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A Project of ABC for Health, Inc.
www.healthwatchwisconsin.org
info@healthwatchwisconsin.org

HealthWatch Wisconsin Update

Please click here to view the PDF version on our Web site.

October 15 , 2009

Volume 5, Number 19

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Read All About It

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- ABC for Health 15th Anniversary Gala - HealthWatch Wisconsin individual members can **win Packers/Vikings tickets!**
- New case tips, legislative developments and the latest news

Health Insurance Case Moves Forward

Supreme Court Nixes American Family Appeal

On October 7, The United States Supreme Court upheld the decision of the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals in the case of Mondry v. American Family Insurance, when they denied American Family the right to re-argue the case. Sharon Mondry and her young son sued the insurance company when they failed to produce the written documents used to deny her son's speech therapy. ABC for Health has assisted the Mondrys and litigated on their behalf during the six-year ordeal. [Click here](#) to read the press release from ABC for Health. [Click here](#) to read the decision by the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals. Read David Wahlberg's coverage of the case for the *Wisconsin State Journal* [here](#).

15th Anniversary Gala: Educate and Celebrate!

Health Reform Panel and 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



Coalition Meetings by County

Barron: TBA, 1:00-2:00pm. Barron County Workforce Resource, Inc., 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 rmrsh@co.chippewa.wi.us with questions.

Dane: November 2, 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: November 11, 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): November 19, 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.

Time: Panel: Wisconsin and Health Care Reform: Perspectives from Regulators, Policymakers and Advocates, featuring DHS Secretary Timberlake, OCI Commissioner Dilweg, State Senator Mark Miller and Representative Donna Seidel 3:00-4:00 pm;
Gala Celebration 4:30-7:00 pm

Ticket Price: \$35 per person

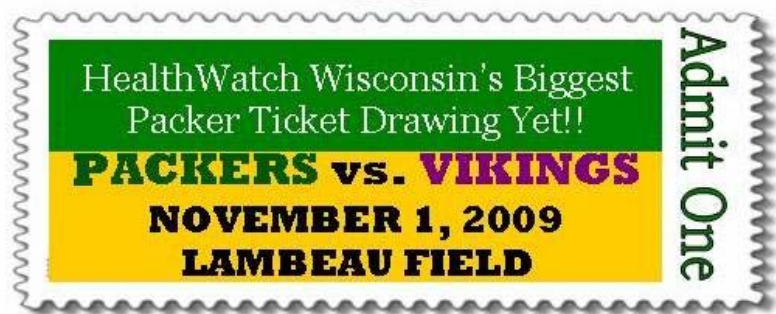
Registration: Register [online](#) or download the [registration form](#).

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.

Packers vs. Vikings - You Could Be There!



Health Watch Wisconsin brings members the chance to win a pair of **Green Bay Packers Tickets** to the **Packers v. Vikings game on Nov. 1!** We will draw the winning tickets at our 15th Anniversary Gala on **October 22**. All individual members of Health Watch Wisconsin are eligible for the drawing--**and there is still time to join!**

Health Watch Wisconsin members benefit from:

- Access to detailed publications on advocacy strategies and

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. TBA. 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

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

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!

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. And new for 2009: your workplace can purchase an **organizational membership for just \$75**. [Click here](#) for more information about Health Watch Wisconsin and the ticket drawings, or call Brynne at 1-800-585-4222 ext. 210. Sign up by Wednesday, October 21 at midnight for an individual Health Watch Wisconsin membership, and you could be a winner!

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 bmcbride@safetyweb.org by October 21, 2009 at 11:59 PM.

Case Tips

Case Tip: Streamlining Coverage for Emergency Medical Assistance

Individuals interested in Emergency Medical Assistance (EMA) have two hurdles to climb. First, the individual must be eligible for EMA by meeting the financial and non-financial eligibility requirements for BadgerCare Plus or EBD Medicaid except for the fact that they are not US citizens (EMA is for non-qualified immigrants only.) Secondly, the individual's claim must be deemed an emergency in order for their medical bills to get paid by Medicaid. To assist individuals in clearing this second hurdle, advocates at ABC for Health suggest that providers take steps

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 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>

to always include medical documentation with the claim when submitting for payment under EMA. This makes it possible for EDS/State to determine whether the services will be covered by Medicaid and overall, makes the process more streamlined and efficient.

Case Tip: Searching for Information Beyond the Past Year in Forward Health

You can use the [Forward Health Portal](#) to look up a client’s information for more than one year in the past. Now, you can search as far back as you need to, as long as the search start and end dates are not longer than one year.

Example: Julie wants to see if a client has received medical assistance in the past five years. She searches for each year in Forward Health, entering the information she has for the client and setting the start and end dates first as 01/01/2004 to 12/31/2004, then 01/01/2005 to 12/31/2005, and so on.

