



A Project of ABC for Health, Inc.

[www.healthwatchwisconsin.org](http://www.healthwatchwisconsin.org)

[info@healthwatchwisconsin.org](mailto:info@healthwatchwisconsin.org)

# HealthWatch Wisconsin Update

If you have trouble viewing this document, please [click here](#) to view the PDF version on our Website.

September 1, 2007

Volume 3, Number 16

## In This Issue

- Packers Tickets Prize Drawings
- Case Tip: Provider's Failure To Obtain a Prior Authorization
- Call for Nominations for the HealthWatch Wisconsin Council
- Updates on Health Care Reform and the Wisconsin State Budget
- Upcoming "Healthy Wisconsin" and Health Care Reform Events
- NEWS: Health Care in Wisconsin
- NEWS: Healthy Wisconsin
- NEWS: Health Care & the 2008 Election
- NEWS: Covering Children
- NEWS: Health Care Costs and Access
- NEWS: Health Care Reform
- Featured Link: Family Support 360
- CKSN Corner:
  1. Workshop: Involving Students in Their IEP – A Self-Directed Approach
  2. Mark Your Calendars Now: Six Excellent Conferences in 2007 and One in 2008!
- Notice of Funding Available
- ABC for Health Is Hiring
- Support Our Efforts!

## Packers Tickets Prize Drawings

Congratulations to Brad Holman and Jeannine Kitzerow! Their names were drawn during the second of the 2007 HealthWatch Wisconsin Packers Tickets Prize Drawings. Each won a pair of deluxe indoor club seat tickets to the August 16, 2007, 7:00pm Green Bay Packers pre-season game against the Jacksonville Jaguars at Lambeau Field.

After the August 18, 2007, game against the Seahawks, winner Pat Carriveau wrote, "Thank you very much for the great tickets to the Packer game on Saturday... It was great to be inside on a rainy, cool evening and the view was awesome!"

Only registered members of the HealthWatch Wisconsin Organization are eligible for these drawings. **Do not register for each drawing; membership in HWW renders you eligible for each drawing until you win.** The winners will be contacted using the email addresses provided during registration, which can be completed at [www.healthwatchwisconsin.org](http://www.healthwatchwisconsin.org). YOU ONLY NEED TO REGISTER ONCE.

Dates for subsequent drawings are yet to be announced and will be listed in upcoming HealthWatch Wisconsin Updates.

---

## Case Tip: Provider's Failure To Obtain a Prior Authorization

Certain services covered by Medicaid or BadgerCare require prior authorization. In most circumstance, these services cannot be provided without the prior approval of the State of Wisconsin Medicaid Program.

If a health care provider does not complete a required prior authorization and the services or equipment are therefore not covered, the provider is liable for the costs of that service or equipment. – HFS 107.02(3)(c)

The provider is not permitted to bill the Medicaid recipient for the services or equipment when a required prior

### HealthWatch and Covering Kids and Families – Meetings by Region

**Southern:** September 10, 9:00-11:00am. Harambee Center, 2202 S. Park St, Madison. Contact ABC for Health's Nora Foshager at (608)261-6939 ext. 204 or [nfoshager@safetyweb.org](mailto:nfoshager@safetyweb.org) with questions.

**Southeastern:** September 12, 10:00am-12:00 pm. Aurora Family Services, 3200 W. Highland Blvd, Milwaukee. Contact Leah Jepson at (414) 286-6608 or [ljepso@milwaukee.gov](mailto:ljepso@milwaukee.gov) with questions. Children's Health Access for the Special and Equal (CHASE) Meeting – September 20, 11:30am-1:30pm. ARC of Milwaukee, 7203 W. Center St. Contact Brad Holman at (414)266-3189 or [bholman@chw.org](mailto:bholman@chw.org) with questions.

**Northeastern:** September 13, 9:00-10:30am. Allouez Prevea Building – St. Vincent Conference Rm. (3<sup>rd</sup> Flr.), 1821 S. Webster Ave., Green Bay. Special Topic: Children's Mental Health Access and Coverage. Contact Steve Gerczak at (920)433-8154 or [sgerczak@stvgb.org](mailto:sgerczak@stvgb.org) with questions.

**Western:** September 11, 10:45am–12:00pm. Room 121, Chippewa County Court House, 711 N. Bridge St, Chippewa Falls. Contact Rose Marsh at 1-800-400-3678 or [rmarsh@co.chippewa.wi.us](mailto:rmarsh@co.chippewa.wi.us) with questions.

