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

HealthWatch Wisconsin Update

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September 8 , 2009

Volume 5, Number 16

In This Issue

In Memoriam: Senator Edward Kennedy
 More Chances to Win
 Save the Date: BC+ Core Plan Advocate's Training
 BC+ Core Plan Updates
 BC+ Core Plan: DHS Resources
 Case Tips
 It's Not Too Late! Renew or Begin Your HealthWatch Wisconsin Membership Today!
 Save the Date: 15th Anniversary Gala
 Marysa's Section: Dealing with the Disability Backlog
 NEWS: Health Care in Wisconsin
 NEWS: Health Care Reform
 News: Opinion
 NEWS: Health Care Costs & Access
 NEWS: The Uninsured
 NEWS: Covering Children
 NEWS: Mental Health and AODA
 NEWS: Other Health News
 Mark Your Calendars Now
 Produce your own webcast! Rent the ABC for Health Studio!
 Specialized Training Opportunities
 Support Our Efforts!
 We're on Facebook and Twitter!

Coalition Meetings by County

Barron: TBA, 1:00-2:00pm.

In Memoriam: Senator Edward Kennedy



1932-2009

The HealthWatch Wisconsin Update offers reflections this week on the passing of the "Lion of the Senate": Senator Edward M. Kennedy. Senator Kennedy's life and legacy have had a profound impact on every sector of healthcare in this country. In a political career that began with election to the US Senate in 1962, the people of the United States soon learned of the mission of this driven, fair man. Kennedy became a member of the Health Committee within his first year in the Senate. By 1966, he helped to pass legislation creating national community health centers—the start of a national program that now includes more than 1200 health centers serving more than 20 million low-income patients. And in what now feels like a time warp, Sen. Kennedy gave a rousing speech calling for national health insurance for all Americans--in 1969.

His work increased government-backed health insurance coverage for children and seniors, added to regulation of health insurance and tobacco. Kennedy sponsored the Family Opportunity Act of 2006, allowing states to expand Medicaid coverage to children with special needs. He was an important negotiator on the bill that added prescription drug benefits to Medicare, and he was a key force in the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) and the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990. Kennedy pushed for years for the mental health parity bill that passed Congress last year.

"This is what we do. We reach the moon. We scale the heights,"

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: September 8, 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: September 7, 9:00-11:00am. Campus Community Partnerships, 2300 S. Park St., Ste. 1B, Madison. Contact Nora Foshager at (608) 261-6939, ext. 204 or nfoshager@safetyweb.org with questions.

Dunn: September 9, 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: September 3, 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: September 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.

Kennedy said during his August 25, 2008 remarks at the Democratic National Convention, exactly a year before his death. "I know it. I've seen it. I've lived it." We can take inspiration from his words in striving for reforms in health care and coverage, and in improving the lives of all Americans: the causes of Kennedy's life. Newsweek Magazine has featured Senator Kennedy's actions in health in a feature article: "[The Cause of My Life.](#)"

More Chances to Win



That's right: the next **Green Bay Packers Tickets** drawing is coming up **Sept. 10th!** We'll be giving away **tickets to Lambeau Field** to lucky Individual Members of HealthWatch Wisconsin. Scroll down for more information and register by **midnight, Sept. 9** for your chance to win!

Save the Date: BC+ Core Plan Advocate's Training

Core Plan Updates: Access and Enrollment Strategies

ABC for Health is happy to bring you the second training in a three-part series! In May, we brought you "Getting to the Core: an Advocate's Training." Now that the Core Plan has begun, we bring you "Core Plan Updates: Access and Enrollment Strategies!" Join us for this packed, one-hour training. We will cover:

- Refresher on Core Plan Eligibility
- Advocacy Strategies and Benefits Screening
- Appeals Options for Those Just Denied
- Enrollment and Retention Tips using Access
- and more!

TWO LOCATIONS: *Do you live in Northwest or Northeast Wisconsin? Watch for a similar training this fall!!*

Madison: Tuesday, September 15, 11:00am-12:00pm, South Madison Health and Family Center - Harambee (in the Villager Mall) 2202 S. Park St.

Milwaukee: Thursday, September 17, 11:00am-12:00pm, Aurora Family Services, Sallie's Room, 3200 W. Highland Blvd. Workshop attendees will receive a new "BadgerCare Plus Core Plan Tips" Worksheet. Coffee and cookies will be served.

