



## THE CHILDREN'S CHAMPION

September is here and it's going to be a big month for health care! Market stabilization hearings are this week and next, led by Sen. Alexander with participation by Tennesseans including Insurance Commissioner Julie Mix McPeak, Governor Bill Haslam, and Dr. Manny Sethi. The first CHIP hearing was Thursday, September 7 and the deadline for CHIP reauthorization is September 30, 2017.

Please sign on to our CHIP letter in support of clean CHIP reauthorization. [You can view the letter and sign on here.](#)

In this newsletter, we are sharing some new educational resources including our policy brief on CHIP reauthorization and a Tennessee-specific CHIP fact sheet.

September is going to be a great month to educate ourselves and the communities we work in. We are excited to share some upcoming opportunities to engage in our Student Ambassador Program, our two-day "Navigating TennCare" training, and other community events included below.

## ICYMI

**We have launched our Student Ambassador Program!** It's a great opportunity for high school students to learn more about health care and become advocates in their communities. [Please share our flyer.](#)

[Check out our new policy brief](#) on CHIP in Tennessee. The text boxes have a "click to tweet" function to make sharing a little bit easier.

Our new [CHIP fact sheet](#). Feel free to distribute!

In light of the severe cuts to ACA enrollment and marketing grants, [we released a press statement and more information](#) on the damage these cuts will do.

We also shared a [blog post](#) about our work around renewal of Medicare Savings Program benefits and the trouble many elderly Tennesseans are dealing with.

If you know or work with anyone whose children are on CoverKids, particularly state employees whose children are enrolled in CoverKids plans, please connect them to us so that we can help amplify their story.

[Last volume of the Children's Champion](#). You can find the rest of them at: [tnjustice.org/childrens-health/](http://tnjustice.org/childrens-health/).

## THE MORE YOU KNOW...

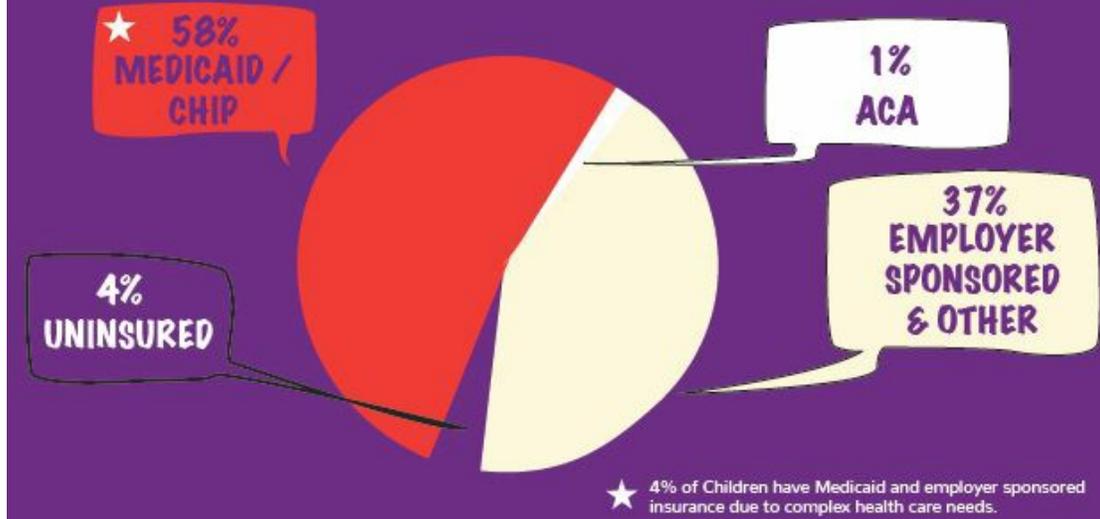
[Updated children's fact sheet](#) that shows coverage for all of Tennessee's children.

[Children's Defense Fund's toolkit](#) for reaching uninsured children.

The National Association of School Nurses has released [an interactive toolkit](#) with back-to-school resources for families and school nurses.

[Comprehensive outreach resources](#) in multiple languages for print media, social media, person-to-person outreach, and audio public service announcements.

# HOW ARE CHILDREN COVERED IN TN?



## LOOKING FORWARD

### Federal level:

- The Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee, led by Sen. Alexander, is holding hearings on marketplace stabilization. The hearing on Wednesday, September 6 included [comments](#) from our Insurance Commissioner Julie Mix McPeak. Governor Bill Haslam testified Thursday, September 7. Both McPeak and Haslam emphasized the need to fund cost sharing payments and address rising healthcare costs.
- The hearing on September 12 will focus on state flexibility, and the hearing on September 14 will focus on healthcare stakeholders and will include comments from Tennessee doctor Manny Sethi.
- The Senate Finance Committee, led by Sen. Hatch, is holding a hearing on CHIP reauthorization on Thursday, September 7 at 9 AM CDT. You can watch it [here](#).
- The House of Representatives is on recess from Friday, September 15 until Friday, September 22.

### State level:

- Release of Census data Tuesday, September 12 and Thursday, September 14, that will be really important to guide state advocacy.

## JOIN US

Upcoming projects and events:

- **Mercy Forum: Hunger in our Community on Saturday**

- September 9 at 10:30 AM CDT** . TJC's Director of Nutrition Advocacy Keith Barnes will be speaking about hunger in Tennessee. Learn more about the event [here](#).
- **TJC's "Health care: Where are we now?" webinar Thursday, September 14 at 11:30 AM CDT**. Learn more about the event [here](#).
  - **St. Thomas Medical Mission at Home is September 30 8 AM-3 PM** where they provide free medical services. The flyer is [here](#).
  - **NALS presents a free Silent Auction and Cocktail Hour October 16 from 5:30-8:00 PM**. TJC will be the beneficiary of proceeds. Everyone is welcome! For more information, view the invitation [here](#).
  - **TJC is presenting a "Navigating TennCare" two-day training October 16 and 17 at St. Thomas West Hospital**. Webinar registration for October 16 is [here](#). Webinar registration for October 17 is [here](#). In-person registration for October 16 is [here](#). In-person registration for October 17 is [here](#).

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

**Sincerely,**

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**STAY CONNECTED:**



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