



**Children's
Health Fund**

FALL  2010 EDITION

Impact

BRINGING HEALTH CARE. GIVING A VOICE. RESPONDING TO CRISES.

THE NEED IS GROWING AND SO ARE WE



Nationwide, the statistics are alarming. Poverty rates have increased to levels not seen in more than a decade and there are more Americans in need than ever. In 2009, 15.5 million children under the age of 18 were living in poverty (up from 14.1 million in 2008).

As the economy continues to struggle and the livelihoods of families across the nation are held in the balance, Children's Health Fund has been working to expand and sustain our programs in order to provide more access to health care for those who need it the most.

More Mobile Than Ever

Because we are mobile, Children's Health Fund programs have the flexibility to go into rural and urban communities, as well as areas impacted by disasters and public health crises. Our "doctor's offices on wheels" bring ongoing care to more than 200 sites across the country including schools, homeless shelters and community-based organizations.

Today, thanks to the generous support of donors, more CHF pediatric mobile clinics are rolling into communities where children and families face enormous barriers to accessing health care—from a shortage of primary care physicians, dentists and mental health providers in

American Idol/Idol Gives Back, Siemens Healthcare, and Deerfield Foundation, a new New York mobile dental clinic supported by **Ira W. DeCamp Foundation**, and a new New Jersey mobile medical clinic funded by **Webkinz Foundation**.

At Capacity, a NYC Center Expands

For families like Zina* and her daughter Callie*, who moved into low income housing in the South Bronx after losing her job and separating from her husband, access to high quality health care is critical. Struggling to keep a roof over their heads and put food on the table, Zina also had the daunting challenge of making sure that Callie—who had asthma, a chronic illness—got to a doctor.

Today, this is the case for many families living in the South Bronx, one of the poorest communities in the United States. More than 2,000 new units of low-income housing have been constructed in this neighborhood and CHF's existing South Bronx Health Center is functioning at capacity. As the community has grown, Children's Health Fund and our medical partner Montefiore Medical Center have been planning to meet the challenge.

In January 2011, thanks to vital public and private supporters, the New York



Health insurance does not equate access to health care. Some children live in areas with too few pediatricians that can't keep up with the demand for their services. Others live in communities where transportation is either not affordable or not available.

to support community health centers nationwide. Additional public funds came from the **offices of Senator Kirsten Gillibrand and Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr.** Vital private supporters include **American Idol/Idol Gives Back Foundation, Deerfield Foundation, The Kresge Foundation, ACE Charitable Foundation** and **individuals**. Focused on the unique health care needs of women of childbearing age and children 0 to 5 years of age, the new center will enhance the current South Bronx program capacity by 50% and serve 8,200 patients a

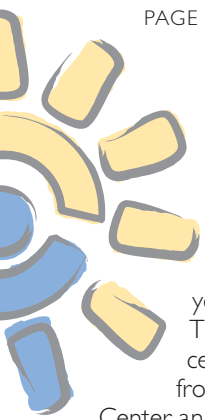
Children comprised 35.5 percent of people in poverty but only 24.5 percent of the total population.

—U.S. Census Bureau

their local communities to lack of transportation and access to much needed specialty care services.

The latest additions to our fleet of 50 around the nation include: a new New York mobile medical clinic funded by

programs are expanding and doors to a new maternal child health center will open. The Federal government has contributed a total of \$1.4 million to the center from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), funding



THE NEED IS GROWING AND SO ARE WE Story continued from cover.



year via 46,000 patient visits. The new maternal child health center will be across the street from the South Bronx Health Center and just a block away from Children's Health Fund's homeless program, the New York Children's Health Project, allowing for coordinated efforts and shared resources while keeping joint administrative costs low.

And for Zina and Callie and other neighborhood families, it means better access to coordinated, comprehensive care in their own neighborhood.

