at (877)844-4925 or Phyllis@banbury.com to apply. Read the program brochure [here](#).
- **ASW Annual Conference: "Positively Autism" - March 18-20, 2010**, Keynote speakers include Paula Kluth, Ph.D., Temple Grandin, Ph.D. and Eric Courchesne, Ph.D. Early Bird registration open until November 25, 2009. For more information, visit www.asw4autism.org.

Marysa's Section: Inclusion and Special Needs Children

The debate over how to best educate special needs children

to people new to autism at a beginner level to those with more advanced experience. Concurrent sessions will be offered; presentations will be one and one quarter hours each. 700-1250 people have attended previous conferences. Find Early Bird registration materials in the upcoming Fall newsletter and on the [website](#), and submit completed applications no later than Sept. 30 to ASW Conference, P.O. Box 165, Two Rivers, WI 54241 or fax to 888-836-4082. You may also email your application to jpribek@asw4autism.org

[WI FACETS](#) seeks feedback from parents involved in the Birth to Three and Special Education Programs in Wisconsin. Responses to this survey will be considered and/or referenced during a visit by the US Dept. of Education on November 30. [Click here](#) to take the survey, either B or C depending on your child's program, or call WI FACETS toll-free to 877-374-0511 to take the survey by phone or request a hard copy.

Help Wanted

Full-time attorney, The National Health Law Program: NHeLP's Washington, D.C. office seeks a full-time attorney with at least three years of experience. Emphasis on preserving and expanding health care coverage, access and quality for low-income people, especially the elderly and those with disabilities or chronic illness. The work will involve a broad range of advocacy on Medicaid issues as well as health information technology and language access issues. The position will also include a training component, with related travel, and some litigation. Salary is based on experience. NHeLP is an equal

goes back dozens of years, and affects areas from school funding to basic human rights. A September 27 article in *Business Week* asks "[Do Kids with Disabilities Strain or Strengthen Our Schools?](#)" and reignited debate between those who support inclusion--the policy of implementing the child into the learning community as much as possible, and those who argue that in a poor economy of dwindling education funds and rising health care costs, educating special needs children puts an undue financial burden on everyone else. One filmmaker hopes to address those concerns this month with the debut of his PBS documentary, "Including Samuel." Dan Habib, a photographer whose son has cerebral palsy, spent four years making the film, which chronicles the struggles of his and four other families with special needs children. The film has screened across the U.S. at schools, community centers and disability rights centers, and internationally, from Iraq to Belgium. It will air on multiple [PBS stations](#) in upcoming weeks, including Milwaukee Public Television on Oct. 9. For more information on the film, including screening discussion toolkits, a trailer, and other resources on inclusion and disability rights, [click here](#).

NEWS: Health Care in Wisconsin

Use the links below to access recent news on health care and coverage in Wisconsin:

- [Study: Green Bay Area Health Costs Increase, But Overall, They're Still Below State, National Averages - by Tony Walter for *The Green Bay Press-Gazette*, September 28](#)
- [Stretching the Limit: Medical Advancements, Technology Make \\$1 Million Lifetime Cap On Insurance Coverage a Growing Problem - by Ellen Gabler for *The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, September 26](#)
- [Falk's Budget to Propose Mental Health Crisis Center - by Matthew DeFour for *The Wisconsin State Journal*, September 25](#)
- [Kind to Seek Eighth Term, Focus on Health Care Reform - by Chris Hubbuch for *The La Crosse Tribune*, September 25](#)
- [UW Students Still Face Health Care Obstacles - by Ryan Hebel for *The Daily Cardinal*, September 24](#)
- [Press Release: Bill to Protect Medicare Beneficiaries Passes House - Rep. Dave Obey, September 24](#)
- [Press Release: Baldwin Strengthens Health Care Reform Legislation - Rep. Tammy Baldwin](#)
- [New BadgerCare Program May Save County Money - by Stephanie Brien for *The Journal Times*, September 23](#)
- [Press Release: Wisconsin Health Care For American Now Protests Health Insurance CEO's Appearance in Milwaukee - WI Health Care For American Now, September 22](#)
- [County Alters Health Insurance for Retired Employees - by Joe Potente for *Kenosha News*, September 21](#)

opportunity employer. Interested applicants should submit a resume and cover letter by email to Gabriella Rodriguez at nhelpdc@healthlaw.org.

