



FOUNDATION FOR A
**HEALTHY
KENTUCKY**

HEALTH FOR A CHANGE

**Kentucky's Children:
Important Health Policy Updates**

April 28, 2021



Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky's MISSION

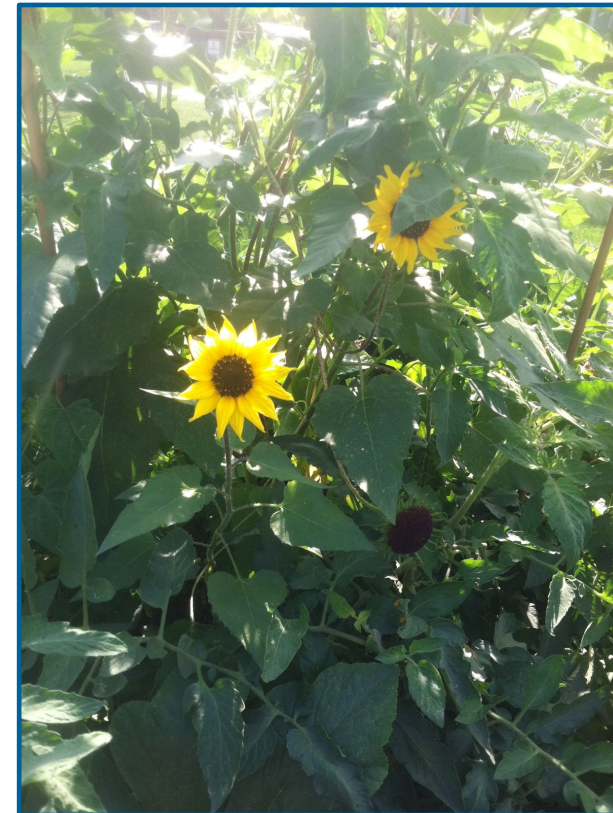
To address the unmet health needs of Kentuckians

by. . .

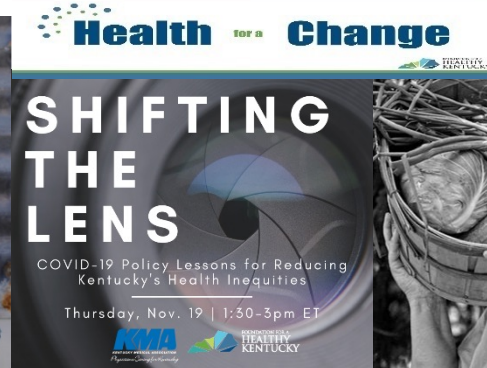
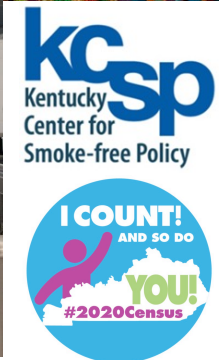
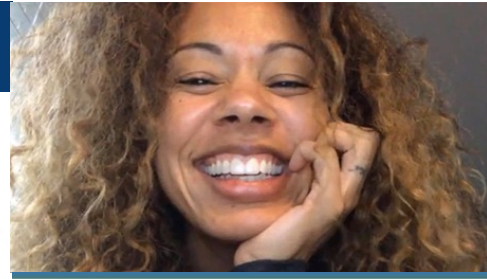
- Developing and influencing policy
- Improving access to care
- Reducing health risks and disparities
- Promoting health equity

And VALUES. . .

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| ✓ Integrity | ✓ Leadership |
| ✓ Respect | ✓ Policy Equity |
| ✓ Effectiveness | ✓ Collaboration |



www.healthy-ky.org/events/health-for-a-change



www.healthy-ky.org/events/health-for-a-change

- ✓ Tuesday, **May 4** 12PM ET / 11AM CT
Data sharing, HIPAA, COVID-19: Legal Issues & Opportunities
- ✓ Wednesday, **May 19** 12PM ET / 11AM CT
All things 2020 US Census: Review, new products, and Kentucky connections

The logo for "Health for a Change" features a cluster of blue and green dots of varying sizes on the left, followed by the word "Health" in a large, bold, blue sans-serif font, the word "for a" in a smaller, green sans-serif font, and the word "Change" in a large, bold, blue sans-serif font.