Milwaukee CHASE (Children's Health Access for the Special and Equal):

September 17, 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. First
meeting will be 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

Note: This is an "intermediate" level training. Not sure if it's
appropriate for you? Call ABC for Health at (608)261-6939 ext. 210.

Registration Fees: Take advantage of **reduced registration
prices** by [joining](#) HealthWatch Wisconsin.
To register for this workshop, complete the [registration form](#) and
return it to ABC for Health.

- \$25.00 HealthWatch Wisconsin member rate
- \$45.00 Includes your workshop registration fee & a
membership in HealthWatch Wisconsin (membership will run
through June 2010)
- \$60.00 registration fee only - for those not interested in
becoming members of HealthWatch Wisconsin

BC+ Core Plan Updates

The Latest Numbers

Update from DHS as of August 14, 2009:

Core Plan Applications Submitted	40,044
New Applications confirmed	5,000+
Applications due to expire - unpaid fee	16,018
Total Core Plan Enrollment (including GAMP transition)	17,000

According to DHS, the program cap is not based on number of
applications or enrollees but on total dollar amount, a maximum of
\$154 million per year.

BC+ Core Plan: DHS Resources

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.)

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 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

Case Tips

Case Tip: New Rule for Pregnant Women interested in Dropping their private coverage.

In the past, the BadgerCare Plus (BC+) eligibility rules prevented pregnant women with household incomes over 200% of the Federal Poverty Limit from acquiring benefits for three months if they dropped their employer-sponsored health insurance coverage. Effective June 1, 2009, pregnant women receiving BC+ benefits with family incomes over 200% of the FPL will no longer have to maintain any preexisting health insurance coverage while they are pregnant. ([See Ops Memo 09-35](#)).

Therefore, all pregnant women, regardless of their access to private insurance, may be eligible for BC+ if they meet all other financial and non-financial eligibility rules. Also, any pregnant woman in a 3-month restrictive reenrollment period because of dropping insurance, is now eligible for BC+ benefits back to June 1.

Case Example: Laura, a pregnant woman, has health insurance through her employer. The employer pays 80% of the monthly premiums for her private coverage, but her share of the premium is still expensive. Further, the policy won't cover her maternity expenses. Laura's income is about 250% FPL. Prior to June 1, 2009, if Laura wanted BC+ benefits for her pregnancy, she would not have been able to drop her employer-sponsored coverage. With the change in the BC+ policy, Laura may drop her private insurance without any penalties.

Case Tip: Presumptive Disability(PD) for SSI Applicants

As in state programs, the SSA will begin payments and benefits immediately for SSI applicants who meet certain criteria. This process is based on the likelihood that the applicant's health condition will result in an approval of disability status. No action is needed by the applicant or providers to apply for PD; each case that comes in is screened for urgency. If an applicant receives payments based on a PD and later is denied disability status, the applicant will not be asked to repay any payments. [Click here](#) for an explanation of PD and a list of accepted impairments.

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:

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>

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

- 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! Join before midnight on Sept. 9th to qualify for the September 10th Packer Ticket drawing for a chance to win a pair of tickets to the game on Sunday, Sept. 20th at noon at vs. the Cincinnati Bengals at Lambeau Field!

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 or be employed by the organization that holds

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.

Accessing Financial Resources for Your Cancer Patients: A Workshop for Health Providers - Sept. 19, 2009 in Madison. Light breakfast. 4 CEUs available.

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 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.

Medicaid Madness: A Public

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!

Save the Date: 15th Anniversary Gala

15th Anniversary Gala Celebration and Fundraiser

Date: October 22, 2009

Place: Best Western Inn on the Park in Madison (details to follow)

July 1, 2009 marked 15 years of working with Wisconsin's low-income, uninsured, and underserved health care consumers - especially children and youth with special health care needs - and we are eager to gather our friends and supporters in celebration! Please join us for our 15th Anniversary Gala Celebration this October, at the Best Western Inn on the Park.

Please watch future HWW Update newsletters for more information on this event.

Comments or questions? Contact Brynne at 1-800-585-4222, ext. 210, or bmcbride@safetyweb.org.

Marysa's Section: Dealing with the Disability Backlog

[NPR News](#) ran an interesting story August 31, detailing the long waits for people applying for disability benefits through Social Security. Social Security's SSDI and SSI Programs offer financial and medical support to adults and some children who cannot work due to a medical condition or disability. During tough economic times, the SSA says, the number of applicants goes up, and the agency's ability to afford enough workers falters. As a result, some people can wait as long as a year or more for a decision on their claim, with longer waits for appeals processes.

