



A Project of ABC for Health, Inc.

www.healthwatchwisconsin.org

info@healthwatchwisconsin.org

HealthWatch Wisconsin Update

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

September 15, 2007

Volume 3, Number 17

In This Issue

- Why Spend \$20 To Join HealthWatch Wisconsin?
- Case Tip: Correcting the Date of Birth for a Newborn
- New Operations Memo
- Updates on Health Care Reform and the Wisconsin State Budget
- Upcoming "Healthy Wisconsin" and Health Care Reform Events
- NEWS: Health Care in Wisconsin
- NEWS: Health Care in the WI Budget
- NEWS: Covering Children
- NEWS: Health Care Reform
- NEWS: Health Care & the 2008 Election
- NEWS: Health Care Costs and Access
- Featured Link: Prescription Project
- CKSN Corner:
 1. Recently Published Items Related to CYSHCN
 2. Mark Your Calendars Now: Seven Excellent Conferences in 2007 and One in 2008!
- Notice of Funding Available
- ABC for Health Is Hiring
- Support Our Efforts!

Why Spend \$20 To Join HealthWatch WI?

There are numerous benefits to membership, including future access to online and live trainings on health care coverage programs, access to detailed publications on advocacy strategies and tips, and a chance to meet your friends and peers for a **deep discount** at our 2008 annual conference! Members are all a part of our efforts to see that all people have access to affordable and comprehensive health care and coverage in Wisconsin.

We have also added another perk, rare in Wisconsin: The chance to access **Green Bay Packers Tickets!** Stay tuned for our next drawing.

The HealthWatch Wisconsin Membership Year runs July 1, 2007, through June 30, 2008.

Case Tip: Correcting the Date of Birth for a Newborn

Occasionally a newborn's date of birth (DOB) will be recorded incorrectly. This error can present challenges for a parent applying for Medicaid or BadgerCare. When a newborn's date of birth is incorrect on all official forms (those at the County office and Vital Records and those that have been cleared with the Social Security Agency), that DOB is considered official. Therefore, you must take steps to correct the DOB error or the client could potentially lose Medicaid or BadgerCare coverage.

In cases such as these, you will need to contact the Vital Records Office of the State of Wisconsin. You can do so using one of the following methods:

- E-mail: VitalRecords@dhfs.state.wi.us.
- Telephone: For automated assistance 24 hours a day, please call (608) 266-1371. To contact the service counter between the hours of 8:00am and 4:15pm, Monday through Friday, please call (608) 266-1373.

HealthWatch and Covering Kids and Families – Meetings by Region

Southern: October 1, 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 with questions.

Southeastern: October 10, 10:00am-12:00 pm. Aurora Family Services, 3200 W. Highland Blvd, Milwaukee. Contact Leah Jepson at (414) 286-6608 or 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 with questions.

Northeastern: October 11, 9:00-10:30am. Allouez Prevea Building – St. Vincent Conference Rm. (3rd 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 with questions.

Western: November 13, 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 with questions.

Coalitions Under Development

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

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

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

- Mail: Vital Records
P.O. Box 309
Madison, WI 53701-0309

In order for the date of birth to be changed, you will need an official letter from the hospital where the birth occurred. Remember to get confirmation of the correct DOB, as it was recorded at the hospital, from Vital Records after they receive your letter. Also remember that these DOB errors are usually identified when a client is seeking backdated Medicaid coverage for a newborn. The backdate period can be very short depending on the day of the month in which you are applying.

New Operations Memo

A new DHFS Operations Memo has been posted which discusses the process for income maintenance (IM) agencies to pay for citizenship or identity documentation for applicants/recipients who cannot afford them:

[Ops Memo 07-51 and Supplemental Documents](#)

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 17 – Medford, 6:00-8:00pm

(Taylor Co. Community Center, Hwy 13 & 64)

September 23 – Waterloo, 7:15-9:00pm

(Plattdeutcher Hall, 115 S. 2nd St.)

September 26 – Waushara, 6:30-8:30pm

(Performing Arts Center)

October 10 – Menomonee Falls, time and place TBA

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](#).

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](#).
- **Covering Kids and Families State Coalition Meeting**: October 24, 9:00am-2:30pm at the Wilderness Resort in Wisconsin Dells. For registration information and a sample agenda, please [click here](#).

NEWS: Health Care in Wisconsin

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

- [Health plans compared](#) - Guy Boulton for the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, September 14
- [Options key to reforming health care; Lecturer says market can create efficient system](#) - Guy Boulton for the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, September 9
- [Higher Costs For Health Coverage](#) - Diane Levick for the *Courant*, September 6
- [Workers treasure health insurance; Survey finds it more valued than competitive pay](#) - Guy Boulton for the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, September 1
- [State health net likely to survive; Bush policy may deter some efforts to expand kids' coverage](#) - Guy Boulton and Stacy Forster for the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, August 22

NEWS: Health Care in the WI Budget

Follow the links below for recent news of health care measures in the state budget:

- [Legislative Fiscal Bureau Comparative Summary of Senate and Assembly Health and Insurance Provisions](#) - September 2007
- [State health care debate heated](#) - Guy Boulton for the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, September 13
- [EDITORIAL: Logical first steps](#) - the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, September 10
- [OPINION: Do your own math on Healthy Wisconsin](#) - Jack Lohman for the *Small Business Times*, September 10
- [Healthy Wisconsin deserves healthy debate](#) - Steve Jagler for the *Small Business Times*, September 7
- [Governor \(still\) waiting for budget](#) - Jackie Johnson for Wisconsin Radio Network, September 7
- [Health plan fans 'serious'](#) - Robert Mentzer for the *Wausau Daily Herald*, September 5
- [OPINION: Healthy Wisconsin bill is morally correct choice](#) - Brandon Buchanan for *The Capital Times*, September 5

NEWS: Covering Children

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

- [Senators Fight Bush on Kids' Insurance](#) - the *Washington Post*, September 11

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 or visit their website at www.mch-hotlines.org.

SCHIP expansion stalls in Congress - Sean Lengell for the *Washington Times*, September 10

EDITORIAL: Denying Children's Health Care - *The New York Times*, September 8

Spitzer: Move hurts uninsured kids - Martin C. Evans for the *Long Island Newsday*, September 7

EDITORIAL: A passable kids' healthcare plan; The Senate's plan to fund health insurance for poor kids is modest but might stand up to a Bush veto - the *Los Angeles Times*, September 7

CMS Letter Restricting SCHIP Enrollment - Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, August 27

NEWS: Health Care Reform

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

San Francisco to Offer Care for Uninsured Adults - Kevin Sack for *The New York Times*, September 14

Health care bill passes Legislature, but governor says he'll veto it - Tom Chorneau for the *San Francisco Chronicle*, September 11

California's Ambitious Health Plan Stalls - Kevin Sack for *The New York Times*, September 9

NEWS: Health Care & the 2008 Election

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

Clinton to unveil health care proposals - Reuters for the *Washington Post*, September 13

Edwards Backs Mandatory Preventive Care - Amy Lorentzen for the Associated Press/*Forbes*, September 2

NEWS: Health Care Costs and Access

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

EDITORIAL: Cancer's High Toll on the Uninsured - *The New York Times*, September 11

Health insurance premiums vault past inflation - Julie Appleby for *USA Today*, September 11

Links of Interest

Catalyst Center – A national center dedicated to improving health care insurance and financing for CYSHCN. 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

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

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.

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 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.

Featured Link: Prescription Project

The Prescription Project is led by Community Catalyst in partnership with the Institute on Medicine as a Profession. Funded by the Pew Charitable Trusts, the Project seeks to eliminate conflicts of interest created by industry marketing by promoting policy change among academic medical centers, professional medical societies, and public and private payers. In addition, the Project will advance state and national level policy solutions.

The Project will sponsor a wide range of activities to achieve its goals, including research and policy analysis, national and community-based forums, outreach to the media, and meetings with key decision-makers, including deans of medical schools, health care administrators, business leaders, policymakers, and consumers. For more information, please visit www.prescriptionproject.org.

CKSN Corner

Covering Kids with Special Needs



Recently-Published Items Related to CYSHCN

Click on the corresponding links to access the materials:

[Bipolar Illness Soars as a Diagnosis for the Young](#) - Benedict Carey for *The New York Times*, September 4

[Perceptions and Expectations of Youth With Disabilities: A Special Topic Report](#) - the National Center for Special Education Research

[New Issue Brief on the Role of CTE in Secondary-Postsecondary Transitions](#) - the Association for Career and Technical Education

Mark Your Calendars Now: 7 Excellent Conferences in 2007 and 1 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

HealthWatch Wisconsin Update Staff

Bobby Peterson

bobbyp@safetyweb.org

Nora Foshager

nfoshager@safetyweb.org

Shelly Flanders

mflanders@safetyweb.org

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 for more information or to register.

23rd 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.

***NEW* Creating Meaningful Community Life for Everyone: Finding and Funding a Pragmatic Path to Supported Employment** – This event will be held October 9 from 8:00am-3:30pm at the Four Points by Sheraton Milwaukee Airport. This workshop is for educators, families, guardians, service providers, social workers, and other who are supporting individuals challenged by autism and who are willing to work for a meaningful community life for everyone. For more information, please contact ASSEW at (414) 417-9345 or assew@assew.org.

1st 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 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. 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 or [click here](#).

5th 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.

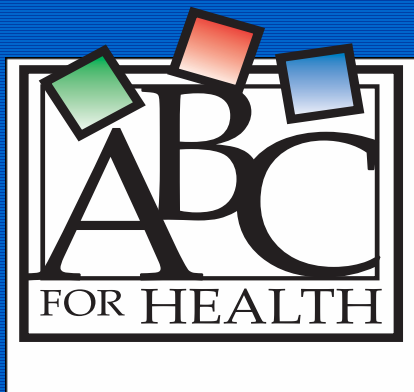
Please note that ABC for Health, Inc. has moved. Our new address:

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

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 and click on 'Employment.'

Notice of Funding Available

Below are links to various notices of available funding:

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