Health for a **Change**

The logo for the Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky features a stylized graphic of a mountain range or a fan-like shape composed of several colored triangles (blue, green, yellow) on the left, followed by the text "FOUNDATION FOR A HEALTHY KENTUCKY" in a small, blue, sans-serif font.

FOUNDATION FOR A
HEALTHY
KENTUCKY

The logo for the Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky features a stylized graphic of a mountain range or a fan-like shape composed of several colored triangles (blue, green, yellow) on the left, followed by the text "FOUNDATION FOR A HEALTHY KENTUCKY" in a small, blue, sans-serif font.

FOUNDATION FOR A
HEALTHY
KENTUCKY

<https://www.healthy-ky.org/events/bost-health-policy-forum>

SAVE THE DATE!

**Howard L. Bost Memorial
Health Policy Forum**

**Kentucky Vaccine Policy:
Myths, Messengers, and Messages**

**Join us virtually
September 20 - 21, 2021**



FOUNDATION FOR A
**HEALTHY
KENTUCKY**



<https://www.kentuckyhealthychildren.org>



KENTUCKY COALITION FOR
HEALTHY CHILDREN

www.healthy-ky.org

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[@kyhealthfacts](https://twitter.com/kyhealthfacts)





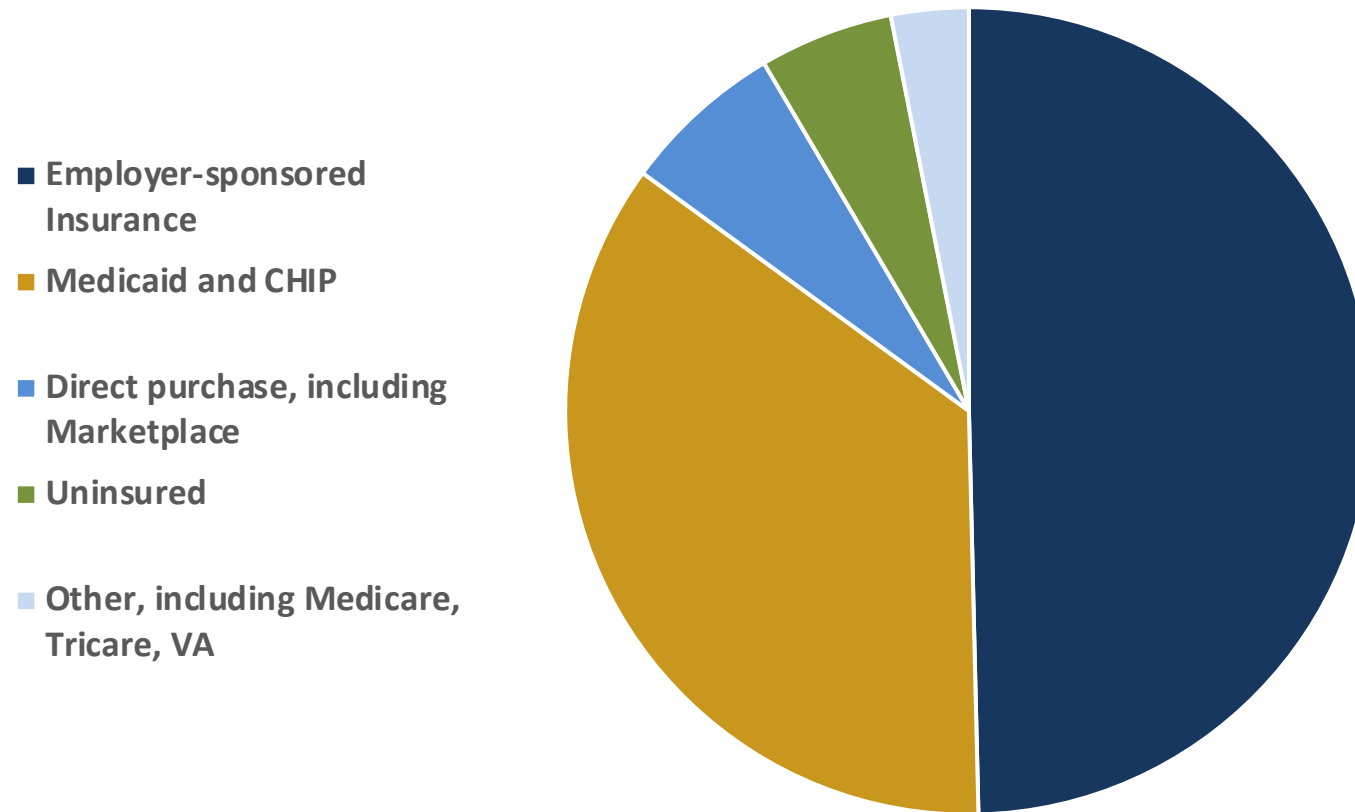
Georgetown University
Health Policy Institute
CENTER FOR CHILDREN
AND FAMILIES