BC+ Core Plan: DHS Resources

Note: DHS is no longer enrolling new Core Plan members as of Oct. 9. However, the state is maintaining a waiting list for the program and individuals are still encouraged to apply for a spot on the list. (The \$60 fee is not required to be added to the waiting list).

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.)

• **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 applel@drwi.org for more information.

Senator Feingold Listening Sessions - Oct. 16 and 18, 2009. Senator Feingold will hold listening sessions in Vilas and Oneida Counties on Oct. 16: 11:45 am, Elder Dining Room, Minobimaadiziwin Wellness Center, 125 Old Abe Rd/Hwy 47, Lac du Flambeau; and 2:30 pm, Raymond Sloan Community Center, 7246 Main St., Lake Tomahawk. He will hold a listening session in Green Lake County on Oct. 18: 11:00 am, Brooklyn Town Hall, N5988 County Road A, Brooklyn, WI. For more information, visit Senator Feingold's [website](#).

Ops Memos

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

- [09-61](#): Clarification of Local Agency Responsibilities for FoodShare Applicants and Members Who Are Adults Without Dependent Children
- [09-59](#): Addressing Problems with Payment Reductions in CARES
- [09-58](#): Medicaid for the Elderly, Blind and Disabled Plus Core Plan - [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [09-57](#): End of 5-Year Residency Requirement for Certain Qualified Immigrant Children and Pregnant Women Applying for Medicaid and BadgerCare Plus

Update from OCI

Click to read more about this updated information on group health insurance and COBRA from the WI Office of the Commissioner of Insurance:

- [Section Ins 3.75, Wis. Adm. Code - continuing group health insurance coverage for federal assistance eligible individuals](#)
- [Press Release](#)

■ CKSN Corner ■ Covering Kids with Special Needs



Mark Your Calendars Now

Check Out These Excellent Events in 2009!

- **"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

Health Literacy Discussion and Book Fair - Oct. 17, 6pm, Barnes and Noble West, 7433 Mineral Point Rd, Madison. Sponsored by the Literacy Network of Dane County in recognition of Health Literacy Month. The Literacy Network will host local authors Steve Busalacchi (*White Coat Wisdom*) and Dick Edwards (*Mom, Dad...Can We Talk?*) and Dr. Paul Smith, Associate Professor in the Dept. of Family Medicine, UW-Madison and leading health literacy advocate, for a reading and discussion. Barnes and Noble West will devote a percentage of sales from this event to the Literacy Network.

Webinar: Establishing Accountable Physical/Behavioral Health Care Homes: Medicaid Innovations - Oct. 27, 2009. 1-2:30pm central time. Presented by the Center for Health Care Strategies. [Click here](#) for more information.

Webinar: Utilizing Mental Health Parity to Enhance Your Bottom Line - Oct. 28, 2009. 1-2 pm. Presented by Worksource Wisconsin, this training will illustrate the impact of mental health parity regulations on Wisconsin businesses, and help businesses comply with the new regulations in an effective manner. Featuring Jerry Halverson, M.D. of the UW-Madison Dept. of Psychiatry, and Jeff Kluever, Director of Risk Management of Journal Communications. [Click here](#) for registration details.

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

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.
- **Covering Kids and Families 2009 Conference - Oct. 26**, UW-Madison Arboretum. This free conference will discuss issues such as public health policy and the Core Plan. Open to current CKF members and anyone interested in the discussion. To register, visit the [website](#). Contact Jeni Appleby at 414-449-4777 ext. 125 or jappleby@wisc.edu.
- **Training: Youth Transition to Adult Health Care - Oct. 30**, 10am to 12pm, 2058 Atwood Ave, 3rd Floor, Madison. A training for youth and parents of youth who have a chronic health condition on increasing independence, health insurance and Social Security issues, managing medical needs in college, and staying healthy while attaining life goals. Sponsored by the Waisman Center and the Southern Regional Center for CYSHCN. To register, contact Sharon Myhre at (608) 532-3321 or myhre@waisman.wisc.edu by Friday, Oct. 23. [Click here](#) for more information.
- **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

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.

**Pathways to Independence:
Community Building through
PATH - Nov. 11-13, 2009,**
8:30am - 3:30pm, Independence
First, 540 S. 1st St., Milwaukee. This
workshop features David and Faye
Wetherow of CommunityWorks in
British Columbia outlining
community-building strategies
through the PATH program. [Click
here](#) for more information or to
register. RSVP by Oct. 31.

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
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 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

buildings 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: An In-Depth Look at the Health Care Crisis

For the past two weeks, the popular public radio show *This
American Life* has been devoting its programming hour to the
state of health care in America. This program, which has won
awards for its accessible, in-depth reporting, takes a look at the
health care crisis from the legislators', the insurance industry's,
and the patient's point of view. The second portion of the
program examines the health insurance industry, from the
confusing jargon to the wild world of pet health insurance. You
can listen to the program for free by downloading their podcast in
the iTunes store or streaming from the [website](#).