Policy Analyst, Wisconsin Council on Children and Families. The Wisconsin Council on Children and Families is seeking a part-time policy analyst to assist with researching and analyzing state fiscal issues and their effects on families and children and writing research and policy briefs to educate state lawmakers and leaders. Candidate should have a master's degree in public policy, economics or related field or a bachelor's degree and related experience, excellent writing skills, and the ability to translate complex information into reports and briefs. To apply, email cover letter, resume, a writing sample, and two references to jmoeser@wccf.org. See a full job profile [here](#).

Customer Service Representatives, Automated Health Systems. Part time and full time needed for Madison office. Knowledge of BadgerCare Plus and Forward Health Programs desired. HS Diploma/GED required, Associates degree preferred. Bilingual Spanish a plus. For more information, contact Katie Stewart, HR Specialist/Recruiter, at (800)506-3032 ext. 2361. \$12/hr. Apply to hr@automated-health.com or online at www.automated-health.com, or fax resumes to 412-367-1131.

Previous Issues of the Update: (in PDF form)

[September 15](#)

[September 1](#)

- [9% of State Residents Lack Health Insurance - by Bill Glauber and Poston for *The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, September 21](#)
- [Single-Payer Health Care on Life Support - by Shawn Doherty for *The Capital Times*, September 21](#)
- [Wisconsin Uninsured Ranks Grow 31% Since 2001- by Corrine Hess for *Milwaukee Business Journal*, September 16](#)
- [State Health Care Problem Troubles County - by Steve Shultz for *The Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel*, September 16](#)
- [Health Care Premiums Rise 5%, Beating Inflation Again - by Guy Boulton for the *Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel*, September 15](#)

NEWS: Health Care Reform

Follow the links below to access recent news articles on reforming the health care system:

- [The Finance Committee Continues its Health Bill Mark-Up, and October Recess Is Cancelled - *Kaiser Health News*, September 30](#)
- [Michael Moore Warns Dems to Support Health Reform - by Stephanie Condon for *CBS News*, September 30](#)
- [Public Option Fate in Obama's Hands - by Carrie Budoff Brown for *Politico*, September 30](#)
- [Senate Panel Rejects a 'Public Option' in Health Plan - by David M. Herzenhorn for *The New York Times*, September 29](#)
- [Public Option May Have New Life - by Carrie Budoff Brown and Patrick O'Connor for *Politico*, September 29](#)
- [In Some States, A Push To Ban Mandate On Insurance - by Monica Davey for *The New York Times*, September 29](#)
- [Reid the Quarterback May Call on Obama to Referee - by David M. Herzenhorn and Robert Pear for *The New York Times*, September 28](#)
- [Obama's Deal With Drug Firms Survives - by Ceci Connolly for *The Washington Post*, September 25](#)
- [Overhaul Divides Business and its Traditional GOP Allies - by Neil King Jr. for *The Wall Street Journal*, September 25](#)
- [Pelosi Presses For a Public Option - by Greg Hitt and Janet Adamy for *The Wall Street Journal*, September 25](#)
- [Senators Reject Bid to Cut Drug Prices for Low-Income Seniors - *The Wall Street Journal*, September 24](#)
- [Health On the Hill: Baucus Asks Finance Committee for Truman-like 'Courage' - *Kaiser Health News*, September 24](#)
- [Mandate Minus Price Controls May Increase Healthcare Costs - by Noam N. Levy and James Oliphant for *The Los Angeles Times*, September 24](#)
- [Press Release: Vice President Biden, Secretary Sebelius Issue New Report on Seniors and Health Insurance](#)

[August 15](#)[August 1](#)[July 15](#)[July 1](#)[June 15](#)[June 1](#)[May 15](#)[May 1](#)[April 15](#)[April 1](#)[March 15](#)[March 1](#)[February 15](#)[February 1](#)[January 15](#)

All other issues can be viewed on our website at www.healthwatchwisconsin.org, under the "HWW Update" heading.