Health Policy Updates for Children & Families

Kelly Whitener, JD/MPH
Associate Research Professor
April 28, 2021

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Medicaid's Role in Children's Coverage



Medicaid coverage of children and pregnant women improves health

Medicaid's Long-Term Impact on Health



Better overall health and reduced mortality



Improved oral health



Fewer chronic conditions



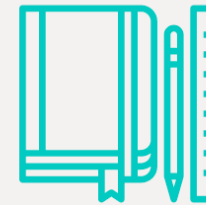
Fewer hospitalizations



Fewer ER visits

Medicaid coverage of children and pregnant women improves educational attainment

Medicaid's Long-Term Impact on Educational Attainment



High school graduation



On-time high school graduation



College enrollment



Four-year college graduation

Increase in children's uninsured rate 2016-2019

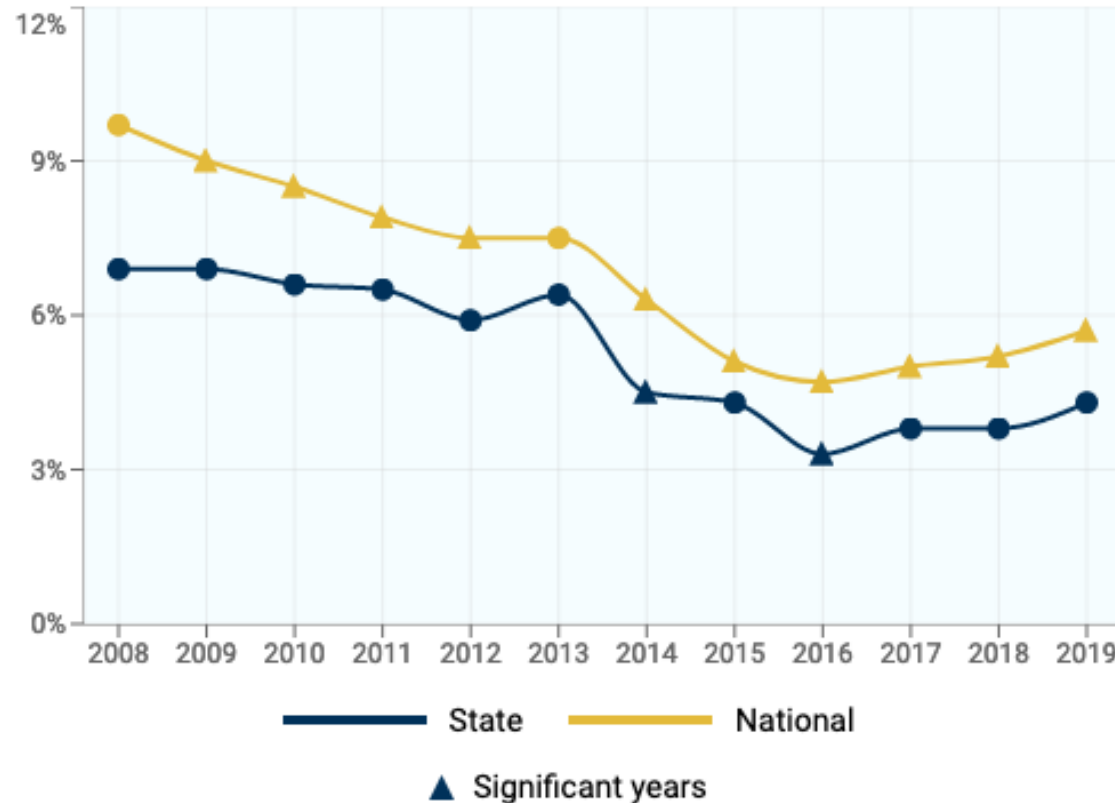


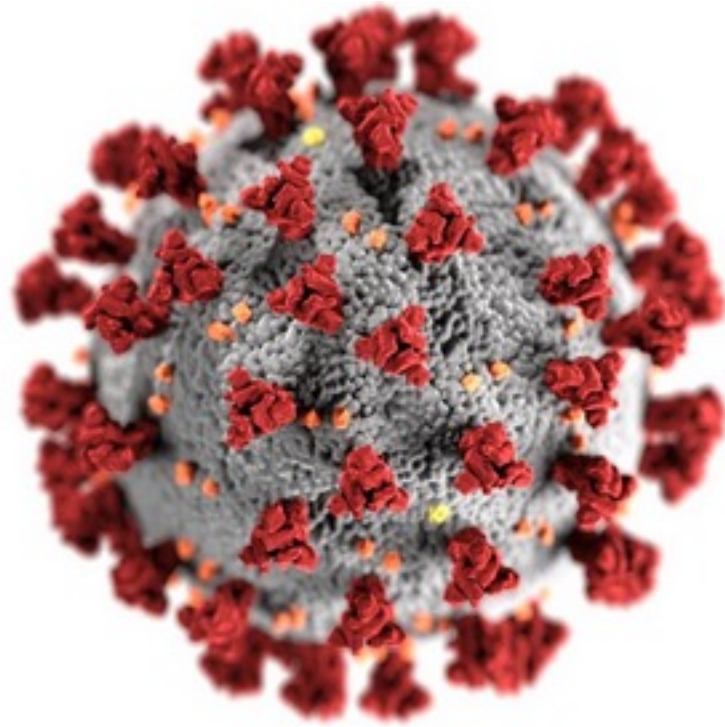
An increase in the child uninsured rate of one percentage point, from 4.7% to 5.7%, translates to

726,000

**more uninsured children
in just 3 years**

4.3% of children in KY do not have health insurance





A New Administration...



A Divided Congress

212 Republicans	218 Democrats	House
50 Republicans	50 I/Democrats	Senate

Administrative & Legislative Agenda

Health

- COVID-19 response
