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A Project of ABC for Health, Inc.
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November 13 , 2009

Vol. 5 No. 20

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Coalition Meetings by County

Barron: TBA, 1:00-2:00pm. Barron County Workforce Resource, Inc., 331 S. Main St., Ste. 6, Rice

HealthWatch Wisconsin Update

Please [click here](#) to view the PDF version on our Web site.

Nominate Your Health Care Hero!

Participate in the nomination process for the First Annual HealthWatch Wisconsin Awards! See below for details.

SAVE THE DATE! HealthWatch's 3rd Annual Conference Feb. 8 & 9, 2010

"Back to Basics: The Proposed BadgerCare Plus Basic"

Join the staff of HealthWatch Wisconsin, ABC for Health, and area experts as we gather for the 3rd Annual HealthWatch Wisconsin Conference **February 8 & 9, 2010**. In addition to a review of the latest health reform news, we will explore the proposed BadgerCare Plus Basic buy-in program, discuss outreach and advocacy strategies for working with Wisconsin's health care consumers, and dig into issues like functional screens, new private health insurance rules, health literacy, and health disparities. Network with agencies, providers, academics, health care journalists, and legislators in a setting committed to assuring a more sufficient, competent and coordinated public health workforce.



SAVE THE DATE:

Conference Dates: Monday, February 8, 2010, 1:00pm-4:30pm

(Evening Awards Reception 6:00pm-8:00pm)

Tuesday, February 9, 2010, 8:30am-4:30pm

Watch your inbox! Registration materials will be emailed in the coming weeks!

Location: Best Western Inn on the Park, 22 S. Carroll Street, Madison, WI

Lodging: Conference participants are responsible for their own lodging accommodations. If you plan to stay at the conference hotel either the night of February 7, 8 or 9, please mention the

Lake. Contact Mike Rust at (715) 485-8525 or miker@co.polk.wi.us with questions.

Chippewa: January 12, 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: December 7, 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 24, 11:45am-1:00pm. **Featuring a presentation by Dr. Richard Brown, MD, MPH, Associate Professor, UW School of Medicine and Public Health: "Substance Abuse Screening and Intervention in Healthcare Settings."** 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: January 7, 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: December 9, 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

"HealthWatch Wisconsin Block of Rooms" to get the discounted room rate of \$94.00 for rooms with one bed (1 to 2 people), \$104.00 for rooms with two beds (1 to 2 people), and \$134.00 for suites. Rates do not include taxes of 5.5% for the state or 9% for the city, if applicable. Hotel check-in time is after 3 p.m. and check-out time is before 12 p.m. Reservations can be made at the Inn on the Park by phone: (608) 285-8000 or (800) 279-8811. The rates quoted above are good for a limited time (through early January, 2010).

Deadline Extended: Nominees Sought for HealthWatch Awards

We have received some fantastic nominations from our members but we want even more! HealthWatch Wisconsin is seeking nominees for its First Annual HealthWatch Awards, to be delivered at the Third Annual HealthWatch Wisconsin Conference in February 2010. 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 **Friday, December 4, 2009** at 11:59 PM. Feel free to use or share the [nomination form](#).

House Passes Health Care Reform Bill

The House of Representatives on Saturday, November 7 passed a sweeping health care bill by a vote of 220-215. The ["Affordable Health Care for America Act" H.R. 3962](#). The bill proposes the most sweeping change in the health care financing and delivery landscape since the passage of Medicare and Medicaid. The bill also includes a public option. For more information on the public option, read the [Health Policy Brief: Public Health Insurance Plan of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, November 10](#).

HealthWatch Wisconsin at the Milwaukee Bucks!!

Meet us at the Bradley Center December 12!

Members of HealthWatch Wisconsin are invited to join the staff

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.

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. November 24, 9-10:30 am, GoodWill Community Center, Menasha Room. 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

of HealthWatch Wisconsin at a Milwaukee Bucks Game this December! **The first 20 people to RSVP** will be invited to attend the Milwaukee Bucks basketball game versus the Portland Trail Blazers, Saturday, December 12 at 7:30pm. Tickets are FREE to HealthWatch Wisconsin members. Call Brynne at (608)261-6939 ext 210 or email: bmcbride@safetyweb.org to reserve your tickets (let us know if you would like 1 or 2 tickets-maximum 2 per person), or to learn how to become a HealthWatch member and join us!

Packer Ticket Prize Drawing!

