



THE CHILDREN'S CHAMPION

The deadline (9/30) to reauthorize the Children's Health Insurance Program ([CHIP](#)), Community Health Center ([CHC](#)) funding and Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting ([MIECHV](#)) has come and gone. We are still pushing for Congress to act quickly on these vital, nonpartisan programs.

For the time being we are safe from massive repeal efforts, and [Senator Alexander has reconvened bipartisan marketplace stabilization hearings](#) that will hopefully mitigate some of the problems with individual coverage, like high costs and sparse coverage options in some geographic areas.

What can you do today?

Call or email your senators and representative about reauthorizing CHIP, CHC funding, and MIECHV.

Senators - 202-224-3121

Representatives - 1-866-426-2631 and enter your zip code

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ICYMI

Please help spread the word about our Student Ambassador Program or nominate a student yourself! This program is open to students across the state. Everything will be digital except one in-person event in Nashville. Students can apply themselves or community members can nominate students. [Here is the flyer to share.](#)

This week (October 1-7) is Child Health Week! [Check out the calendar](#) to see what events are happening near you.

Dr. Yaun, a pediatrician in Memphis, wrote a [compelling op-ed](#) about the importance of CHIP.



[Access to healthcare helps these children with disabilities thrive](#)

[The last volume of the Children's Champion](#)

THE MORE YOU KNOW



[Please share our new CHIP infographic!](#)

Our [CHIP policy brief](#) outlines the importance of reauthorizing CHIP for Tennessee specifically.

LOOKING FORWARD

Federal level:

- The latest ACA repeal effort, [Graham-Cassidy health care bill](#), [did not come to a vote](#) because it lacked the support needed to pass.
- The budget resolution Congress was using for health care reform expired on September 30. For now, they have lost an opportunity to push through a bill with just 50 votes. Although it's [not out of the realm of possibility](#) for them to create another budget resolution, we hope that they will pursue a plan that can garner bipartisan support.
- As mentioned above, now we shift our focus to CHIP, CHC and MIECHV reauthorization, along with keeping an eye on Senator Alexander and Senator Murray's market stabilization plan.

State level:

- Sadly, [Copper Basin Medical Center has closed](#). This is indicative of a larger problem, as this is the 10th rural hospital to close in Tennessee. We must work on the state level to continue looking for ways to mitigate the immediate problems caused by these closures while also looking for larger policy solutions to ensure that every Tennessean has access to healthcare near their home.
- Now could be a good time to consider proposals to close the coverage gap, like the 3-Star Healthy Pilot project or Insure Tennessee. Recently, [some state legislators have called for a special session](#) to address how to cover Tennesseans who have no access to health insurance.

JOIN US



The ACE Nashville Public Policy Workgroup is looking for feedback from the community to help set their policy agenda and priorities!

- If you work at an organization providing services or supports to children and families in Metro Nashville, please help them out by taking [this short, 3-question survey](#).
- If you are a parent/caregiver or work with parents/caregivers in our community, please [take this survey](#). Feel free to take each survey in your different personal and professional capacities. The parent/caregiver survey is also [available in Spanish](#).

Upcoming projects and events:

- **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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