



Michigan League FOR Human Services

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## **State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) Reauthorization Talking Points**

SCHIP is a federal-state partnership that currently provides health care services to more than 30,000 children and 60,000 adults in Michigan who would otherwise be uninsured. This program is critical to Michigan families. The children's program is called MICHild and covers children who are not eligible for Medicaid and have family income less than 200 percent of poverty (\$34,500 for family of 3).

- The law creating the program expires on September 30, 2007, and must be reauthorized by Congress to continue.
- More than 110,000 uninsured children are likely eligible for MICHild (or Medicaid), but are not enrolled. Outreach was eliminated in FY2003; enrollment in the program has declined each year since 2004.
- Employer-sponsored health care coverage eludes low-income working families. On a national basis, only 20 percent of workers with incomes less than 100 percent of poverty (\$17,300 for family of 3) have employer-sponsored/other private coverage; for workers with incomes between 100 and 200 percent of the federal poverty level, 44 percent have employer-sponsored/other private coverage. The remaining workers are uninsured or receive publicly-funded benefits.

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