Remember, all individual members of HealthWatch Wisconsin are also eligible for Packers Ticket drawings--and there is still time to join! **The next Packer Ticket Prize Drawing will be MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16 for two indoor, deluxe club seat tickets to the Packers vs. San Francisco 49ers game at noon on Sunday, November 22.** All individuals registered for HealthWatch Wisconsin by November 15 at 11:59pm are eligible to win.

In addition to a chance to win in our Packer Ticket Prize Drawing, HealthWatch Wisconsin members benefit from:

- 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!

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. Your workplace can purchase an **organizational membership for just \$75**. [Click here](#) for more information about HealthWatch Wisconsin and the ticket drawings, or call Brynne at 1-800-585-4222 ext. 210.

Case Tip: Searching for Providers in ForwardHealth

Anyone can search for health care providers that accept BadgerCare Plus and other DHS programs on the [ForwardHealth Portal](#). This feature is accessible to any user; you do not need a password or account. Simply go to the ForwardHealth site and select "Find a Provider" on the right under "Members." Then, use the Search screen to find Physicians, Hospitals, Dentists, and other providers. Search by speciality, city, county, and name. (You may want to call the provider's office to verify they are accepting BadgerCare Plus patients before making an

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 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

appointment).

Example: Dorothy's family is on the BadgerCare Plus Standard Plan. She needs to find a dentist to treat her daughter's cavities. Dorothy logs onto ForwardHealth and searches for Dentists in Madison, WI and selects her county: Dane. The Search returns a list of dentists that accept BadgerCare Plus. She finds a dentist close to her home, calls the office, and verifies that they are accepting BadgerCare Plus patients. She then makes an appointment for her daughter.

Updates from DHS

Follow the links to view updates from the Department of Health Services:

- Release [09-05](#) of the [Medicaid Eligibility Handbook](#) - November 13, effective November 16
- Updated [ADRC Contact List](#), by county - November 11
- Release [9-06](#) of BadgerCare Plus Eligibility Handbook - November 5

Ops Memos

Click the links to read new [Ops Memos](#):

- [09-67](#): Mandatory Signage for FoodShare

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). **Note: no changes have been made to application and enrollment procedures for BadgerCare Plus for children and families. The waiting list is only for the Core Plan.**

BadgerCare Plus Core Plan Background – As of 10/31/09:

- 76,392 individuals have applied to the Core Plan.
- 11,575 individuals were enrolled into Core Plan as part of Transitional Childless Adults, 11,095 of which are Milwaukee County GAMP population.
- 1,400 individuals on Core Plan call back list.
- 4,454 individuals on the Core Plan waitlist.
- 59% of applicants are unemployed.
- 77% of applicants are single.

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>

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

Milwaukee Clinicians of Color Annual Conference - Nov. 18, 2009. "Meeting the Mental Health Needs of People of Color in Trauma." 8am-3:30pm, UW-Milwaukee School of Continuing Education, Milwaukee. \$85 fee, 0.7 CEUs. For more information contact Rick Flowers at (414) 227-3358 or visit www.sce-youthwork.uwm.edu.

Job Coach Training - CESA #2 Transition Program - Dec. 3-4, 2009. 9am - 3:30pm, Holiday Inn Express, 3100 Wellington Place, Janesville. Laura Owens, PhD., an associate professor at UW-Milwaukee and founder of Creative Employment

- 53% of applicants reported no physical conditions.
- Only 6.4% applicants reported three or more physical conditions:
- Physical conditions include asthma, cancer, COPD, depression, diabetes, emphysema, hearing problem, high blood pressure and stroke.
- 37,328 individuals confirmed eligible for the Core Plan.

Core Plan Application Breakdown by Age – As of 10/31/09:

- 38% are between 19 and 30.
- 13% are between 31 and 40.
- 22% are between 41 and 50.
- 27% are between 51 and 65.

Individuals on the Core Plan waiting list will be transitioned into **BadgerCare Plus Basic**--the new "buy-in" program under development. BadgerCare Plus Basic will focus on providing members with access to vital, cost-effective primary and preventive care. Premiums and member cost-sharing will need to be sufficient to fund the health care costs of the population served. However, monthly premiums will not exceed \$100 per member per month. Eligibility will be limited to those individuals who are currently on the Core Plan waitlist. The proposed date to begin accepting applications for BadgerCare Plus Basic is February 1, 2010. Targeted enrollment could begin on March 1, 2010.

