



# HealthWatch Wisconsin **ACTION ALERT**

March 1, 2011

PUBLIC HEARINGS: Impact of BadgerCare and Medicaid on WI

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**Attend the HealthWatch Wisconsin Annual Conference March 7 & 8, 2011 Madison, WI**

Click [here](#) for a detailed conference schedule.

Click [here](#) to register.

## JOIN US...

...in building comprehensive education and advocacy systems in Wisconsin!

Become a member of HealthWatch Wisconsin! We welcome your interest in learning and sharing with other impressive members of the public health workforce in

## SHARE YOUR STORY: Testify at the BadgerCare/Medicaid Public Hearings in Madison

### Join Us for a Public Hearing on the Impact of BadgerCare and Medicaid Programs on the People of Wisconsin

On March 7 & 8, 2011, HealthWatch Wisconsin will conduct public hearings and hear testimony from the people of Wisconsin on the importance of the BadgerCare and Medicaid health coverage programs.



Individuals, families, and care providers are encouraged to join us to share their personal stories or to learn from others. A rally at the capitol will follow the hearings each day. Testimony will be compiled and shared with Wisconsin's elected officials.

### Hearing Information:

**Monday, March 7 & Tuesday, March 8**

**2:00pm-4:00pm each day**

Hall of Wisconsin Ballroom

Best Western Inn on the Park

22 S. Carroll Street

Madison, WI 53703

After the hearing on each day, join a march at the capitol to raise attention to the vital needs of BadgerCare and Medicaid recipients.

### Purpose of the Hearing:

To hear stories and support for the protection and preservation of the current BadgerCare and Medicaid programs from individuals currently enrolled;

To learn how the over 1.2 million enrollees in BadgerCare and Medicaid would be impacted by changes in the administration of the programs;

To hear from the additional family members--the grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, parents, neighbors and friends--on how they would be impacted if the BadgerCare or Medicaid a loved one relies on were to disappear or be restricted;

To hear from advocates and health care providers who work with individuals and families enrolled in or attempting to enroll in BadgerCare and Medicaid programs.

**The Hearing is Free and Open to the Public.** The hearings coincide with the annual HealthWatch Wisconsin Conference on March 7 & 8. There is a fee to attend the conference, but the public hearings are free and open to the public. The hearings will end promptly at 4:00pm each day for the capitol rally. Individuals may testify in person or in writing. If you wish to speak in person, please check in at the door to the Hall of WI Ballroom. Oral testimony will be

Wisconsin. [Click Here](#) for more information

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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)

If you know someone who might be interested, please [Forward this Newsletter >>](#)

limited to approximately 3 minutes in duration. If you wish to submit written comment, please address your letter by March 11, 2011 to the attention of: HealthWatch Wisconsin, 32 N. Bassett St., Madison, WI 53703 or email to [info@healthwatchwisconsin.org](mailto:info@healthwatchwisconsin.org).

**Accommodations.** Accommodations will be provided, upon reasonable request, to afford individuals access to the Public Hearing. The Inn on the Park is an accessible facility with an elevator that leads to the hearing room on the second floor. Please call if we can be of some assistance: 608-261-6939 ext. 204, and mention you are calling about the "BadgerCare Public Hearing."

### Your Voice is Needed and Appreciated!

If you can't join us on Monday or Tuesday, consider contacting your elected officials **NOW** and let them know your thoughts on the dire need for BadgerCare Plus and Medicaid Programs in Wisconsin!!

**Call the Wisconsin Legislative Hotline:**  
**1-800-362-9472**

**Call or Email Your Elected Official Directly:**  
<http://legis.wisconsin.gov/w3asp/waml/waml.aspx>

**Join HealthWatch Wisconsin to Help Us Promote Access to Health Care & Coverage in Wisconsin!**

<http://www.safetyweb.org/healthwatchwi/membership.html>

### Problems with the Budget Repair Bill

Governor Walker's bill takes power over BadgerCare/Medicaid away from elected officials and gives it to the Department of Health Services (DHS). The bill allows the Secretary of the DHS to make broad changes to BadgerCare/Medicaid eligibility and services behind closed doors, without public comment or legislative review.



For more detail, visit HealthWatch Wisconsin's [Budget Bill website](#).

### Support Action Alerts

Action alerts are funded by HealthWatch Wisconsin member dues. Please **join and support** HealthWatch Wisconsin!

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