



healthy mothers, healthy babies

HEALTHY MOTHERS, HEALTHY BABIES

Coalition of Georgia

HMHB Resource Watch

April 4, 2007

Thank You!!

Thank you to the Platinum, Silver and Bronze sponsors of the 20th Annual HMHB Legislative Breakfast.

Platinum

Kaiser Permanente

Silver

March of Dimes

Bronze

Georgia Dental Association

Gwinnett Medical Center

Help a Child Smile

Northside Hospital

The Partnership for Prescription Assistance

Health Fair Thank you!

Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition of Georgia, Inc. sincerely appreciates those of you who came to help with our Community Health Fair on Saturday, March 31, 2007 at Greenforest Community Baptist Church.

Upcoming Events

Keep checking out our website www.hmhbga.org for more events. If you know of any events that we don't have listed, contact us at 770.451.0020.

Save the Date!

Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition of Georgia

2007 Annual Meeting and Conference

Wednesday, October 3, 2007

9:00 am- 4:00 pm.

Freight Room

Georgia Railroad Freight Depot

65 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SW

Atlanta, GA. 30303

HMHB Coalition of GA. Policy News

PEACHCARE UPDATE

HB 340 (Speaker Glenn Richardson) passed the House on 3/27. Debate on the bill was heated but in the end the 101-63 vote was largely along party lines. Because HB 340 was the Speaker's bill, many legislators stated that they felt they had no choice but to vote for the bill in spite of their concerns.

Advocates cite the following problems with HB 340:

- **HB 340 jeopardizes Georgia's strides in ensuring our children have health care coverage.** PeachCare provides essential support to children from low-income working families who otherwise would be without access to private insurance. HB 340 proposes far-ranging and radical changes to Georgia's very successful, cost-effective and efficient PeachCare program.
- **Children throughout Georgia rely on PeachCare. Every tenth Georgia child has PeachCare coverage.** In some areas, PeachCare covers one in six or even one in four children.
- **HB 340 would leave more children uninsured.** It would lower the income eligibility ceiling to 200% of the federal poverty level. Children in a family of three with income over \$34,320 would not be able to get PeachCare, down from the current

\$40,350. With that ceiling, 3,000 to 5,000 children each year will be denied coverage. Georgia children are already more likely than children in most other state to be uninsured.

- **Cutting PeachCare eligibility would save very little in state dollars and would shift higher costs to all of us.** The “savings” in state funds for cutting eligibility would be minimal- between \$1.2 and 2.4 million per year, but cutting PeachCare would shift higher costs elsewhere. Children will go to emergency rooms for care, and some local governments will pick up the tab. Every Georgia family with private insurance already pays about \$750 per year extra to cover uninsured people. When parents have to stay out of work with sick children (more likely with children are uninsured) employers pay costs.
- **HB 340 would cut PeachCare service coverage for currently enrolled children. It would make dental and vision services optional at an additional premium.** Vision and dental benefits are standard in SCHIP plans in 49 of 50 states.

HB 340 has been assigned to Senate Rules.

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

The Lt. Governor and the Senate can still save PeachCare, and indications are they may show more concern for children and working families. See HB 340 talking points above:

- Ask your own Senator to stand up for children and hard-working, tax-paying families by voting against HB 340 if it comes up.

Click here for Senate contact information:

http://www.legis.ga.gov/legis/2007_08/senate/senatelist.php

- Ask Lt. Governor Casey Cagle to stop HB 340. Let him know Georgia’s children and hard-working, tax-paying families are counting on him to stand up for them.

TEL: (404) 656-5030

FAX: (404) 656-6739

Email:

http://ltgov.georgia.gov/00/article/0,2086,2199618_2208307_11792200,00.html

This update was prepared for HMHB by Mary Frances Williams. If you have questions, email her at mfwilliams@speakeasy.net

News from National HMHB

This Week:

- 1) New Resources on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Prevention
- 2) Registration Open: La Leche League's 50th Anniversary Conference
- 3) Study: Early Child Care Experience Affects Development, But Parenting Quality Remains Key
- 4) New Immunization Website Targets Adolescents & Young Adults
- 5) Dannon Invites Applicants for "Next Generation Nutrition" Grant
- 6) Postal Service Rate Increases to Affect Nonprofits
- 7) Director of National Technical Assistance Center for Children's Mental Health

MATERNAL-INFANT HEALTH NEWS

1) NEW RESOURCES ON FETAL ALCOHOL SYNDROME PREVENTION

The National Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (NOFAS) has developed two new resources for use by educators and advocates. "Making a Difference: The FASD Public Awareness Guide" is designed to reach community members, service systems and the media with the NOFAS prevention message and to advocate for services for individuals with FASD. It includes a series fact sheets on FASD information specific to each audience, tips and strategies for reaching targeted audiences, sample scripts and letters and examples of "real world" public awareness efforts. The second publication, "K-12 FASD Education and Prevention Curricula," is an age-appropriate set of educational tools for use by professionals working with school-age children. For more about these new resources, go to http://www.nofas.org/news/New_Materials.aspx.