### Coalitions Under Development

**Barron:** Contact Mike Rust at (715) 485-8525 or [MikeR@co.polk.wi.us](mailto:MikeR@co.polk.wi.us) with questions.

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

**Polk:** Contact Mike Rust at (715) 485-8525 or [MikeR@co.polk.wi.us](mailto:MikeR@co.polk.wi.us) with questions.

## Call for Nominations for the HealthWatch Wisconsin Council

HealthWatch Wisconsin seeks more nominations for members of the HealthWatch Wisconsin Council (HWWC). HWWC is seeking public workforce representatives from around the state who work at the local, regional, and/or statewide level.

The HWWC will transform the public health landscape by increasing the capacity of the public health workforce to serve Wisconsin's un- and under-insured populations through increased collaboration and communication between the University of Wisconsin-Madison faculty partner, the public health workforce, and local HealthWatch coalitions. Note that the call for nominations will close on September 14, 2007.

If you are interested in nominating an individual, please contact Nora Foshager at 1-800-585-4222 ext. 204 or send an email with all relevant information (including your contact info) to [info@healthwatchwisconsin.org](mailto:info@healthwatchwisconsin.org).

## Upcoming "Healthy Wisconsin" and Health Care Reform Events

A number of organizations are planning events around the state to present and answer questions about the Healthy Wisconsin plan. Details about the events are provided below.

### Healthy Wisconsin Presentations

September 4 – Wausau, 10:00am-10:00pm  
(UW Extension Offices Rm. 5, 212 River Dr.)

September 5 – Black River Falls, 6:00pm  
(Skyline Golf Club, 612 N. 11<sup>th</sup> St.)

September 6 – Sparta, 6:30-8:30pm  
(Meadowview Middle Sch. Cafetorium, 1225 N. Water St.)

September 7 – Waupaca, 11:30am-1:30pm  
(Millhouse Restaurant, 201 Foxfire Dr.)

September 13 – Hudson, 6:00-9:00pm  
(location TBA)

September 13 – Wisconsin Rapids, 6:00-8:00pm  
(location TBA)

September 15 – Menomonee Falls, 10:00am-12:00pm  
(Good Shepherd Catholic Church)

September 17 – Medford, 6:00-8:00pm  
(Taylor Co. Community Center, Hwy 13 & 64)

September 23 – Waterloo, 7:15-9:00pm  
(Plattdeutscher Hall, 115 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> St.)

September 26 – Waushara, 6:30-8:30pm  
(Performing Arts Center)

October 10 – Menomonee Falls, time and place TBA

## Other Meeting Notices

- **Supporting Caregivers Across the Lifespan:** September 19, 10:00-2:30pm CT. A national satellite broadcast to bring greater awareness and sensitivity to the challenges in caregiving, and improve the coordination of resources and services for caregivers, providers, and partners. To register, please [click here](#).

## **AARP Wisconsin Health Care Reform Express Van**

Is traveling around the state this summer sharing information about health care reform efforts underway in Wisconsin. To view locations of the upcoming AARP WI Health Care Reform Express Van visits, please [click here](#).

In addition, the non-partisan Wisconsin Legislative Council has issued an excellent summary of the Healthy Wisconsin proposal. To download the report, please [click here](#).

---

## **NEWS: Health Care in Wisconsin**

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

[Health Care Finance: Time To Revisit Blasts from the Past?](#)  
- news release, Wisconsin Independent Businesses, August 31

[Medicaid spending cut sought; Stalled budget talks prompt action, Doyle administration official says](#) - Stacy Forster and Patrick Marley for the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, August 30

[Development of plan to cut Wisconsin Medicaid ordered](#) - the Associated Press/*Appleton Post-Crescent*, August 30

[New Data Demonstrates Investments Made in Health Insurance Paying Off: Wisconsin is Close to Ensuring Health Coverage for All Children](#) - the Wisconsin Council on Children & Families (WCCF), August 30

[Kind, Health Care Advocates Hail CHAMP Act as Huge Win for Kids and Seniors in Wisconsin](#) - Congressman Ron Kind, August 29

[Bayfield County Receives \\$600,000 Federal Grant to Open New Community Health Center in Bayfield County WI](#) - the Wisconsin Primary Health Care Association, August 28

[Kagen Secures Funding for NWTC Dental Health](#) - Rep. Kagen, August 27

[EDITORIAL: Myth of infallible private sector drives health care report](#) - the *Tomah Journal*, August 27

[Doyle plan bypasses federal fight on funding; Proposal would extend insurance without relying on debated program](#) - Guy Boulton for the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, August 18

---

## **NEWS: Healthy Wisconsin**

Follow the links below for recent news of Healthy Wisconsin:

[Businesses oppose health care plan](#) - Ross Evavold for the *Chippewa Herald*, August 31

[Kreitlow: Plan responds to concerns](#) - Ross Evavold for the

## Resources

- **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](mailto:wispubhealth@mch-hotlines.org) or visit their website at [www.mch-hotlines.org](http://www.mch-hotlines.org).

