



## **All children deserve the blessing of good health.**

All children are created in God's image and deserve the blessing of good health. This year Congress is reauthorizing the successful State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) which provides affordable coverage to six million children. This is the moment for Congress to expand financing for children's health, so that no child goes without treatment or relies on an emergency room for their health care.

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### **A road map for covering all children**

PICO is advocating a five step road map to help states cover all children by 2012

- (1) Fill the existing SCHIP shortfalls facing states, so that no one risks losing coverage
- (2) Fund proven outreach initiatives and provide states with the financial incentives and support to reach all eligible but uninsured children
- (3) Provide financial support and incentives for state efforts to expand high-quality preventative care and increase eligibility
- (4) Allow states the option to cover legal immigrant children and pregnant women
- (5) Provide financing in SCHIP and Medicaid to support the cost of covering newly enrolled children

**Estimated cost is \$60 billion over five years**

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### **Why we can't afford not to cover all children**

- Despite progress in expanding coverage 9 million children are still uninsured
  - Leaving children without coverage imperils their development and costs society more than the \$100-\$120 per month needed to provide health coverage to a child
  - Covering all children as part of SCHIP reauthorization is the best chance our country has to move the ball forward on health care this year
  - States across the country are moving ahead to cover all children, but they cannot succeed without Federal support to expand financing for children's health.
  - SCHIP is a highly successful program that has bipartisan support
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### **Organizing families and faith communities**

PICO is a national network of 53 faith-based federations and 1,000 congregations. PICO led a county-based cover-all-kids initiative that has been replicated in more than half of California's counties. In 17 states and 100 Congressional Districts, PICO is working at the local, state and national level to expand health coverage for children and families.

Join us for a [Faith and Families Summit for Children's Health](#) on Capitol Hill on March 7