25th CHF Project Launches in Detroit

Detroit child health indicators are among the worst in the nation. Four out of 10 young children were under-immunized, and six out of ten children on Medicaid



Dental caries (cavities) is the single most common chronic disease of childhood. The percentage of both younger and older children with untreated dental caries living below the poverty level was twice that of children in families with incomes at or above 200 percent of the poverty level.
—National Center for Health Statistics

with persistent asthma had not seen a doctor. Detroit had a severe shortage of

primary care doctors in 2008, which has only grown worse over the past two years. As a result, many children have gone without access to comprehensive care, placing their long-term health and well-being at risk. Children's Health Fund had visited the Detroit area in 2009 as part of our Kids Can't Wait campaign, and highlighted the many challenges families were facing in the area.

In December 2010, the Children's Health Project of Detroit, a partnership between the Henry Ford Health System and Children's Health Fund, will launch with a new mobile medical clinic, funded by **American Idol/Idol Gives Back**, that will deliver comprehensive health care services to approximately **1,000 to 1,500 children** a year. The new mobile clinic expands Henry Ford Health System's school-based health service network and increases the capacity and flexibility for the program to serve children impacted by recent school closings, by allowing the program to follow transitioning students to new academic institutions, without requiring actual physical space in the school buildings. The mobile clinic will visit local Detroit schools and youth centers on a weekly schedule to ensure continuity of care and to build ongoing relationships with teachers, parents and students.

*Patient's name changed to protect privacy.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

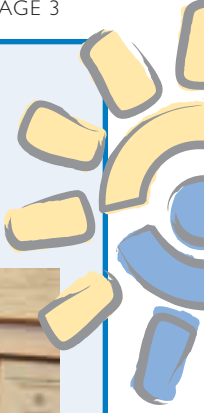


Workplace Giving

Many companies offer workplace giving campaigns where **a portion of your paycheck can be automatically donated to a charity.** Federal employees and U.S. military personnel can support CHF through the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC # 36067). Please check if your company has a workplace giving program and choose to donate to CHF. For more information about workplace giving or help setting up a workplace campaign, please contact Patricia Abrams at (212) 452-3340 or pabrams@chfund.org.

Charitable Gift Annuity

Did you know you can make a gift to CHF that costs you nothing today? For more information about this and other creative ways to give, including CHF's new Charitable Gift Annuity Program, please visit www.childrenshealthfund.org/planned-giving.



FROM THE DESK OF IRWIN REDLENER, MD: Helping the Oil Spill Victims



This past summer, I led a team from the Children's Health Fund (CHF) and Columbia University's National Center for Disaster Preparedness (NCDP) to Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana, to hold Town Hall Meetings with children and families, immediately following the **Oil Spill Crisis in the Gulf**, to hear how their lives and livelihood were being impacted.

The information gathered from these meetings was both unexpected and disturbing. Children and families, who only five short years ago faced the devastation of Hurricane Katrina and more recently the impact of the recession, were once again feeling scared, depressed and confused about what will happen next. These feelings of uncertainty were anxiety-producing, especially among children.

A survey commissioned by CHF and NCDP, and conducted by the Marist Institute for Public Opinion, found similar alarming results. **Over a third of parents surveyed said their children have experienced physical symptoms or mental health distress as a consequence of the oil spill** and more than one-quarter

of coastal residents said they might relocate (*please read the complete study online at www.childrenshealthfund.org*).

Clearly, people are suffering. After Katrina and before the oil spill, Plaquemines Parish was already an economically diverse and medically underserved region. Many of the 22,000 people there have had great difficulty accessing or paying for health care. There are no pediatricians and vastly insufficient number of mental health professionals in the region. Public health information is extremely difficult to obtain, making it difficult for parents to make appropriate decisions about their children's potential exposures.

Children's Health Fund has a history of mobilizing quickly to provide critically needed health care services and public health information to communities in crisis. Additionally, our partnership with the National Center for Disaster Preparedness at Columbia University enables us to track and analyze the impact of the spill on local families' health and well-being in order to make meaningful policy and program recommendations.



In October, in collaboration with Tulane University; our local program, the New Orleans Children's Health Project; the C.A.R.E. Center (a social service agency in Plaquemines Parish); and the National Center for Disaster Preparedness, **Children's Health Fund launched a mobile crisis unit to the local coastal community**, providing medical and mental health services, as well as community outreach and education to local families.