What the report fails to mention, however, is the potential of health benefits counseling to speed this process and help applicants file the most accurate, relevant and complete information. This application process is confusing and overwhelming for most applicants. Advocates can help individuals by filing the initial [Adult Disability and Work History Report](#) online, saving valuable time during the interview, and in assisting the applicant in compiling a detailed medical record. Also, advocates can be aware of any factors that might expedite a case, such as homelessness or certain medical conditions that meet [Compassionate Allowances](#).

NEWS: Health Care in Wisconsin

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. 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 CLE credit opportunity: up to 6 credits.

New Materials

[The Urban Institute](#) has developed an [interactive website on the lives of children of immigrants](#). The site includes statistics on over 21 features, including immigration/citizenship status, race, ethnicity, school enrollment, English literacy, and more.

The statewide Community on Transition has developed a set of materials to help youth with special health care needs more effectively manage their own care. Topics include understanding your condition, how to communicate with health professionals, how to call in prescriptions, and other skills. Download the materials for free [here](#). School districts and other groups may purchase materials on CD-ROM for \$35.

The Catalyst Center released two new briefs outlining CYSHCN issues and Health Reform: [Health Care Reform](#)

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

- [Obey Defends Health Reform - by Brian Reisinger for *Marshfield News-Herald*, September 1](#)
- [Can SeniorCare Serve As A Model? - by Diana Marrero of *The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, September 1](#)
- [Update: Changes to Medicaid FMAP Prescription Drug Funding for Several States, \(including Wisconsin\) - Dept. of Health and Human Services, Sept. 1](#)
- [Healing of Health Care Returns to Congressional Agenda - by Malavika Jagannathan for *The Green Bay Press Gazette*, August 31](#)
- [Ryan, Moore Politely Spar Over Health Care Plan - by Dave Umhoefer for *The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, August 28](#)
- [Middleton Hosts Forum on Health Care Reform - by Ken Singletary for *The Wisconsin State Journal*, August 27](#)
- [Both Sides of Health Care Debate Rally - WisPolitics.com, August 27](#)
- [Feingold: No Health Reform Before Christmas, if Ever - by Diana Marrero for *The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, August 26](#)
- [Madison Health Care Meeting Turns Into Pep Rally - by Dave Umhoefer for *The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, August 26](#)
- [Kagen Seeks Health Care Solutions - by Tony Walter for *The Green Bay Press-Gazette*, August 26](#)
- [Insurers to Bid on BadgerCare by Guy Boulton for *The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, August 23](#)
- [Press Release: ABC for Health Contrasts a Public Option Against Insurance Profiteers - ABC for Health, Inc. August 18](#)
- [BadgerCare Plus Core has huge enrollment backlog - by Diana Montano for *The Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel*, August 14](#)

NEWS: Health Care Reform

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

- [Election Date Set For Kennedy's Replacement: Dodd Ponders Political Future - *Kaiser Health News*, September 1](#)
- [Poll: Most Americans Confused About Health Care Proposals - *Kaiser Health News*, September 1](#)
- [White House Fires Back at Enzi - Bloomberg News in *The Washington Post*, September 1](#)
- [Sen. Grassley: No Public Option In Health Reform - by Mike Glover for *Associated Press*, August 31](#)
- [Baucus Predicts Health Care Overhaul This Year - by Matt Gouras for *Associated Press*, August 31](#)
- [Q and A: Dissecting Democrats' Health Care Bills - by Kim Geiger and James Oliphant for *The Los Angeles Times*, August 31](#)
- [Health Bill Would Cut Drug Spending for Many on Medicaid,](#)

[and Children and Youth With Special Health Care Needs: Coverage is Not Enough and What Do Children With Special Health Care Needs Require From Health Reform?](#) More information is available on the [website](#).

Wisconsin Council of Children and Families has compiled a [summary of several federal initiatives](#) that could boost early learning.

[Medical Home For Children and Youth With Special Health Care Needs: A Review of the Evidence](#) - from the MassGeneral Hospital for Children.

The White House released materials on Health Reform for various populations, including Health Reform for [Americans, minorities, women, small businesses, seniors,](#) and [young adults](#).

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.

