

BadgerCare Works for Wisconsin Children— Thanks to the Children’s Health Insurance Program

BadgerCare helps children and families in Wisconsin stay healthy by providing access to important health care services for low-income children and pregnant women. Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) provide the majority of funding for BadgerCare.

Who Does BadgerCare Help?



1 in 3 children

BadgerCare, funded through Medicaid and CHIP, provides health coverage to 500,000 children. 117,000 of those children depend on CHIP for their health coverage.

How Does BadgerCare Help Kids?

BadgerCare provides access to important services that help children stay healthy:

- ⊕ Primary care services, mental health and substance abuse services, x-rays and lab diagnostics, inpatient and outpatient hospital services, and dental services.
- ⊕ Children who receive BadgerCare are also eligible for HealthCheck, which ensures that children get appropriate health and developmental screenings and are then guaranteed treatment for any issues that may arise.

Why Is BadgerCare Important for Kids?

BadgerCare has been in existence for almost 20 years, and coverage through the program has increased and improved access to:



Insurance, resulting in declines in the number of kids without insurance.



Behavioral health care services for children.



Well-child checkups that include important developmental screening and preventative health care services.



Health related services for children in schools.



Dental care for children—an integral factor in overall health.

What’s at Risk for Wisconsin’s Kids?

The Children's Health Insurance Program supports 117,000 kids whose parents make too much to qualify for Medicaid, but not enough to afford private insurance for their kids. If Congress fails to renew funding for CHIP, Wisconsin will face a \$135 million hole they will have to fill by raising taxes or cutting services.

Why Is BadgerCare a Good Investment?

Kids who have BadgerCare:

- Are less likely to die at a young age.
- Are more likely to finish high school and go to college.
- Have fewer visits to the emergency room and hospitalizations as adults.
- Earn more as adults and are more likely to pay taxes.

What Can You Do?



Tell Congress to work across the aisle and renew CHIP to secure funding for kids’ health care. With CHIP, kids can get the preventative care they need to stay healthy, and low-income parents can take their kids to the doctor when they get sick.