This crisis is far from over, and the need is great. Children's Health Fund is committed to supporting the local community so that the region's vulnerable children have the care they need to achieve their full potential.

GIVE A GIFT CARD THAT GIVES BACK

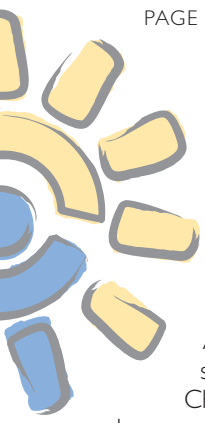


Looking for a special gift for a friend or family member this holiday season? The Children's Health Fund gift card from American Express makes the perfect gift for friends, family, and colleagues, while giving back at the same time.

For every Children's Health Fund gift card sold, American Express will donate the \$3.95 purchase fee to Children's Health Fund, up to \$250,000.

Visit the American Express website, www.americanexpress.com/gift to purchase a gift card that helps Children's Health Fund ensure disadvantaged kids receive the quality health care they need and deserve.





OUR ADVOCACY WORK AT A GLANCE: A FOCUS ON AZ AND TX



Working collaboratively with our partner institutions, local chapters of the American Academy of Pediatrics and other state-based advocacy groups, Children's Health Fund (CHF)'s advocacy team has been holding local policy forums in select states to discuss children's health care issues and legislative decisions that impact access, sustainability, and care.

In September, the forum **"Why Arizona Needs to Focus on Kids,"** brought together health care providers, advocates, politicians and community members to discuss the current needs of children and to strategize on ways to improve the political dialogue and outlook for critical

safety net programs in Arizona, which have suffered more than most states in the current economic environment.

In October, CHF moved to the Lone Star state to host **"Kids Can't Wait: What's Next for Texas Kids and Health Care."** Topics included what national health care reform means for children, providing care in a school-based setting, what's next in Medicaid payment reform, and the status of child well-being in Texas and the state's legislative priorities moving forward.

It is vital that we continue to host these important conversations on both a national and local stage, in order to keep children and health care issues at the

forefront and galvanize others to help in our mission. Want to get involved? **Visit advocacy.childrenshealthfund.org to take action now.**



Dr. Jonathan Lee-Melk, Medical Director for CHF's So. Arizona program, presents the topic "Providing Care in a Border Town" at the CHF co-sponsored Arizona Child Health Forum.

CHF THANKS OUR SUPPORTERS



The Children's Health Fund would like to recognize the following corporations, organizations, and individuals for their outstanding commitment to children's health care. **Major gifts of \$25,000 and above from January 1, 2010–June 31, 2010.** (This does not include special events gifts.)

*Baptist Community Ministries of New Orleans
Bernard F. & Alva B. Gimbel Foundation
Bristol-Myers Squibb Company
Chris Duhon's Stand Tall Foundation
The Clorox Company
Robert and Anne Essner
GlaxoSmithKline
HBO's Charity Drive
Doris L. and Louis J. Lombardi
Louis and Anne Abrons Foundation, Inc.
MetLife
Pfizer Inc
Schering-Plough Foundation, Inc.
The Starr Foundation
United Health Foundation
Webkinz Foundation*

More thanks...

The Community Health Centers of Excellence initiative, a unique partnership between Children's Health Fund and the **United Health Foundation**, has enhanced comprehensive, quality clinical care and increased access for thousands of New York City's medically underserved families.

HIV/AIDS continues to devastate families across the United States. Nowhere is this more true than in the South Bronx, where HIV rates are some of the highest in the nation. **Bristol-Myers Squibb's** support of Children's Health Fund's South Bronx Health Center for Children and Families HIV/AIDS program is enabling the health center to encourage HIV+ community members to enter and remain in care.

Orlando Magic Point Guard Chris Duhon knows how important it is for kids to have access to comprehensive health care and that's why he pledged \$100 for every assist he made last season. His support is helping vulnerable kids all across the country get the care they need and deserve.



★★★★
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Four Star Charity

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Join the Conversation:

Tell us your thoughts and share your opinions on the health care issues vulnerable children in America face:



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