- [Budget Office Says](#) - by Robert Pear for *The New York Times*, August 31
- [Hospital Executives Worry About the What-Ifs of Health Reform](#) - by Peter Slevin for the *Washington Post*, August 30
- [President's Approval Rating Drops to 50 Percent, GOP Poll Says Reform Less Popular Than in 1994](#) - *Kaiser Health News*, August 28
- [Replacing Kennedy Tall Task for Reform-Minded Democrats](#) - *Kaiser Health News*, August 28
- [Grassley: No Longer Sure Bipartisan Health Deal Possible in September](#) - *Kaiser Health News*, August 28
- [Some Roman Catholic Bishops Assail Health Plan](#) - by David D. Kirkpatrick for *The New York Times*, August 28
- [Amid the Acrimony, Congress has Consensus on Some Health Care Issues](#) - by Janet Hook for *The Los Angeles Times*, August 28
- [Dealing with Being the Health Care 'Villians'](#) - by Kevin Sack for *The New York Times*, August 27
- [Press Release: America's Seniors and Health Insurance Reform: Protecting Coverage and Strengthening Medicare](#) - Dept. of Health and Human Services, August 27
- [RNC's Michael Steele Tangles with NPR's Steve Inskeep Over Gov't Health-Care Role](#) - by Frank James for *The Two-Way: NPR's News Blog*, August 27
- [Abortion is New Front in Health Battle](#) - by Fawn Johnson and Laura Meckler for *The Wall Street Journal*, August 27
- [Cooperatives' Record Weighed in Health Care Debate](#) - by Steven Mufson for *The Washington Post*, August 27
- [Decade of Debt: \\$9 Trillion](#) - by Jonathan Weisman and Deborah Solomon for *The Wall Street Journal*, August 26
- [Waxmen Takes on Drug Makers Over Medicare](#) - by Duff Wilson for *The New York Times*, August 26
- [U.S. Senator Edward Kennedy Dies At Age 77](#) - by Scott Malone for *Reuters*, August 26
- [Children's Advocates Fear Health Reform Could Undermine CHIP](#) - *Kaiser Health News*, August 25
- [GOP Tees Up Medicare Manifesto](#) - by Neil King Jr. for *The Wall Street Journal*, August 25
- [Democrats plan hundreds of reform rallies](#) - by Chris Frates for *Politico*, August 25
- [Policy Experts Call Fear of Rationing Unfounded](#) - by Reed Abelson for *The New York Times*, August 24
- [Amid Groups That Support Health Care Overhaul, Disagreement Is In the Details](#) - by Margaret Talev for *McClatchy Newspapers*, August 23
- [Key Senators Discuss Trimming Health Bill](#) - by Lori Montgomery and Anne E. Kornblut for *The Washington Post*, August 21
- [New Rx for Health Plan: Split Bill](#) - by Jonathan Weisman and Neftali Bendavid for *The Wall Street Journal*, August 20
- [Analysis: Liberals Tired of Health Care Compromise](#) - by Charles Babington and Ricardo Alonso-Zaldivar, August 19

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

The Waisman Center at UW-Madison seeks children, adolescents and adults who have been diagnosed with autism to help train Waisman Center staff on how to conduct the The Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule (ADOS), one of the best assessments for diagnosing autism spectrum disorders. They are looking for individuals who use full sentences to communicate and can volunteer 1 visit to the Waisman Center that will last under one hour. The sessions will be videotaped to evaluate the interviewer's techniques. Please note this ADOS is being administered for research training purposes only. Contact Sheri Stronach at (608)263-3123 for more information.

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

- [Debate's Path Caught Obama by Surprise - by Michael D. Shear and Ceci Connolly for *The Washington Post*, August 19](#)
- [Democrats Seem Set to Go It Alone on a Health Bill - by Carl Hulse and Jeff Zeleny for *The New York Times*, August 19](#)
- [Fact Check: White House Ignores Health Concession - by Philip Elliott for *Associated Press*, August 18](#)
- [Alternate Plan as Health Option Muddies Debate - by Robert Pear and Gardiner Harris for *The New York Times*, August 18](#)
- [White House appears ready to drop 'public option' - by Phillip Elliott for *Associated Press*, August 16](#)
- [Obama defends health care plans, citizens insurers - by Jeff Mason and Matt Spetalnick for *Reuters*, August 15](#)

