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## National Covering Kids & Families Network Scoop

September 2, 2010

Hello Everyone and Happy September to you all. A number of items in today's NCKF Network Scoop that we hope you find interesting.

### [Connecting Kids to Coverage Challenge](#)

The NCKF Network has taken the "Connecting Kids to Coverage Challenge", an initiative being launched **tomorrow** by Health and Human Services Secretary Sebelius. The "Connecting Kids to Coverage Challenge" is an effort focused on enrolling the 5 million eligible but unenrolled children into coverage. You can read more about what it means to "Take the Challenge" and find out about how your organization can join the effort in [this one pager](#), see a list of organizations that have taken the challenge [here](#) and you can watch tomorrow's event live [here](#).

### [New Data on Eligible But Unenrolled Children](#)

In case you haven't seen it in earlier emails, a [new article](#) by Jenny Kenny from the Urban Institute is being published in Health Affairs tomorrow that talks about the number of eligible but unenrolled children in the country. State-level estimates are available in the accompanying [appendix](#) which may be helpful to informing your work. Please note, this article **is under strict embargo until 3 AM tomorrow morning**. CCF has prepared media materials including template blog posts and OP EDS to help you talk about this new research- if you would like these materials, please contact [Liz Arjun](#) at CCF.

### [Coverage Expansions Improve Family Well-Being](#)

A new [study](#) "Changes in Health Care Financing & Organization (HCFO)" published by the Forum for Health Economics and Policy, funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, found that access to CHIP coverage has positively affected the material well-being of the low-income families. Families saw a decline in out-of-pocket spending on health and an increase in non-health consumption with a large share of

those new resources directed towards transportation and retirement savings.

### [Lessons Learned From Iowa Using Tax Forms](#)

The State Health Access Reform Evaluation (SHARE), a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation program, released a [report](#) detailing how tax forms were modified in Iowa to support outreach efforts to enroll uninsured children in Medicaid and CHIP. This [report](#) includes results from this initiative, a description of challenges experienced during the implementation and lessons learned.

### [Evaluation Reports Show Value of Advocacy In Improving Children's Health Coverage](#)

Two new evaluation briefs from Mathematica about the ongoing Packard-funded project "Insuring America's Children: States Leading the Way" identify key lessons about how to effectively improve the growth of children's health coverage. To read more about the contents of these evaluation briefs and to access the briefs, please check out [this blog](#) on CCF's Say Ahhh! written by guest bloggers Gene Lewit and Liane Wong from the Packard Foundation.

As always, please feel free to contact us—or your Network colleagues using the [listserve](#).

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The Center for Children and Families (CCF) is an independent, nonpartisan policy center based at Georgetown University's Health Policy Institute whose mission is to expand and improve health coverage for America's children and families. Read more at [www.ccfgeorgetown.org](http://www.ccfgeorgetown.org) and check out our blog at [www.theccfblog.org](http://www.theccfblog.org)