*Chippewa Herald*, August 31

Proposed Healthy Wisconsin plan discussed at forum - Krista Brown for *The Northwestern*, August 30

50 Questions on Healthy Wisconsin - press release, Rep. Jeff Fitzgerald, August 30

50 Questions for Senate Democrats on Healthy Wisconsin - questions, Rep. Jeff Fitzgerald, August 30

Covering the Uninsured: Still a Long Way to Go - Sen. Mark Miller, August 29

EDITORIAL: Take a closer look at Healthy Wisconsin - the *Racine Journal Times*, August 28

Doctors slam health plan; State Senate's reform wrong approach, two physicians say - Amy Olson for the *Wausau Daily Herald*, August 28

---

## NEWS: Health Care & the 2008 Election

Use the links below to navigate recent articles on health care in the 2008 election process:

Romney ties health plan to states; Edwards countered the plan was "worse than the disease." - Rasha Madkour for the Associated Press, August 25

Romney unveils healthcare reform plan - Ricardo Alonso-Zaldivar for the *Los Angeles Times*, August 25

Romney: Mass. health plan can be copied - Glen Johnson for the Associated Press, August 24

Hillary targets health care quality - Associated Press, August 24

---

## NEWS: Covering Children

Follow the links below for recent news on children's care and coverage:

Spitzer Talks of Suing to Expand Health Plan - Nicholas Confessore for *The New York Times*, August 28

Rules May Limit Health Program Aiding Children - Robert Pear for *The New York Times*, August 21

A Race to the Top: Illinois's All Kids Initiative - the Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured, August 10

---

## NEWS: Health Care Costs and Access

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

Doctors Offering No-Interest Loans to Patients - Milt Freudenheim for *The New York Times*, August 30

Census: Health benefits scarcer - Julie Appleby for *USA Today*, August 28

## Links of Interest

**Catalyst Center** – A national center dedicated to improving health care insurance and financing for CYSHCN. [www.hdwg.org/projects/catalyst.htm](http://www.hdwg.org/projects/catalyst.htm)

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

**Cover the Uninsured Week** – CTUW 2007: April 23-29. <http://covertheuninsuredweek.org>

**Family Voices** – Speaking on behalf of CYSHCN. [www.familyvoices.org](http://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/](http://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](http://www.p2pusa.org)

If you have any suggestions on websites or other resources that you have found helpful, please send them to Nora Foshager at [nfoshager@safetyweb.org](mailto:nfoshager@safetyweb.org).

---

## NEWS: Health Care Reform

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

[While Few Have Seen 'Sicko,' Nearly Half of Public Is Familiar With It; Film Spurs Conversation About Health Care Issues, Reform, Poll Finds](#) - the Kaiser Daily Health Policy Report, August 28

[Eyes on California as Lawmakers Pursue a Health-Care Deal](#) - Christopher Lee for the *Washington Post*, August 27

[AMA launches healthcare campaign](#) - Claudia Lauer for the *Los Angeles Times*, August 24

---

## Featured Link: Family Support 360

Family Support 360 is an initiative from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families (ACF) and Administration on Developmental Disabilities (ADD). The Website is a resource center for Family Support 360 grantees and other organizations serving individuals with developmental disabilities. Check out their public resource library, resource links, and news and events page for a variety of information and resources designed to help organizations support individuals with developmental disabilities and their families. For more information, please visit [www.addfamilysupport360.org/3\\_10/index.html](http://www.addfamilysupport360.org/3_10/index.html).

---

---

■ **CKSN Corner** ■  
Covering Kids with Special Needs



## Workshop: Involving Students in Their IEP – A Self-Directed Approach

Student-directed IEP meetings improve the self-advocacy and self-determination skills youth with disabilities need for successful post-school outcomes. This workshop will provide teachers with strategies that can be used to improve students' active participation and leadership in the development of their IEP and participation at their own IEP meetings. The workshop will be offered five times from 8:45am-3:30pm on the following dates:

October 3 – register by 9/26

(Wisconsin Dells, Wintergreen Resort, 60 Gasser Rd.)

October 9 – register by 10/2

(Milwaukee, Best Western Airport, 5105 S. Howell Ave.)

### 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 [nfoshager@safetyweb.org](mailto:nfoshager@safetyweb.org) or call (800) 585-4222 ext. 204. If you would like to submit news and information for future HWW Updates, please send it to the attention of Nora Foshager. All submissions should be limited to 150 words.

October 18 – register by 10/11  
(Green Bay, Comfort Suites, 1951 Bond St.)  
October 22 – register by 10/15  
(La Crosse, Best Western Midway, 1835 Rose St.)  
October 30 – register by 10/23  
(Hayward, Ramada, 10290 St. Hwy. 27 South)

There is no cost, but **registration is required!** For more information or to register, call Lynese at (715) 986-2020, ext. 2170 or email her at [lynese@cesa11.k12.wi.us](mailto:lynese@cesa11.k12.wi.us).