A joint **BadgerCare Plus Advisory and CACHET Committee meeting** is scheduled for Tuesday, November 17 from 1:30-4:00 pm at the Department of Health Services, 1 W. Wilson St, Madison in DHS Conference Room 751. The nature of this joint advisory meeting will be to discuss the Governor's announcement regarding BadgerCare Plus Core Plan and his directive to the Department of Health Services to design a proposal to offer some basic level of coverage for those on the Core Plan waiting list.

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

Opportunities, an employment agency for people with disabilities, will present a 2-day job coach training targeted toward paraprofessionals, high school teachers, transition coordinators and other service professionals. Contact Peggy at pstrong@cesa2.k12.wi.us

First Wisconsin Self-Directed Supports (SDS) Network Event - Dec. 3, 2009. 9:30am-3:15pm Wilderness Resort, Wisconsin Dells. Self-Directed Supports (SDS) operates within Family Care, IRIS and CIP, and currently supports over 5,000 elderly and disabled Wisconsin citizens. Learn how to apply SDS in your work and personal life. Speakers include Fredi-Ellen Bove, Deputy Administrator, Division of Long-Term Care; Monica Deignan, Managed Care Section Chief; and John Agosta, Asst. Director, Human Services Research Institute. [Click here](#) for registration information.

New Materials

[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.

The Bridgespan Group released the paper, "[Nonprofits in Rural America: Overcoming the Resource Gap.](#)"

Read the State Health Access Reform Evaluation (Share) on "[Wisconsin's BadgerCare Plus Coverage Evaluation and Simplification: Early Data on Program Impact](#)" from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

be shared with the public.)

For Milwaukee Residents--the new MiES email contacts

- dhsmiles@wisconsin.gov - for new applications, verifications, etc.
- dhsmileschanges@wisconsin.gov - for scanning changes (HTF only scanning changes from cases)
- dhsmilescustomerservice@wisconsin.gov - Advocate Email: use to email MiES with advocate questions.

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

■ CKSN Corner ■ Covering Kids with Special Needs



Mark Your Calendars Now Check Out These Excellent Events in 2009!

- **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.
- **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

The State Health Access Data Assistance Center (SHADAC) has released a new web-based tool for organizing and researching health coverage statistics. Users can customize tables and graphs and easily access Census Bureau information and coverage trend data back to 1987. Click here to visit the [Data Center](#). You can also [register](#) for a webinar introducing the tool. SHADAC will hold the webinar on Nov. 17 at 12pm central.

From the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and *Health Affairs*: "[How Would the Public Health Insurance Plan Work?](#)"

Calls for Submissions and Volunteers

[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.

Researchers at the University of Wisconsin-Madison seek volunteers for a study of social and communication abilities of toddlers (18-36 months) with Autism Spectrum Disorders. Participation would include observations of you and your child, interviews, forms and surveys, and education and training--all in your home. Interested families should contact Laura Mulford, M.S. in the School Psychology Program at 847-721-8283 or mulford@wisc.edu or Jennifer Asmus, Ph.D. in the School

and chapters on wraparound, interagency systems of care and school-wide behavior supports. For more information, check www.wifamilyties.org after July 15.

- **WI FACETS Regional Special Education Conference: "Transition to Adult Life" for Parents and Professionals - Nov. 21, 2009.** 9am-3pm, CESA 7, 595 Baeten Rd. Green Bay, WI. A full day of ideas, advocacy and training--and free lunch. Contact Sandra McFarland at 877-374-0511 or smcfarland@wifacets.org to register.
- **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.

CDC Materials on H1N1 for Parents of Children with Complex Medical Needs: Earlier this month, the Center for Disease Control released [this brochure](#) for parents of children with special health needs who may be more at risk for contracting the virus.

Marysa's Section: Changes Ahead for ACCESS!

New enhancements are right around the corner for ACCESS! (access.wi.gov) As you may be familiar, ACCESS is Wisconsin's web portal for enrollment in health benefits such as BadgerCare Plus and BadgerCare Plus Core Plan (waiting list); Elderly, Blind, and Disabled Medicaid; Family Planning Waiver; and nutritional programs, such as FoodShare benefits. Currently, the Department of Health Services is building new features and operability into ACCESS.

Online Renewal. The first is an enhancement to existing protocols for renewal of BadgerCare Plus. Typically, a family due for yearly eligibility reviews must engage in a series of communications with a case worker. Making the process available online is projected to prevent unnecessary losses in retention of otherwise eligible individuals.