NEWS: Health Care in Wisconsin

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

- [Gubernatorial Candidate Says BadgerCare Needs Overhaul
- Channel 3000 News, October 9](#)
- [Lawmakers Plan Bill on Mental Health Insurance -
Associated Press, October 9](#)
- [Badger Care Core Plan Applications Surged Before
Enrollments Were Suspended - by Jason Stein for *The
Wisconsin State Journal*, October 9](#)
- [Demand for BadgerCare Plus Program High This Week - by
Scott Bauer for *The Wisconsin State Journal*, October 9](#)
- [Press Release: As the End of the Core Plan Looms, An
Increased Urgency for Reform - ABC for Health, October 9](#)
- [Health Care Request on Hold - by Leona Goldblatt for *The
Badger Herald*, October 6](#)
- [Tommy Thompson Pushes for Health Reform - *Politico*,
October 5](#)
- [Health Care Debate in AARP Divides Generations - by
Gardinar Harris for *The New York Times*, October 4](#)
- [Wisconsin Families in Trouble Without Health Care Reform
- WKOW Channel 27 News, September 30](#)

the proposed plan selected.

The [Wisconsin Council on Children and Families](#) released new data from the [Wisconsin Budget Project](#) that shows Wisconsin is below average in per capita taxes and spending. [Click here](#) to read the report.

[A new report](#) by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation evaluates efforts in health care reform and increased access in five states, including Wisconsin.

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 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 jpribe@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

NEWS: Health Care Reform

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

- [White House Team Joins Talks On Health Care Bill - by Robert Pear and David M. Herszenhorn for *The New York Times*, October 15](#)
- [Democrats Fire Back At Health Industry - by Lori Montgomery and David S. Hilzenrath for *The Washington Post*, October 15](#)
- [Insurer's Report Backlash: Unified Dems, Angry White House, Dissenting Experts - *Kaiser Health News*, October 14](#)
- [Health Care Turns to Harry Reid After Key Vote - by Jay Newton-Small for *Time*, October 14](#)
- [Snowe's Vote Paves Way for Other Centrists to Support Baucus Health Bill - *Kaiser Health News*, October 14](#)
- [Finance Committee Approves Health Reform Bill, Snowe Sides with Democrats - by Eric Pianin and Mary Agnes Carey for *Kaiser Health News*, October 13](#)
- [Dems Scramble After Warning From Health Insurers - by Ricardo Alonso-Zaldivar for *Associated Press*, October 13](#)
- [Insurance Industry Assails Health Care Legislation - by Robert Pear for *The New York Times*, October 12](#)
- [Wait for Benefits is Three Years if Health Care Passes - by Ricardo Alonso-Zaldivar for *Associated Press*, October 11](#)
- [Study Finds Disconnect Between Health Care Needs and Support for Reform - by Kim Geiger for *The Los Angeles Times*, October 11](#)
- [Health Care Bill Gets Green Light in Cost Analysis - by Robert Pear and David M. Herzenhorn for *The New York Times*, October 8](#)
- [Report: Health Bills Show Some Price Gaps - by John Fritze for *USA Today*, October 8](#)
- [Senate Finance Committee to Vote Next Week, Baucus Praises CBO Cost Estimate - by Mary Agnes Cagney for *Kaiser Health News*, October 8](#)
- [Reform Gets Conditional GOP Support - by Michael D. Shear and Ceci Connolly for *The Washington Post*, October 7](#)
- [Obama Finds Support Outside Party and Washington for Health Care Plan - by Peter Nicholas for *The Los Angeles Times*, October 7](#)
- [In Debate on Health, It's Coverage vs. Cost - by Robert Pear for *The New York Times*, October 6](#)
- [Insurers Say Coverage Penalty Has to Have Bite - by Erica Werner for *Associated Press*, October 6](#)
- [Obama Pitches Health Plan In Front of Doctors - by Charles Babington for *Associated Press*, October 5](#)
- [Democrats Wyden, Rockefeller Withhold Support of Panel's Bill - by Ceci Connolly for *The Washington Post*, October 5](#)
- [States Resist Medicaid Growth - by Shailagh Murray for *The Washington Post*, October 5](#)

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

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)

[October 1](#)

- [Doctors Fight Penalty for Heavy Test Use - by Janet Adamy for *The Wall Street Journal*, October 2](#)
- [Health Bill Targets Insurance Executives' Pay - by Greg Hitt and Janet Adamy for *The Wall Street Journal*, October 2](#)
- [Panel Easing Penalties for Those Without Insurance - by Robert Pear and Jackie Calmes for *The New York Times*, October 2](#)
- [Senate Republicans Criticize Taxes in Health Care Bill - by Lori Montgomery and Shalagh Murray for *The Washington Post*, October 2](#)
- [Senate Finance Committee Has Votes to Pass Health Bill, Baucus Says - by Lori Montgomery and Ceci Connolly for *The Washington Post*, October 1](#)

