

Healthy Children Healthy Tomorrow



The Tarrant County CHIP Coalition works to reduce the number of uninsured children in our community. Nearly one in six Tarrant County children (more than 70,000) is uninsured, according to the Census Bureau. Our goal is to ensure every child has access to medical care on a regular basis.

Coalition members include: Aetna, Amerigroup Community Care, Children's Defense Fund, Cook Children's Health Plan, Global Prairie, Fort Worth ISD, HHSC Office of Community Collaboration, JPS Health Network, Keller ISD, Leadership Fort Worth,, League of Women Voters, Mental Health and Mental Retardation of Tarrant County, Tarrant Area Food Bank, Tarrant County Youth Summit, Texas Health Institute, United Way of Tarrant County, United Methodist Churches of Tarrant County, UNT Health Science Center. The coalition actively works with local elected representatives and the Dallas CHIP Coalition.

How you can help:

- Become a volunteer for application assistance events
- Join our outreach efforts to raise awareness by helping with marketing
- Call your elected officials about the importance of healthcare coverage for all Texas children
- Work with your community, faith and business organizations to raise awareness about uninsured children and how families can enroll them in Medicaid/CHIP.

Quick facts:

- Texas leads the nation in uninsured children — 16% of all children have no health insurance.
- Uninsured children are nine times more likely not to receive needed medical care; more than half don't see a doctor even once a year.
- Only about half of Texas employers offer health insurance, making it unaffordable for many families.
- At least half of Texas' uninsured children could qualify for Medicaid or CHIP but are not enrolled.
- The high number of uninsured children affects health status — Texas ranks 46th in a list of America's healthiest states, 47th in access to ERs, and 35th in high school graduation rates.
- DFW's public hospital systems, which depend on local property taxes, treat most of the uninsured children.
- Enrolling children in Medicaid and CHIP provides them with a medical home and consistent medical, vision and dental care.
- During 2010, the number of uninsured children in Tarrant County dropped as 25,000 additional children were enrolled in CHIP and Medicaid.

To contact the Tarrant County CHIP Coalition, e-mail tarrantcountychip@yahoo.com. More information is available on our blog: www.tarrantcountychip.com.