Child Care. The second major enhancement will be the integration of Wisconsin Shares into ACCESS. Wisconsin's Child Care Subsidy program, Wisconsin Shares, (sometimes referred to as "W-2 Child Care") helps families pay for child care. If the parent is eligible, child care can be subsidized for children under the age of 13 (up to 19 if special needs). Individuals will be able to apply for and update their information for multiple programs in one location!

BadgerCare Plus Basic. Finally, the proposed Medicaid buy-in

of Education at 608-262-3027 or asmus@wisc.edu.

Help Wanted

Member, UW School of Medicine and Public Health Oversight and Advisory Committee - The Wisconsin Partnership Program is seeking nominations to replace a public member vacancy on the UW School of Medicine and Public Health Oversight and Advisory Committee (OAC) in the categories of advocates representing an urban or minority community, children, or senior citizens. The goal of the OAC is to advance population health in Wisconsin by executing its stewardship responsibility in partnership with the School of Medicine and Public Health, and in accordance with the Insurance Commissioner's Order and the five-year plan. To learn more about The Wisconsin Partnership Program, visit our [website](#).

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

program, BadgerCare Plus Basic, currently under development, will have its program application hosted in ACCESS. Presumably, online premium payments will be possible through the web portal. We will learn more details as the enhancements are implemented, and as enrollment for BadgerCare Plus Basic is closer to implementation.

NEWS: Health Care in Wisconsin

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

- [Obey: Health Care Bill Tough Fight - by Brian Reisinger for *The Wausau Daily Herald*, November 11](#)
- [Young Adults Leery About Government-Mandated Health Insurance - by Adam Rodewald for *The Oshkosh Northwestern*, November 11](#)
- [County Supervisors Sweeten Own Health Benefits - by Joe Potente for *Kenosha News*, November 10](#)
- [Health Care Vote Spurs Ad Wars - by Diana Marrero for *The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, November 10](#)
- [Palin Rallies State's Abortion Opponents - by Bill Glauber for *The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, November 6](#)
- [Obey: Tea Partiers Also Want to End Medicare - *WisPolitics.com*, November 5](#)
- [Press Release: Free Primary Care for the Uninsured at Our Lady of Hope Clinic - Our Lady of Hope Clinic, November 5](#)
- [Press Release: Sen. Kapanke Calls on DHS to Reconsider Changes Affecting Disabled Citizens - Office of State Senator Kapanke, November 4](#)
- [Wisconsin's New Family Care Program Stirs Debate About How Adults with Disabilities Will Fare - by Ed Lowe for *The Appleton Post-Crescent*, November 3](#)
- [Milwaukee Area Health Care Costs Remain Higher Than Midwest Average - by Kathleen Gallagher for *The Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel*, November 3](#)
- [Press Release: Department Requests Proposals for Medicaid Managed Care Contracts in Southeast Wisconsin - Dept. of Health Services, November 3](#)
- [Wisconsin Failing to Approve Medicaid and food stamps applications in a timely manner - by Jason Stein for *The Wisconsin State Journal* - November 2](#)

NEWS: Health Care Reform

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

- [AP Sources: Reid Eyes Payroll Tax Hike on Wealthy - by David Espo for *Associated Press*, November 12](#)
- [Congress to Miss Health Care Deadline, Key Senator Says](#)

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:

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

Recent HealthWatch WatchDog Episodes:

Season 2:

- [CNN.com, November 11](#)
- [Reid Says Health Bill Will Be Done By Christmas - by Robert M. Herszenhorn for *The New York Times*, November 11](#)
- ['Opt-Out' Proposal Puts State Leaders to the Test - by Kevin Sack for *The New York Times*, November 11](#)
- [Bill Clinton Urges Senate Passage of Health Bill - by David Espo for *Associated Press*, November 10](#)
- [Medical Industry Grumbles, But It Stands to Gain - by Duff Wilson and Reed Abelson for *The New York Times*, November 9](#)
- [Obama Presses Senate to Pass Its Health Bill - by Sheryl Gay Stolberg for *The New York Times*, November 9](#)
- [Healthcare Reform Bill Wouldn't End Higher Premiums Based on Age - by James Oliphant for *The Los Angeles Times*, November 9](#)
- [Democrats Confront Challenges After Health Reform Vote - by Eric Pianen and Mary Agnes Carey for *Kaiser Health News*, November 9](#)
- [Abortion an Obstacle in Health Care Bill - by Alec MacGillis for *The Washington Post*, November 9](#)
- [Sweeping Health Care Plan Passes House - by Carl Hulse and Robert Pear for *The New York Times*, November 8](#)
- [House Democrats Seek Allies for Health Care Vote - by Carl Hulse and David M. Herszenhorn for *The New York Times*, November 6](#)
- [Activists Bring "Tea Party" to Capitol Hill - by Philip Rucker for *The Washington Post*, November 6](#)
- [Health Care Bill Garners Endorsements - by Neftali Bendavid and Janet Adamy for *The Wall Street Journal*, November 6](#)
- [Democrats' Plan to Help 'Uninsurables' Questioned - by Ricardo Alonso-Zaldivar for *Associated Press*, November 5](#)
- [Health Bills Aim A Light on Doctors' Conflicts - by Natasha Singer for *The New York Times*, November 4](#)
- [Health Bills Too Timid on Cutting Costs, Experts Say - by Ceci Connolly for *The Washington Post*, November 4](#)
- [Abortion Language Creates Snag for Health Bill - by Julie Rovner for *Morning Edition*, NPR News, November 3](#)
- [Democrats Say House Bill Cuts Premiums for Many - by Robert Pear and Carl Hulse for *The New York Times*, November 3](#)
- [2 Tough Healthcare Issues Remain in the House - by Erica Werner for *Associated Press*, November 3](#)
- [GOP Set to Propose Its Own Health Bill - by Greg Hitt for *The Wall Street Journal*, November 2](#)
- [Obama Strategy on Health Care Legislation Appears to Pay Off - by Robert Pear and Sheryl Gay Stolberg for *The New York Times*, Nov. 2](#)

NEWS: Opinion

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](#)

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.**

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

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ABC for Health, Inc. is a Wisconsin-based, nonprofit public interest law

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

- [Editorial: Our View on Health Care: Everyone Benefits if Illegal Immigrants Are Insured - USA Today, November 12](#)
- [Op-Ed: Controlling U.S. Health Care Spending - Separating Promising From Unpromising Approaches - by Peter S. Hussey, Christine Elbner, M. Susan Ridgely, and Elizabeth A. McGlynn for The New England Journal of Medicine, November 11](#)
- [Op-Ed: Getting to the Real Issues in Health Care Reform - by Paul Ginsberg for The New England Journal of Medicine, November 11](#)
- [Op-Ed: Trick for Democrats is Juggling Ideology and Pragmatism - by Adam Nagourney and David M. Herszenhorn for The New York Times, November 10](#)
- [Editorial: Health Care Reform, GOP-Style - The Washington Post, November 9](#)
- [Editorial: The Lords of Entitlement - The Wall Street Journal, November 9](#)
- [Op-Ed: Unhealthy America - by Nicholas D. Kristof for The New York Times, November 5](#)
- [Op-Ed: Doctors, Patients, and the Need for Health Reform - by Max Baucus for The New England Journal of Medicine, November 5](#)
- [Op-Ed: Some Vaguely Heretical Thoughts on Health Care Reform - by John Cassidy for New Yorker.com, November 4](#)
- [Op-Ed: Hearts, Minds and Health Care - by E.J. Dionne Jr. for The Washington Post, November 2](#)

NEWS: Health Care Costs & Access

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

- [10 Ways to Cut Health-Care Costs Right Now - by Catherine Arnst for Business Week, November 12](#)
- [Who Can Bend the Cost Curve? - by Michelle Andrews for the New York Times, November 12](#)
- [Reid Mulls Medicare Payroll Tax Increase for High Earners - Robert Pear for the New York Times, November 12](#)
- [U.S. Hospitals See Profits Dive, AHA Reports - by Joe Carlson for Modern Healthcare, November 11](#)
- [Democrats Raise Alarms Over Health Bill Costs - by Sheryl Gay Stolberg for The New York Times, November 10](#)

NEWS: Mental Health and AODA

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- [Parity to Become Federal Law Despite Rule-Making Delay - by Rich Daly for *Psychiatric News*, November 6](#)
- [A Combat Role, and Anguish, Too - by Damien Cave for *The New York Times*, November 1](#)
- [Advocates for Mentally Ill Urge Overhaul of Nursing Home Operations - by Jared Hopkins for *The Chicago Tribune*, October 30](#)

NEWS: Covering Kids

Click the links below for news on Covering Kids:

- [Letter to State Health Officials: CHIPRA and Mental Health Parity - Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Dept. of Health and Human Services, November 4](#)
- [Press Release: HHS Secretary Calls on States and Communities to Get Health Coverage to Uninsured Children - Dept. of Health and Human Services, November 4](#)

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