## Mark Your Calendars Now: Six Excellent Conferences in 2007 and One in 2008!

**Care in the Community Conference** – This event will be held September 19 from 8:00am-4:00pm at the Radisson Hotel, Milwaukee West, 2303 N. Mayfair Rd, Wauwatosa, WI. Parents, nurses, educators, social workers, and others can learn strategies to support children and youth with special health care needs. For more information, call toll-free: 1-800-234-5437.

**WINMILL Training of Trainers Seminar: Transition and the Rehabilitation Act** – This event will be held September 21 (4:00-8:00pm) & 22 (8:30am-4:00pm) and attendance is expected for both days. The seminar will be at the ARC of Fond du Lac, 500 N. Park Ave. in Fond du Lac. It is free to those who want to learn more about transition and the Rehabilitation Act and who will be able to share the information with others. Contact WI FACETS at 1-877-374-4677 or [cprice@wifacets.org](mailto:cprice@wifacets.org) for more information or to register.

**\*NEW\* 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Assistive Technology Expo** – This event will be held September 27 from 10:00am-3:00pm in the Engineering Centers Building on the UW-Madison campus. Updated information will be posted to the Assistive Technology Resource Center website – please [click here](#).

**Wisconsin APSE Conference** – This event will be held October 3-5 in Elkhart Lake. More information to come.

**1<sup>st</sup> Annual Wisconsin Self-Determination Conference: Organizing for Self-Directed Supports** – This event will be held November 5-7, 2007 at the Kalahari Resort in Wisconsin Dells. The goal of the conference is to increase the presence and participation of people with disabilities in our neighborhoods. A brochure will be coming in September. Contact Steve Stanek at (608) 266-8337 or [stanesj@dhfs.state.wi.us](mailto:stanesj@dhfs.state.wi.us) with questions.

**Medical Home Summit: Small Steps, Big Changes** – This event will be held November 15, 2007 at the Country Springs Hotel in Waukesha. A Medical Home is a patient-centered quality improvement model for providing care for children, youth, and adults with special health care needs.

## HealthWatch Wisconsin Update Staff

Bobby Peterson

[bobbyp@safetyweb.org](mailto:bobbyp@safetyweb.org)

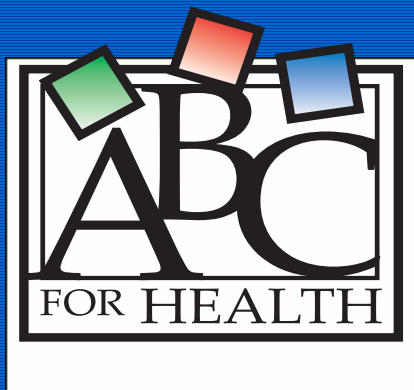
Nora Foshager

[nfoshager@safetyweb.org](mailto:nfoshager@safetyweb.org)

Please note that ABC for Health, Inc. has moved. Our new address:

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

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.



(608) 261-6939

[info@safetyweb.org](mailto:info@safetyweb.org)

This summit will examine specific QI improvement strategies being utilized by practices, managed care organizations, and state systems. Registration is FREE. For the conference brochure and other Medical Home information, contact Sharon Myhre at (608) 265-8955 or [myhre@waisman.wisc.edu](mailto:myhre@waisman.wisc.edu) or [click here](#).

### **\*NEW\* 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Wisconsin Transition Conference –**

This event will be held January 22-23, 2008, at the Kalahari Resort in Wisconsin Dells. Stay tuned for complete conference and registration information coming in November 2007.

---

---

## ABC for Health Is Hiring!

ABC for Health is currently seeking student work study candidates who are interested in the following positions:

- Administrative Assistants (2-3)
- Publications Assistants (1-2)
- Public Relations Assistant (1)
- Education/Outreach Assistants (1-2)
- Financial Assistant (1)
- Video/Web Assistants (2)
- Legal Interns (up to 4)

For more information and job descriptions, please visit [www.abcforhealth.org](http://www.abcforhealth.org) and click on 'Employment.'

## Notice of Funding Available

Below are links to various notices of available funding:

[DisabilityInfo.gov](http://DisabilityInfo.gov)

[The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation](#)

[The National Center of Medical Home Initiatives](#)

## Support Our Efforts!

You can donate to ABC through our website. Follow the link below, then click on the button in the lower left-hand corner of our homepage that says "Make a Donation." We greatly appreciate your generous donations, which go towards helping to maintain ABC for Health, Inc. and our many projects, including HealthWatch Wisconsin. Thank you!

[www.abcforhealth.org](http://www.abcforhealth.org)