

Healthy Kids *are Better Learners*



Parents Have Options

Less likely to receive treatment for injuries...less likely to be immunized... eight times less likely to have a regular source of medical care...five times more likely to receive care in a hospital emergency room.

Who does this describe? Children without health insurance.

Regardless of a family's income, the cost of medical care often prevents or delays uninsured children from receiving the care that they need. Health insurance increases a family's access to the medical care that keeps their child a healthy, active learner.

You have options! Locally, the Whatcom Alliance for Healthcare Access offers staff ready to help you explore your state and commercial insurance choices. For example:

- A family of four earning \$4,000 a month can qualify for the state's CHIP program which provides medical, dental, and vision coverage for children and only costs only \$15/month per child.
- Washington State Basic Health is available to most parents who have children already covered by a medical coupon.
- Health Savings Accounts allow you to save money (tax-free) to meet the deductible of a catastrophic insurance plan. The money can then be spent tax-free on qualified medical expenses.
- In many cases, Medicaid (DSHS) can help pay the premium charged by an employer to cover kids on their parent's health insurance.

The Whatcom Alliance for Healthcare Access (WAHA) is a local, nonprofit community service committed to increasing health access for all members of our community. We can help you understand your health insurance options, navigate the process of applying, and help you find a doctor.

Contact WAHA for more information: www.whatcomalliance.org • WAHA@hinet.org • 715-6594