- Expanding access to coverage (e.g., filling the coverage gap; extending postpartum coverage; making Marketplace plans more affordable)
- Medicaid demonstration waivers (unwinding harmful waivers; exploring new ideas)
- Medicaid oversight

Other Critical Issues

- Climate change
- Immigration policy
 - Public charge
- Racial equity
- Law enforcement and public safety
- Foreign policy

COVID Relief Bills & Medicaid

- Families First Coronavirus Response Act
 - 6.2%pt increase in federal matching payments to states
 - Maintenance of effort requirements include no disenrollment throughout the public health emergency
- American Rescue Plan
 - 5%pt increase for non-expansion states
 - 10%pt increase for home and community-based services
 - New state option to extend Medicaid/CHIP postpartum coverage from 60 days to 12 months
 - Enhanced premium tax credits for Marketplace plans
 - Child Tax Credit and Earned Income Tax Credit

Public Charge Timeline



Policy Opportunities in KY

Medicaid Overall

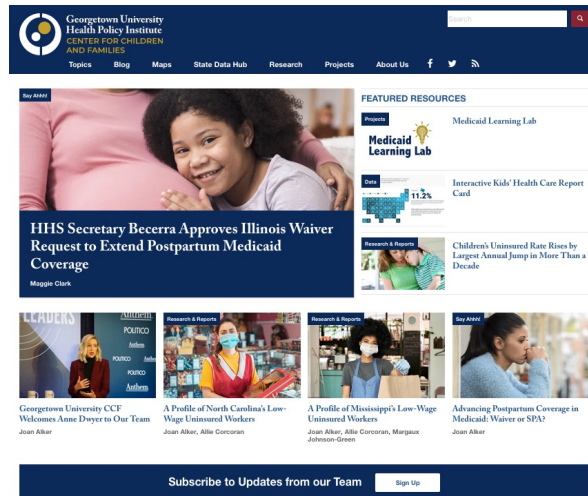
- Improve state oversight of managed care plans
- Proactively update beneficiary addresses
- Adopt 12-months continuous coverage in Medicaid/CHIP
- Improve home and community based services to draw down additional federal funds
- Extend postpartum coverage to 12 months