HealthWatch WatchDog Episode Archive:

Watch Season 1 episodes at www.healthwatchwisconsin.org

Season 2:

Episode 1: ["Legislative Reform"](#)

Episode 2: ["State of the State"](#)

[Reform - Dept. of Health and Human Services, September 23](#)

- [Pelosi, House Dems Finding Compromise on Health Bills Difficult - Kaiser Health News, September 22](#)
- [Baucus Bill Doesn't Bend Cost Curve Enough, Experts Say - by Mary Agnes Cary and Eric Pianen for Kaiser Health News, September 23](#)
- [GOP Assails Health Plan Mandate - by Greg Hitt and Janet Adamy for The Wall Street Journal, September 23](#)
- [Senate Finance Committee Press Release on Bill Modifications - Kaiser Health News, September 22](#)
- [Senators Start Work on Revised Health Care Bill - by Erica Werner for Associated Press, September 22](#)
- [Obama Insists That Health Care Will Be Affordable - by Jeff Zeleny and Robert Pear for The New York Times, September 21](#)
- [Tax on 'Cadillac Plans' Draws Flak - by Janet Adamy and Greg Hitt for The Wall Street Journal, September 19](#)
- [Sixty-Five Views of HC Reform, One Big Trend - by Charles Franklin for Pollster.com, September 18](#)
- [Obama to Speed Up Tort Reform Tests, But Doctors Want More - by Ceci Connolly for The Washington Post, September 18](#)
- [Transcript: Obama at Health Care Rally 'Fired Up and Ready to Go' - Kaiser Health News, September 17](#)
- [Chasm in Congress Over How Much Individuals Should Pay for Health Care - by Jordan Rau for Kaiser Health News, September 17](#)
- [Baucus Bill In at \\$774 Billion, Would Reduce Deficit by Nearly \\$50 Billion Over a Decade - Kaiser Health News, September 17](#)
- [Magic Number for Democrats in Senate is 60 - by Carl Hulse for The New York Times, September 17](#)
- [Breaking Down the Baucus Bill - by Carrie Budoff Brown and Patrick O'Connor for Politico, September 17](#)
- [Max Baucus Releases Health Care Bill - by Carrie Budoff Brown for Politico, September 16](#)
- [Young Adults Likely to Pay Big Share of Reform's Cost - by Shailagh Murray for The Washington Post, September 16](#)
- [Mandated Health Insurance Squeezes Those in the Middle - by Vanessa Fuhrmans for The Wall Street Journal, September 16](#)
- [Press Release: The New Numbers: Health Insurance Reform Cannot Wait - Dept. of Health and Human Services, September 16](#)

News: Opinion

Click below for editorials and opinion pieces about health care reform:

[Health News, September 17](#)

- [Average Family Health Insurance Policy: \\$13,375, up 5% - by John Fritze for USA Today, September 16](#)

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- [Geography Makes a Difference in Health Coverage - by Mike Schneider for Associated Press, September 24](#)
- [Who Are The Uninsured and Where Do They Live? - Kaiser Health News, September 23](#)
- [Facing Aging Without Insurance - by Debbie Elliott for NPR News, September 21](#)
- [Illinois Court to Weigh How Much Charity Nonprofit Hospitals Must Perform - Kaiser Health News, September 21](#)
- [Harvard Study: 45,000 Deaths Linked to Lack of Insurance - Denver Business Journal, September 18](#)

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ABC for Health, Inc. is a Wisconsin-based, nonprofit public interest law firm dedicated to linking children and families, particularly those with special health care needs, to health care benefits and services. ABC for Health's mission is to provide information, advocacy tools, legal services, and expert support needed to obtain, maintain, and finance

NEWS: Mental Health and AODA

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- [Some Find UW Mental Health Care Limited - by Ryan Hebel for The Daily Cardinal, September 30](#)
- [Press Release: Over 70 House Members Call For Strong, Timely Parity Regulations - Mental Health America, September 29](#)
- [Top Official Calls for Quicker, Improved Response to Military Mental Health Needs - Kaiser Health News, September 17](#)

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- [National Review: Special Education Needs Help - by Jay P. Greene for NPR, September 15](#)

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[in Recovery Act Funds to Expand the Use of Health Information Technology - Dept. of Health and Human Services, September 29](#)

- [Press Release: Secretary Sebelius Announces Medicare to Join State-Based Healthcare Delivery System Reform Initiatives - Dept. of Health of Human Services, September 16](#)

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