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A publication providing information and items of interest to California Healthy Families and Medi-Cal Enrollment Entities, Certified Application Assistants, families, and participating plans

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If you have a story idea you would like to share or comments about this newsletter, please contact us.

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FREE Income Tax Preparation and Family Services Events Voluntary Income Tax Preparation MEGA DAYS

The Healthy Families Program (HFP) is partnering with the State Board of Equalization (BOE) Fourth District again this year to host Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) events in the Los Angeles area. These events help low-income families with tax preparation and other services, including low-cost health and dental insurance, employment training, auto insurance and discount telephone service.

Saturday, February 25, 2012	Saturday, March 17, 2012	Saturday, April 14, 2012
<p>California State Dominguez Hills 1000 East Victoria Street, Carson, CA 90747</p> <p>10:00 AM - 3:00 PM</p>	<p>Los Angeles City College, 855 North Vermont Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90029</p> <p>10:00 AM - 3:00 PM</p>	<p>Long Beach City College, 4901 East Carson Street, Long Beach, CA 90808</p> <p>10:00 AM - 3:00 PM</p>

Free tax preparation assistance through VITA is offered by appointment only and is for families with annual incomes of \$49,000 or less in 2011. Call 1-323-980-1221 to schedule an appointment for one of the dates listed above.

For information on other VITA events throughout California call 1-800-906-9887.

VITA Program information is available at:
www.irs.gov/individuals/article/0,,id=107626,00.html.

If you would like to volunteer at a VITA event go to:
www.ftb.ca.gov/individuals/vita/index.shtml.

In an effort to reach as many individuals as possible, we are asking for your assistance in spreading the word about this important program. VITA helps Californians save money and receive the tax credits that apply to them.

Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act Outreach Grants

The Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act (CHIPRA) of 2009 provided a total of \$100 million for outreach and enrollment activities. \$80 million will be provided to States, local governments, and community-based and non-profit organizations. In Cycle 1, CHIPRA awarded \$40 million in grants in 2009.

In 2011 Cycle II, CHIPRA awarded \$40 million in grants to develop and implement strategies to reach uninsured children. These include:

- Use technology to facilitate enrollment and renewal.
- Focus on retention, engage with schools in outreach, enrollment and renewal activities.
- Reach out to groups likely to experience gaps in coverage.
- Ensure eligible teens are enrolled and stay enrolled in Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) for a two-year period beginning in August 2011.

In California, \$5.8 million was awarded to the following organizations:

- Fresno Healthy Community Access Partners
- Alameda Health Consortium
- American Association of School Administration
- Los Angeles School District
- Mendocino County Office of Education
- California Primary Care Association

For a complete list of Cycle II grantees and a description of the outreach projects, please visit: www.insurekidsnow.gov/professionals/outreach/get_covered_campaign/CHIPRA-Cycle-II-Grant-Summaries.pdf

Managed Risk Medical Insurance Board Chosen For National Oral Health Initiative

The Managed Risk Medical Insurance Board, (MRMIB), has been selected by the DentaQuest Foundation to join its Oral Health 2014 Initiative. MRMIB will receive nearly \$100,000 to support its work to address access for oral health services for children in the Healthy Families Program.

The Oral Health 2014 Initiative is a nationwide effort to reverse oral health disparities in the United States. The Board joins partners in 20 states collaborating to improve dental quality.

“We are grateful to DentaQuest for supporting MRMIB’s efforts to improve oral health for California’s children,” said MRMIB member Richard Figueroa. “MRMIB recognizes the crucial link between oral and overall health. The resources provided by DentaQuest will better enable MRMIB to ensure that Healthy Families children obtain high quality dental care and establish good oral health early in life.”

Nearly 70 organizations expressed interest in the Oral Health 2014 initiative and its objectives. Thirty-six organizations were invited to submit full proposals. The multi-year Oral Health 2014 Initiative aims to eliminate such disparities by supporting state organizations who are building community partnerships.

Two years ago, MRMIB embarked on an effort to increase Healthy Families subscribers’ use of dental care. In July 2010, the Board started the Healthy Families Healthy Smiles initiative to improve the oral health of children in the Healthy Families Program. MRMIB is working with its health and dental plans to encourage better oral health and help Healthy Families subscribers maximize their benefits.

HEALTH-E-APP CALCULATES
INCOME SO YOU DON'T
HAVE TO!



Protecting Applicant’s Health Information

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) established federal requirements for handling Protected Health Information (PHI). This includes the families applying for coverage with the help of Certified Application Assistants (CAA).

PHI identifiers protected under HIPAA regulations include any unique identifying number, characteristic or code including:

- Name
- Address
- Dates (i.e. birth date, enrollment date)
- Telephone Number
- Social Security Number
- Account Numbers (i.e. Family Member Number (FMN), Client Index Number (CIN))

CAAs, who are authorized to request application or case information for an applicant, must use the appropriate phone or secure fax lines listed below to discuss or transmit case information with the Healthy Families Program (HFP). ***Email is not a secure way to discuss case information*** unless both parties are using encrypted email.

For Application Status	Phone: 1-800-880-5305
	Fax: 1-866-848-4977
For HFP Member Information	Phone: 1-866-848-9166
	Fax: 1-866-848-4974
EE CAA Liaison (General Program Information)	Phone: 1-800-279-5012
	Fax: 1-916-673-4500
Health-e-App Helpdesk	Phone: 1-866-861-3443
	Fax: 1-866-848-4976

COMPLETE APPLICATIONS
FASTER WITH HEALTH-E-APP!

California PCIP's Record Breaking Enrollment Continues!

November 2011 was another record enrollment month for CA PCIP, with over 800 subscribers enrolled! We are averaging approximately 709 new subscribers a month (August – November)! And California still has the 2nd highest PCIP enrollment in the nation!

At November 30, 2011, and with your support, CA PCIP has enrolled over 5,900 subscribers!

CA PCIP enrollment reflects California's diverse population, as shown by the gender, age, and ethnicity statistics provided below.

CA PCIP Subscribers Demographics November 2011	
Gender of Subscribers	Percentage of Total Subscribers
Female	54.8%
Male	45.2%
Age Category of Subscribers	Percentage of Total Subscribers
Age: 0 - 29	18.3%
Age: 30 - 49	40.9%
Age: 50 - 64	39.8%
Age: 65 +	1.0%
Ethnicity of Subscribers	Percentage of Total Subscribers
White	57.0%
Asian/Pacific Islander	9.0%
Latino	8.1%
African American	2.5%
Native American Indian/Alaska Native	.5%
Other/Not Given/Unknown	22.9%

CA PCIP's mission is to help uninsured Californians get the health coverage they need. And together, we can!