



WISCONSIN COUNCIL ON

**children
& families**

Raising Voices to Make Every Kid Count

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Looking for a Meaningful Mother's Day Gift? Try Health Care for Wisconsin Children and Parents

Madison – The Wisconsin Council on Children and Families is suggesting that lawmakers give Wisconsin Mom's a great Mother's Day gift with health care for their children and families this budget cycle.

“BadgerCare Plus can offer health care coverage to nearly every child in Wisconsin, regardless of that child's family income, and make health care available to parents with incomes double the poverty rate,” said Charity Eleson, executive director, Wisconsin Council on Children and Families.

“Wisconsin has always been a leader in insurance coverage for children, which should make all Mom's proud, but it is time that we close the health insurance gap and reach the goal of covering every child,” Eleson said.

BadgerCare Plus, a part of the Governor's budget, will be debated in the state's powerful budget writing committee in the next few weeks. Grown out of the cost effective current BadgerCare program, BadgerCare Plus would provide affordable health insurance for low income families with prorated co-payments for participants.

“Another great gift for future Wisconsin mom's is health care coverage for pregnant women, under BadgerCare Plus another 4,000 pregnant women could get the prenatal care they need to make sure their child has the opportunity for a healthy start in life,” said Eleson.

BadgerCare Plus could offer health care coverage to: all children regardless of family income, parents in families making less than \$34,340 annually for a family of three, pregnant women below 300% of poverty, farmers and other self employed individuals, caretaker relatives, parents with children in foster care, youth aging out of foster care, and low income childless adults.

“We know that when people don't have health insurance they often go to the emergency room with acute situations that are preventable which hurts them and costs all of us more in the long run. We have a great opportunity to move ahead and increase access to health care in Wisconsin. Let's take that opportunity and cover as many as 185,000 more Wisconsin taxpayers with health care,” said Eleson.

For more information on BadgerCare Plus and the state budget visit: www.wccf.org

Chart comparing current and proposed coverage visit:

http://wccf.org/pdf/badgercareplus_matrix_031607.pdf