



Health insurance for all kids

BadgerCare Plus: Health Insurance for All Kids Fact Sheet

Governor Jim Doyle has proposed BadgerCare Plus to ensure that all children in Wisconsin have access to health insurance.

- BadgerCare Plus is a single health care safety net program that streamlines the family Medicaid, BadgerCare and Healthy Start programs to eliminate barriers to enrollment.
- BadgerCare Plus ensures that all children, regardless of income, would be eligible for affordable health care coverage.
- In addition to providing coverage to all kids, thousands of adults will get access to coverage, including pregnant women making up to \$48,000 per year.

BadgerCare Plus Helps Working Families

- In Wisconsin, 91,000 children were without health insurance for at least part of the year in 2004.
- The lack of health insurance falls hardest on children in “near poor” families in Wisconsin. In 2004, 12% of near poor children from families with incomes between 100%-200% of the poverty line were uninsured for at least part of the year. During the same period, 11% of poor children whose family’s income is below the poverty line were uninsured.
- Fewer and fewer businesses are offering employer-sponsored health insurance plans for their employees. In 2001, 77% of Wisconsin residents had their health insurance coverage provided by employers. That number is now down to 65%.

BadgerCare Plus is Cost Effective

- A single health care safety net will save the state millions of dollars.
- Estimated savings in SFY 2008 are \$6.1 million and in SFY 2009 are \$1.1 million.