2) REGISTRATION OPEN: LA LECHE LEAGUE'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE

Registration is now open online for La Leche League International's (LLLI) 50th Anniversary Conference, set for July 20-23, 2007 in Chicago with the theme "The Power of Breastfeeding." The event draws LLL leaders, lactation consultants, childbirth educators, nurses, physicians and breastfeeding advocates from around the world and features recognized speakers from the lactation and maternal-child health field. For complete conference information and registration, go to <http://www.llli.org/07conf/07conf.html>.

CHILD, ADOLESCENT, FAMILY & COMMUNITY HEALTH NEWS

3) STUDY: EARLY CHILD CARE EXPERIENCE AFFECTS DEVELOPMENT, BUT PARENTING QUALITY REMAINS KEY

A new study supported by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) at the NIH and published in the March/April issue of the journal *Child Development* finds that early child care experiences may be linked to children's outcomes in elementary and middle school. The long-term study revealed that children who received higher quality child care before starting kindergarten had better vocabulary scores at fifth grade than did children who received lower quality care, and that the more time children spent in center-based child care before kindergarten, the more likely their sixth grade teachers were to report problem behaviors at school. However, the study's authors caution that the increases in vocabulary and problem behaviors were small, and that "parenting quality is a much more important predictor of child development than is type, quantity or quality of child care." For more about this study, the NICHD Study of Early Child Care and Youth Development,

go to <http://www.nichd.nih.gov/research/supported/seccyd.cfm>.

4) NEW IMMUNIZATION WEBSITE TARGETS ADOLESCENTS & YOUNG ADULTS

Last month the PKID's (Parents of Kids with Infectious Diseases) Vaccine Initiative announced the launch of a new website aimed at adolescents and young adults: GetVaxed.org. The site aims to raise awareness of immunization among the target audience and encouraging them to take charge of their health by staying up-to-date on immunizations. To check out this new web resource, go to <http://www.getvaxed.org>. For more about the work of PKIDS, go to <http://www.pkids.org>.

ADVOCATES IN ACTION

5) DANNON INVITES APPLICANTS FOR "NEXT GENERATION NUTRITION" GRANT

The Dannon Company has announced a grant of \$25,000-\$30,000 to a program that nurtures healthy eating habits among children. Programs from the communities where Dannon facilities are located are invited to apply: Auglaize County, Ohio; Salt Lake County, Utah; Tarrant County, Texas; and Westchester County, New York. Eligible organizations must have a need for funding for a current nutrition education program targeting children up to the age of 18, or be able to launch such an initiative in late 2007. Programs should be creative in their approach, involve community partners, include professional nutrition staff or consultants and be designed to impact children's eating habits. Nonprofits with 501(c)(3) status are eligible, but not private foundations. The deadline to apply is May 15, 2007. For more information and the application, go to <http://www.dannon.com/pdf/2007%20Dannon%20Next%20Generation%20Nutrition%20Grant%20Application.pdf>.

NONPROFIT MANAGEMENT

6) POSTAL SERVICE RATE INCREASES TO AFFECT NONPROFITS

The Nonprofit Times has published a free-access news article on its website, covering looming postal service price hikes and implications for the nonprofit sector. They report that "An average nonprofit postal rate hike of 6.7 percent will take effect May 14, following approval by the Board of Governors of the United States Postal Service. While rates within the subcategories will vary...a new category of mail could double the cost for nonprofits to send some front-end premiums. Nonprofit periodicals will also get hit with a large increase." For the complete article, go to <http://www.nptimes.com/breakingnews.html>.

MCH JOB OPPORTUNITY

7) DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER FOR CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH

The Georgetown University Center for Child and Human Development (GUCCHD), a division of Georgetown University's Department of Pediatrics, has launched a search for a new director of the National Technical Assistance Center for Children's Mental Health. The center is funded and supported by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), as well as other federal agencies and foundations. Its director holds a faculty position within Georgetown University Medical Center and will work at the center's office in Washington, DC. The new director will provide vision and direction for the center and its national leadership role in the field of child and adolescent mental health. Candidates should submit a CV and salary requirements by April 16 to: gucdc@georgetown.edu. For more information, go to <http://gucchd.georgetown.edu>.

Sources:

<http://www.nofas.org>

<http://www.lli.org>

<http://www.nih.gov>

<http://www.pkids.org>

<http://www.dannon.com>

<http://www.nptimes.com>

<http://gucchd.georgetown.edu>

Information is reported as provided and does not necessarily represent the view of or the endorsement by the National Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition. A complete copy of HMHB's disclaimer is available on the HMHB Web site at <http://www.hmhb.org/disclaimer.html>

Other Public Health News

This week is National Public Health Week!

See <http://www.nphw.org/2007/home.htm>, check out this link to see how to get involved.

New APHA Report Urges Expanded Health Coverage for Children

Washington, D.C., March 13, 2007 -- The American Public Health Association (APHA) today released its recommendations for expanding health coverage to uninsured children through Medicaid and the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), a successful federal and state joint program that is set to be reauthorized this year.

