



Colorado Covering Kids and Families

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### Who We Are

Colorado Covering Kids and Families (CKF) is a statewide project that works to ensure all children and families eligible for Medicaid and Child Health Plan *Plus* (CHP+) are enrolled. The Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN) is the lead agency for the project. CKF is made up of the CKF Coalition, the CKF Advisory Committee, the Agency Partners Work Group, and the Health Policy Work Group.

### What We Know

Families applying for public health insurance coverage face many barriers. Program applications are often complicated and difficult to read and families can be confused by vague or inconsistent eligibility criteria. In addition, enrollment workers often struggle with a statewide computer enrollment system that has been stretched beyond its intended capacity and insufficient staffing and resources make it difficult to keep up with growing caseloads. Combined, these barriers and others, keep eligible kids and families from getting and keeping coverage.

*In Colorado, an estimated 176,000 children are uninsured. According to the Colorado Health Institute, 127,000<sup>1</sup> of these children are eligible for Medicaid and CHP+, but not enrolled.*

<sup>1</sup> Colorado Health Institute: Center for the Study of the Safety Net (2010). *Colorado Children's Health Insurance Status: 2010 Update*. Denver, Colorado.

### What We Do

With a membership of community-based organizations, advocates, providers, schools, and health policy experts from across the state, Colorado CKF:

- Supports outreach, enrollment, and retention efforts;
- Works to simplify enrollment and re-enrollment processes;
- Improves coordination between Medicaid and CHP+;
- Bridges the gap between outreach and enrollment professionals and health policy decision-makers; and
- Builds a coalition to create sustainable improvements to Colorado's public health insurance programs.

### How We Do It

The *CKF Coalition* includes more than 375 individuals from over 220 agencies and organizations statewide. CKF Coalition members work to identify improvements in public health insurance programs, represent the needs of families and local communities in the policy process, and support local efforts to enhance outreach and enrollment in Medicaid and CHP+.

The *Agency Partners Work Group* focuses on outreach, enrollment, and retention issues in Medicaid and CHP+. Members and CKF staff share resources, strengthen partnerships and provide each other with technical assistance on Medicaid and CHP+ policies and rule changes.

The *Health Policy Work Group* monitors and discusses legislation and regulations that impact Medicaid and CHP+.

To learn more about Colorado CKF or to find out more about our Coalition and Work Group meetings, visit [www.cchn.org/ckf](http://www.cchn.org/ckf) or contact us.

## contacts

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