Immigrant Families

- Adopt the option to waive the 5-year bar for lawfully residing pregnant women
- Clarify the definition of emergency Medicaid services for COVID
- Tell families that the Trump-era public charge rule is no longer in effect
- Adopt the option to cover prenatal care for women otherwise ineligible due to citizenship status

Want to learn more?

- Visit ccf.georgetown.edu and kidshealthcarereport.ccf.georgetown.edu
- Sign up for ongoing Medicaid Learning Lab series
- Get regular policy updates on CCF's Say Ahhh! blog
- Follow us on Twitter @GeorgetownCCF



Dustin Pugel
Kentucky Center for Economic Policy
April 28, 2021

Developments in Kentucky Kids Health Policy

How Kentucky's policy landscape has changed for kids' health in 2021

Health in All Policies

Economic Stability	Neighborhood and Physical Environment	Education	Food	Community and Social Context	Health Care System
Employment	Housing	Literacy	Hunger	Social integration	Health coverage
Income	Transportation	Language	Access to healthy options	Support systems	Provider availability
Expenses	Safety	Early childhood education		Community engagement	Provider linguistic and cultural competency
Debt	Parks	Vocational training		Discrimination	
Medical bills	Playgrounds	Higher education		Stress	Quality of care
Support	Walkability				
	Zip code / geography				

Health Outcomes

Mortality, Morbidity, Life Expectancy, Health Care Expenditures, Health Status, Functional Limitations

House Bills

[HB 50](#): Mental Health Parity

[HB 95](#): Cap on out-of-pocket costs for insulin

[HB 212](#): Child and mother mortality reporting for race/ethnicity

[HB 382](#): Full day Kindergarten funding

[HB 405](#): \$12 M for an increase to CCAP's daily reimbursement rate (+\$2/day)

[HB 497](#): Ends SNAP drug felony ban

Senate Bills

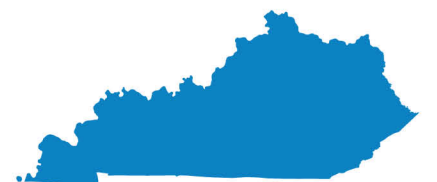
SB 21: Outpatient mental health services for homeless youth

SB 32: (originally 36): Ends automatic juvenile transfer to adult court

SB 51: Prior authorization for SUD ban

SB 65: Child support enforcement (actually, not good)

SB 84: Improved conditions for pregnant women who are incarcerated



The State Budget

HB 192: Executive Branch Budget

An austere budget that continues the austere budget from last year:

- Third year in a row with SEEK at \$4,000 per pupil (somewhat offset by ARPA)
- \$0 for textbooks
- \$5 million less for preschool
- No new social workers
- No new Michelle P or SCL slots
- No extra money for libraries
- \$743 million in the rainy day fund



Expanded Child Tax Credit

More resources for more families more frequently:

Increases the credit amount from \$2,000

Removes the income floor

Makes the entire Credit refundable

Provides half in “periodic” payments

Will cut child poverty in Kentucky by 49%!

- 1.1 million Kentucky kids will benefit
- 69,000 lifted above the poverty line (SPM)
- \$1.8 billion investment in Kentucky's kids

Be sure to file your taxes this year!

Questions?



Dustin Pugel, Senior Policy Analyst

dustin@kypolicy.org | www.kypolicy.org

Promoting the American Rescue Plan (ARPA)

ARPA was signed into law by President Biden on March 11, 2021 and is providing immediate relief to Kentuckians.

Direct Relief

- Stimulus payments
- Child Tax Credits
- Marketplace subsidies
- Food assistance
- Housing relief

State & Local Aid

- Public health
- Child care
- Infrastructure
- Jobs

Together, these relief efforts will help Kentucky put the COVID-19 pandemic behind us, strengthen our economy, and build back better.