News: Opinion

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

- [Editorial: Public Insurance Needs Dual Investment - *The Green Bay Press-Gazette*, October 14](#)
- [Op-Ed: Bend the Revenue Curve - by Henry J. Aaron and Isabelle V. Sawhill for *The Washington Post*, October 13](#)
- [Editorial: The Baucus Bill - *The New York Times*, October 10](#)
- [Op-Ed: Give People Breathing Room - by Senator Charles Schumer for *USA Today*, October 8](#)
- [Editorial: The War on Specialists - *The Wall Street Journal*, October 6](#)
- [Op-Ed: Follow the Money: Controlling Expenditures by Improving Care for Patients Needing Costly Services - by Thomas Bodenheimer and Rachel Berry-Millet for *The New England Journal of Medicine*, September 30](#)

NEWS: Health Care Costs & Access

Click on the links below to access recent news articles on health care costs and access:

- [Insurers Offering More High-Deductible Plans This Enrollment Season - *Medical News Today*, October 13](#)
- [Health Insurance Help for Laid-Off Workers May End - by Sarah Varney for *All Things Considered*, NPR, October 13](#)
- [Health-Care Tug of War Leaves Patients In Middle - by Amy Goldstein for *The Washington Post*, October 9](#)
- [Hospitals Find Way to Make Care Cheaper--Make it Better - by Thomas M. Burton for *The Wall Street Journal*, October 8](#)
- [Extra Health Care Facility Fees Take Many Patients by Surprise - by Sandra G. Boodman for *The Washington Post*, October 6](#)

[September 15](#)[September 1](#)[August 15](#)[August 1](#)[July 15](#)[July 1](#)

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

Recent HealthWatch WatchDog Episodes:

Season 2:

Episode 13: [BadgerCare Plus Core Plan and Health Care Reform](#)

Episode 12: [Health Reform and Campaign Finance Reform](#)

Episode 11: [Access to Health Care--A Moral Imperative](#)

Episode 10: [A Public Option](#)

Episode 9: [Health Reform: Patient Advocacy](#)

Episode 8: [Fact or Fiction](#)

Episode 1

HealthWatch WatchDog episodes are now available to everyone who receives the HealthWatch Wisconsin Update! **Watch all other episodes at www.healthwatchwisconsin.org. Just click on "HW WatchDog" from the menu on the left.**

- [Press Release: Suspension in BadgerCare Plus Core Plan Enrollment Further Illustrates Need for Health Care Reform - by Robert Jaeger, MD for Wisconsin Medical Society, October 6](#)

NEWS: Mental Health and AODA

Click below for links to news stories about Mental Health and AODA:

- [Telepsychiatry Fulfills Promise in Rural Mississippi - by Joan Arehart-Treichel, *Psychiatric News*, October 2](#)
- [PTSD Treatment for Returning War Veterans to be Evaluated - *National Institutes of Mental Health*, September 30](#)

NEWS: Covering Kids

Click the links below for news on Covering Kids:

- [House Bill Would Extend Parents' Coverage for Young Adults - *Kaiser Health News*, October 14](#)
- [21st Century Babies: The Gift of Life, and Its Price - by Stephanie Saul for *The New York Times*, October 11](#)
- [SAMSHA Awards \\$30.9 Million to Community Treatment and Service Centers Helping Children Suffering From Traumatic Stress - Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, October 2](#)

NEWS: Other Health News

Visit the links below for other health news and information:

- [Press Release: New Rules Protect Patients' Genetic Information - Dept. of Health and Human Services, October 1](#)

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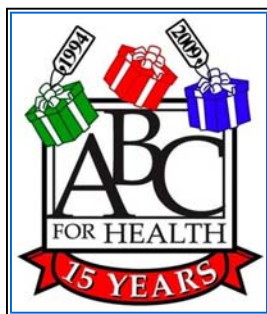
Contact Us

We need your help to develop content and tips for our bi-weekly HWW Update. Please let us know about your ideas, events, or success stories. Email your suggestions to mlarowe@safetyweb.org or call (800) 585-4222 ext. 216. If you would like to submit news and information for future HWW Updates, please send it to the attention of Marysa LaRowe. All submissions should be limited to 150 words.

HealthWatch Wisconsin Update Staff

Bobby Peterson
bobbyp@safetyweb.org
 Marysa LaRowe
mlarowe@safetyweb.org

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 health care coverage and services.



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ABC for Health, Inc.
32 N. Bassett St.
Madison, WI 53703-2606 USA