



Healthy Kids  
A Healthy Colorado



## The Faces and the Facts: Eligible Kids are Falling through Cracks

Unlike many health problems facing children in our country today, a lack of coverage is something we can solve. Having health coverage ensures kids get the preventive care they need to stay healthy. It enables them to see a doctor when they are sick and it stops childhood illnesses from becoming life-long health burdens. Colorado is making real progress toward covering uninsured children. With [9 out of 10](#) kids currently covered, it's time to finish the job.

### Meet Rich McLean

For the past three years, Rich has worked tirelessly to help families enroll their children in public health coverage programs. As a member of St. Therese Catholic Church and as a volunteer with Metro Organizations for People and KidzBlitz, Rich has helped families in Aurora, Denver, Conifer, Littleton and Colorado Springs enroll their children in Medicaid and CHP+.

Working with families has shown Rich firsthand the challenges that Colorado families face when seeking and maintaining public health coverage. As Rich states, *"There are many simple-to-solve reasons why kids are falling through the cracks. Some live in families who don't know about CHP+ or Medicaid; some wrongly assume they do not qualify for these programs. Others don't have access to the help they need to fill-out the complicated enrollment forms or fail to re-enroll due to the complicated process."*

### Covering kids ensures access to needed care, screenings, and immunizations

- Nearly 58% ([78,000 of 135,000](#)) of all uninsured children in Colorado are eligible for public health programs, yet not enrolled.
- Nationally, Colorado has the [third lowest](#) participation rate in Medicaid and CHP+.
- One of the most common reasons that eligible families are not enrolled or lose their public coverage is the [cumbersome](#) enrollment and renewal process.
- The Colorado counties with the [highest number](#) of kids eligible for public coverage, but not enrolled include Denver (12,098), Adams (11,341), and Arapahoe (10,369). The counties with the [highest percent](#) of kids eligible for Medicaid or CHP+, but not enrolled include Routt (46%), Pitkin (42%), and San Miguel (38%).

**Our opportunity is now. Colorado kids can't wait.**

Learn more and view referenced links at [allkidscoveredcolorado.org](http://allkidscoveredcolorado.org)

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