In its issue brief, APHA urges Congress to ensure that all children eligible for SCHIP and Medicaid can be covered by these programs, which collectively provide health coverage to 34 million U.S. children. During the past decade, SCHIP, together with Medicaid, has successfully reduced the rate of low-income children who are uninsured by one-third and improved their health status and outcomes. Yet 9 million – or 12 percent – of the nation's children remain uninsured, and 75 percent of these children are eligible for but are not enrolled in SCHIP and Medicaid.

“It is unacceptable that 9 million of our nation’s children are currently uninsured, and federal funding shortfalls have prohibited more children from being enrolled in health coverage provided by the State Children’s Health Insurance Program,” said Georges C. Benjamin, MD, FACP, APHA executive director. “We cannot afford to gamble with the health of our younger generation. By expanding the very successful SCHIP and Medicaid programs, we can ensure that children have access to the health services they need and deserve.”

APHA’s recommendations for SCHIP reauthorization include:

- Providing at least \$60 billion in new funds over five years for SCHIP reauthorization to cover all current enrollees and enroll most of the children eligible for but not enrolled in SCHIP and Medicaid, pregnant women and legal immigrant pregnant women and children;
- Strengthening the federal standard for SCHIP benefits packages to include Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) services;
- Providing states with new coverage options, such as the expansion of coverage for pregnant women and legal immigrant children;
- Making revisions to federal law to give states the flexibility to deem children eligible for and enroll them in SCHIP or Medicaid based on information from other means-tested programs, such as the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) and the National School Lunch Program; and
- Allowing states the flexibility to determine the citizenship status of Medicaid and SCHIP applicants.

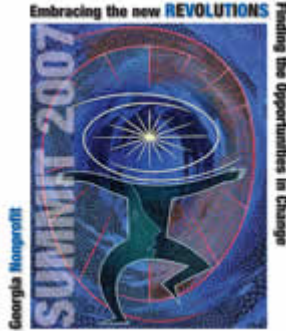
The full text of the SCHIP issue brief, “Reauthorization of the State Children’s Health Insurance Program: A Key Step to Covering All Kids,” is available at www.apha.org/advocacy/activities/schip.

Contact: Media Relations, (202) 777-2509
media.relations@apha.org

Conference Info

Georgia

Georgia Nonprofit Summit 2007



May 2007

May 16--17, 2007, Georgia International Convention Center
College Park, Ga.

The Georgia Nonprofit Summit is the Southeast's largest gathering of nonprofit executives, board members, foundation staff, government decision-makers, and corporate leaders

Georgia Public Health Association 78th Annual Meeting and Conference
“Public Health: Prevent, Promote, Protect.” September 4-7, 2007 Savannah, GA.
See <http://www.gapha.org/> for more information.

[Save the Date for Georgia Rural Health Association's Annual Conference: Making Rural Healthy People 2010 a Reality in Georgia](#) September 17-19, 2007 in Athens, GA at the UGA Conference Center and Hotel Join Georgia Rural Health Association for our annual conference and business meeting. We will meet at the UGA Conference Center and Hotel on the university campus. See <http://www.garuralhealth.org/> for more info.



WalkAmerica 2007

Georgia Chapter

Visit www.walkamerica.org or call 404-350-9800 for more details and to register today!

CDC-The Changing Face of Women's Health Exhibit



[The Changing Face of Women's Health](#) is an interactive exhibit that educates and inspires visitors of all ages.

January 22 - April 6, 2007*

Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm

Open free to the public. No reservations are required.

A government-issued photo ID (driver's license, passport, etc.)
is required for entry.

Global Health Odyssey/Tom Harkin Global Communications Center
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Road, NE, Atlanta, Georgia 30333

For more information, visit [CDC's Global Health Odyssey](#) or call 404-639-0830.



Explore a variety of women's and girls' health issues through:

- hands-on activities
- real women's stories
- artwork
- history
- and more



Learn more about:

- breast health
- osteoporosis
- menopause
- puberty
- heart disease
- smoking
- body image and society
- sexually transmitted diseases
- research and gender
- and other health issues



Investigate four factors that impact your health at every life stage:

- risk
- prevention
- detection
- control

The National Health Sciences Consortium created the exhibit with funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Institutes of Health (NIH), MetLife Foundation, and Pfizer Women's Health.

**Exhibit closed on Monday, February 19 in observance of Washington's Birthday*

National



2007 APHA Annual Meeting & Exposition in Washington, D.C. November 3-7, 2007.

APHA 135TH ANNUAL MEETING AND EXPO
NOVEMBER 3-7, 2007 WASHINGTON, DC

See <http://www.apha.org/meetings/> for more info.

Seattle is the Host City for SOPHE, DHPE and CDC's National Health Education Conference

The early bird registration is now available for the *Changing Face of Health Education and Health Promotion* national conference in Seattle, WA, June 7-9, 2007 at the Renaissance Seattle Hotel - 515 Madison St, Seattle, WA 98104. Act now to get the early bird registration rate before the deadline of April 27.

See <http://www.sophe.org/index.asp> for more information.

This newsletter is being distributed to HMHB Coalition Members. Please submit your questions or comments about this newsletter and or its content to Jessica Hawkins at jessica.hawkins@hmhbga.org. Thanks for assisting HMHB in improving the health status of Georgia's families.

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