



TENNESSEE
JUSTICE
CENTER



THE CHILDREN'S CHAMPION

HOLIDAY CHECKLIST

What can you do this holiday season to give back to Tennessee's children?

- Sign our CHIP letter!
<https://www.tnjustice.org/chip-sign-on-letter/>
- Call your Senators and tell them to extend CHIP!
Senator Alexander - (202) 224-4944
Senator Corker - (202) 224-3344
- Ask a friend to call our Senators!
- Follow us on Twitter (@tnjusticecenter) or like us on Facebook (@tnjustice)!
- Share your favorite TJC Facebook post!
- Forward the Children's Champion to 3 friends!



PDF version of the checklist available [here](#).

QUICK LINKS

[About Us](#) | [Give Now](#) | [Get Involved](#) | [Staff](#)

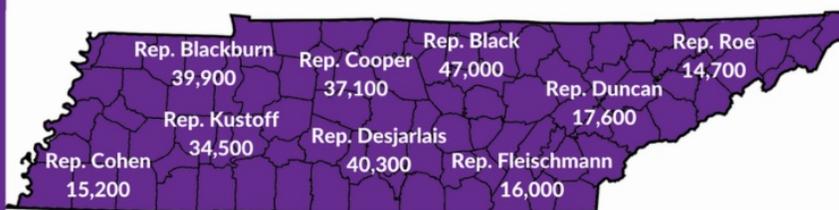
ICYMI

- The Center for American Progress estimates that [262,300 Tennesseans would lose coverage](#) because of the repeal of the individual mandate in the tax reform bill that the Senate just passed.

262,300

Tennesseans will lose healthcare coverage under the GOP tax bill.

How many of your neighbors will lose their coverage?



Source: Center for American Progress

- As holiday breaks approach for many children in Tennessee, let's not forget that many kids rely on food they get at school. Every child in Tennessee deserves a #HungerFreeBreak.

59%

of children from low-income families have come to school hungry.

74%

of educators notice students who come to school regularly and are not receiving enough to eat at home.

21%

of Tennessee's children are food insecure.

#HungerFreeBreak

Source: No Kid Hungry-Share our Strength and Feeding America- Meal the Gap



- In the 12/8 Continuing Resolution (CR) that funded the government through 12/22, there was a provision included that gives CMS more flexibility to give states money to keep funding their CHIP program, even after they've used their proportional amount of emergency funds. This change won't benefit most states, as Georgetown Center for Children and Families explains in its [blog](#).

- Kaiser Family Foundation (KFF) released a new [fact sheet](#) titled, "State Plans for CHIP as Federal CHIP Funds Run Out". This fact sheet provides an overview of state plans for CHIP as they grow closer to exhausting federal funds amid continued delay of Congressional action to extend funding.
- [The last volume of the Children's Champion.](#)

THE MORE YOU KNOW

Medicaid and work has been a big topic on the national level with [CMS](#) signaling that they will start approving Medicaid work requirement waivers.

Because Tennessee is a non-expansion state, our adult population receiving Medicaid is comprised of seniors, people with disabilities, and caregivers of young children. In the caregiver population, 77% are in working families. This obviously raises questions about what a work requirement would mean for Tennessee and this small segment of adults.

Kaiser Family Foundation (KFF) also released an [issue brief](#) on "Understanding the Intersection of Medicaid and Work." This issue brief provides data on the work status of the nearly 25 million non-elderly adults without SSI enrolled in Medicaid in order to better understand the potential implications of work requirement proposals in Medicaid, including 50-state data in the tables and the [PDF](#).

LOOKING FORWARD

Federal level:

- **Friday, December 15 is the last day of open enrollment on the federal Marketplace.** The toll-free 24/7 line for open enrollment assistance is 844-644-5443.
- **There is momentum for Congress to get CHIP done!** Last night Senator-Elect Doug Jones mentioned CHIP in his [acceptance remarks](#): "Take this election - take this election where the people of Alabama said we want to get something done, we want you to find common ground, we want you to talk. Take this opportunity, in light of this election, and go ahead and fund that CHIP program before I get up there. Put it aside and let's do it for those million kids and 150,000 here in Birmingham, Ala."

State level:

- Tennessee's funds for CHIP are set to run out in Spring 2018, but there are not clear federal and state parameters for the shutdown of our CHIP program. Other states are sending out notices and planning to shut their programs down in the near future. We should work to get answers from state officials about their contingency plan for CoverKids so we can give the best information to the families who will be affected by program

changes.

JOIN US

Congratulations to Elizabeth Roth for completing our survey and receiving a \$25 Amazon gift card! We appreciate everyone who filled out the survey.

Smiles with Santa - Dental Screenings & Well Child Visits for Kids 0-12 Years - Matthew Walker Comprehensive Health Center from 10 AM-2 PM on Saturday, December 16, 2017. PDF of flyer available [here](#).



SMILES WITH SANTA
DENTAL SCREENINGS & WELL CHILD VISITS FOR KIDS 0-12 YEARS

MW
CHC
MATTHEW WALKER
Comprehensive Health Center, Inc.

Free
FOR UNINSURED!

Most major insurances accepted

Saturday, December 16th, 2017
10:00am — 2:00pm
Matthew Walker Comprehensive Health Center
1035 14th Avenue North
Nashville, TN 37208

- Well Child Appointments → 615.340.1281
- No Appointments Necessary for Dental Screenings

ALL CHILDREN WILL RECEIVE:

- ⇒ A picture with Santa (with either a dental visit or well child visit)
- ⇒ Free books, hot cocoa, and other holiday activities

As a reminder, the Tennessee Justice Center also helps with:

1. Enrollment onto TennCare and CoverKids
2. Service Issues

3. Redetermination Issues

If you ever encounter anyone who is having trouble getting health insurance or getting health services, please call TJC: (615) 255-0331.

If there is any information you would like us to share on your behalf, including events and resources, please reply to this email.

Sincerely,

Kinika Young
Director of Children's Health
kyoung@tnjustice.org



STAY CONNECTED:



kyoung@tnjustice.org | 615-255-0331 | <https://www.tnjustice.org/>