News: Opinion

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

- [Editorial: Death Panel Claims, Distortions - *Minneapolis Star-Tribune*, September 1](#)
- [Op-Ed: Health Care Needs a Clear Message - by Mark Penn for *Politico*, September 1](#)
- [Editorial: Dr. Obama's Toughest Patient - *The Washington Post*, August 31](#)
- [Op-Ed: Starting Over on Health Care - by Bob Dole for *The Washington Post*, August 31](#)
- [Editorial: Majority Rule on Health Care Reform - *The New York Times*, August 30](#)
- [Op-Ed: Fixing Health Care Is Good for Business - by Gary Locke for *The Wall Street Journal*, August 28](#)
- [Op-Ed: Change We'd Rather Do Without - by Michael Kinsley for *The Washington Post*, August 28](#)
- [Op-Ed: Is True Health-Reform Doomed - by Allan Sloan for *The Washington Post*, August 27](#)
- [Editorial: World's Best Health Care - *The New York Times*, August 26](#)
- [Op-Ed: Congress's Health Care Numbers Don't Add Up - by John Gabel for *The New York Times*, August 26](#)
- [Op-Ed: Why Primary Care Doctors are Fed Up - by Vance Harris for CNN, August 25](#)
- [Op-Ed: Pulling It Together: This Could Be the Next Big Issue in Health Reform - by Drew Altman for Kaiser Family Foundation, August 24](#)
- [Op-Ed: Protecting Our Seniors: GOP Principles for Health Care - by Michael S. Steele for *The Washington Post*, August 24](#)
- [Analysis: Health Overhaul Tactics Need Overhaul - by Steven R. Hurst for *Associated Press*, August 24](#)
- [Editorial: The Uninsured - *The New York Times*, August 23](#)
- [Op-Ed: Obama's Trust Problem - by Paul Krugman for *The New York Times*, August 21](#)

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

Executive Director, Wisconsin Council on Children and Families. The Wisconsin Council on Children and Families is seeking a seasoned leader to assume the Executive Director role of this 128-year-old statewide nonprofit that promotes the well-being of Wisconsin's children, youth and families. Candidate should have at least five years senior leadership experience, preferably in a non-profit. To apply, email cover letter, resume, and salary requirements to WCCF@transitionguides.com. 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.

- [Editorial: ObamaCare's Contradictions - *The Wall Street Journal*, August 20](#)
- [Editorial: No Longer An Option - *The Washington Post*, August 20](#)
- [Op-Ed: Health Reform Without Cost-Cutting Isn't Worth It - by Michael Grunwald for *Time*, August 19](#)
- [Editorial: The Public Plan - *The New York Times*, August 19](#)
- [Op-Ed: President's Coverage Promise Is No Keeper - by David S. Hilzenrath for *The Washington Post*, August 17](#)
- [Op-Ed: Why We Need Health Care Reform - by President Barack Obama for *The New York Times*, August 16](#)
- [Op-Ed: Health care rationing: real scary - by Newt Gingrich for *The Los Angeles Times*, August 16](#)

NEWS: Health Care Costs & Access

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

- [Legal Immigrants to Receive Scaled Back Health Benefits in Massachusetts - *Kaiser Health News*, September 1](#)
- [Study Raises Questions About Cost Savings From Preventive Care - by Lori Montgomery for *The Washington Post*, September 1](#)
- [Health Care: Lowering Costs for Old Could Raise them For Young - by Julie Appleby for *Kaiser Health News*, August 31](#)
- [Quicken for Health Benefits? - by Jessica Shambora for *CNN Money*, August 27](#)
- [Policy Brief: How Does the Quality of U.S. Health Care Compare Internationally? - The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Urban Institute, August 20](#)
- [Poll: Growing Concerns on Access to Health Care - by Erica Werner for *Associated Press*, August 18](#)
- [August Consumer Confidence Index - The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, August 18](#)
- [Doctor Shortage Looms as Primary Care Loses Its Pull - by Janice Lloyd for *USA Today*, August 17](#)
- [Issue Brief: Impact of the Economy on Health Care - Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, August 14](#)

NEWS: The Uninsured

Click below for articles on the covering the uninsured:

- [House Democrats Investigating Whether Insurers Unfairly Drop Small Business Coverage - *Kaiser Health News*, September 1](#)
- [Issue Brief: How Will the Uninsured Be Affected by Health Reform? - Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, August 27](#)
- [46 million uninsured: a look behind the number - by April Fulton for NPR, August 21](#)

Previous Issues of the Update: (in PDF form)

[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](#)

[December 15](#)

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

HealthWatch WatchDog Episode Archive:

Season 1:

Episode 1: ["Advocacy"](#)

NEWS: Covering Children

Click below for news links on covering children:

- [Youth With Autism Coming of Age: New NIMH Study Will Focus on Transitions in Service Youth and Coverage - National Institute of Mental Health, August 7](#)

NEWS: Mental Health and AODA

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

- [Proposal to Ease Aid for G.I.s with Stress Disorder - by James Dao for *The New York Times*, August 26](#)
- [Foreclosures Make for Subprime Mental Health - by Renae Merle for *The Washington Post*, August 25](#)
- [DSM-V Developers Weigh Adding Psychosis Risk - by Mark Moran for *Psychiatric News*, August 21](#)
- [Military Hopes Civilian Clinicians Can Shrink Treatment Gap - by Aaron Levin for *Psychiatry News*, August 21](#)
- [Study: Economic Analysis Estimates Cost of Providing Comprehensive Mental Health Care Following Disasters - National Institute of Mental Health, August 11](#)

NEWS: Other Health News

Visit the links below for other health news and information:

- [Press Release: HHS Secretary Announces \\$25.7 Million to Expand, Improve Health Center Services - Dept. of Health and Human Services, August 23](#)
- [Press Release: HHS Issues Rule Requiring Individuals be Notified of Breaches of Their Health Information - Dept. of Health and Human Services, August 19](#)



Strategies"Episode 2: "HIRSP"Episode 3: "ACCESS"Episode 4: "Health Care Reform"Episode 5: "Birth Cost Recovery"Episode 6: "The Functional Screen"Episode 7: "Back-to-School"Episode 8: "Duplicative Service Denials"Episode 9: "Private Health Insurance"Episode 10: "Coalition Building"Episode 11: "Economic Stimulus"Episode 12: "COBRA"**Season 2:**Episode 1: "Legislative Reform"Episode 2: "State of the State"Episode 3: "Mondry vs. American Family Insurance"Episode 4: "Cover the Uninsured Week 2009"Episode 5: "BadgerCare Plus Core Plan Moves Forward!"May 26: Special Edition: Slight Delay in BC+ Core Plan ImplementationJune 11: Special Edition: ABC for Health Unveils Universal**Mark Your Calendars Now****Check Out These Excellent Events in 2009!**

- **Preserving Healthy Birth Outcomes in Dane County - Sept. 10, 2009:** 8:30am-noon, South Madison Boys and Girls Club, 2001 Taft St., Madison. For more information, contact Lucretia Sullivan Wade, Center for Women's Health Research at UW School of Medicine and Public Health, at 608-262-9397.
- **9th Annual Dylan's Run and Walk for Autism to Indian Summer Festival - Sept. 13.** Registration now open! A time competitive run with prizes, and a fun run for families, to support families touched by autism. The event takes place on the Summerfest Grounds and follows the Lake Michigan lakefront. All registered participants receive a t-shirt and free entrance to Indian Summer Festival. Online registration is available through www.dylansrun.com. Call 414-427-9345 or email info@assew.org for more information. Sponsored by the Autism Society of Southeastern WI.
- **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.
- **Wisconsin Community on Transition - Oct. 22, 9:00am,** Goodman Community Center, Madison. The topic for this event will be family involvement. To RSVP, 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

[Health Care Plan](#)

Episode 6: [The First Days of the Core Plan](#)

Episode 7: [Health Reform](#)

Episode 8: [Fact or Fiction](#)

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

Episode 10: [A Public Option](#)

HealthWatch WatchDog episodes are now available to everyone who receives the HealthWatch Wisconsin Update! Visit the HealthWatch WatchDog webpage 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

Bobby Peterson

bobbyp@safetyweb.org

Marysa LaRowe

mlarowe@safetyweb.org

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

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)** - 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 enroll by Sept. 10 and 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](#).

Produce your own webcast! Rent the ABC for Health Studio!

ABC for Health has developed a web casting studio with state of the art technology to reach a mass audience in the comforts of their own homes or offices. Agencies and organizations are invited to rent this studio space. [Click here](#) for more information.

Specialized Training Opportunities

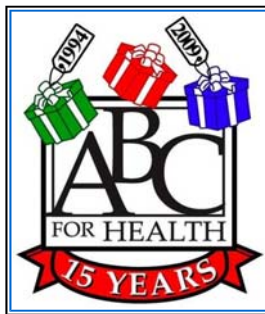
Help HealthWatch Wisconsin develop a new web-based training

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.

format for Wisconsin's public health workforce! [Click here](#) for more information.

Support Our Efforts!

You can donate to ABC through our website. Please visit www.abcforhealth.org, 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!



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