[Read the ARPA Explainer and FAQs](#)

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) provides immediate relief to Kentuckians facing the health and economic consequences of COVID-19. Many Kentuckians have already begun to see direct impacts in their bank accounts, through extended unemployment insurance, and increased assistance to pay for food, healthcare, and housing. ARPA also provides state and local governments with funding to invest in public health, child care, infrastructure, jobs, and more. Together, this relief will help Kentucky put the COVID-19 pandemic behind us, strengthen our economy, and build back better.

BELOW ARE 6 DIRECT WAYS MOST KY HOUSEHOLDS WILL GET HELP. CHECK TO SEE IF YOU ARE ELIGIBLE!

6 WAYS THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN HELPS KENTUCKIANS

THRIVER | CHFS

Stimulus Checks

- WHAT IS IT?**
\$1,400 direct payments are being sent to 14 million Kentuckians to support economic recovery. Altogether, 92% of the state population will receive a total of \$5.7 billion.
- WHO DOES IT HELP?**
Children and adult dependents in households earning up to \$75,000 for individuals and \$150,000 for married couples. A family of four can receive up to a \$5,600 stimulus payment.
- HOW DO YOU GET IT?**
To receive the stimulus payment, you must file a tax return for 2020, even if you don't usually pay federal taxes. Assistance is available for filing tax returns through Voluntary Income Tax Assistance (VITA) programs. File or can also use free online tax filing services found on the IRS website.

4.1 MILLION KENTUCKIANS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR STIMULUS CHECKS

Child Tax Credits (CTC)

- WHAT IS IT?**
All parents will receive \$3,600 for children under 6 years old, and \$3,000 for children ages 6-17. This includes families with very low incomes who have not been eligible in the past. Households will now be able to receive the whole CTC as a direct payment, not just a credit against the taxes owed.
- WHO DOES IT HELP?**
1.1 million Kentucky children and their families are eligible for the expanded Child Tax Credit (CTC). In total, the expanded tax credit will send \$1.8 billion to Kentucky families and reduce child poverty by an estimated 49%.
- HOW DO YOU GET IT?**
To receive the credit, families will need to file a 2020 tax return, even if you don't usually pay federal taxes. Assistance is available for filing tax returns through Voluntary Income Tax Assistance (VITA) programs. File or can also use free online tax filing services found on the IRS website.

THIS CREDIT WILL REDUCE CHILD POVERTY BY 49%

Marketplace Subsidies & Special Enrollment Period

- WHAT IS IT?**
More financial help is available to lower the cost of marketplace health insurance. Many Kentuckians will see large savings on monthly premiums.
- WHO DOES IT HELP?**
More than 122,000 Kentuckians are now eligible for new or enhanced subsidies on the marketplace. An estimated 7,100 Kentuckians are newly eligible for a 90 percent marketplace benchmark plan on healthcare.gov.
- HOW DO YOU GET IT?**
You must submit an application to healthcare.gov by August 15, 2021. If you are already enrolled in a marketplace plan, simply "re-port a change" to update the application. Use the find a benefits tool to get local help.

7,100 KENTUCKIANS ARE NOW ELIGIBLE FOR A \$0 PREMIUM THROUGH HEALTHCARE.GOV

ThriveKY Quarterly Forum with CHFS

ThriveKY advocates for a strong and equitable safety-net that meets the basic needs of every Kentuckian.

Goals for our quarterly forums:

1. Create more open dialogue between Cabinet leadership, consumers, and advocates
2. Provide the latest information on the state and federal response to COVID-19
3. Share updates on our safety-net programs
4. Make space for feedback and questions

[Register now for our May 4th forum](#)

join us.

ThriveKY Quarterly Forum with CHFS

May 4th at 2PM Eastern

[REGISTER NOW!](#)

*please see zoom link in post

TOPICS:

1. Implementation of 2021 Legislation
2. Federal Relief & State Budget Impacts
3. Health Equity
4. Special Enrollment Period & kynect Reboot
5. COVID-19 Vaccinations

