



MOUNTAINEER AUTISM PROJECT 2018 CONFERENCE

- APRIL 2018
- MAP CONFERENCE
- 2018 MEDICAID SUMMIT
- ROANE COUNTY COMMUNITY HEALTH FAIR
- WV TOGETHER FOR MEDICAID CAMPAIGN
- THE STATE OF OUR CHILDREN ISSUE BRIEF

MISSION

Our mission is to bring a consumer voice to public policy so that every West Virginian has quality, affordable health care and the opportunity to lead an informed, healthy and productive life.

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Mountaineer Autism Project (MAP) will hold its annual conference on April 20, 2018 at the Bridgeport Conference Center. This interactive conference aims to bring together a diverse group of parents, providers, stakeholders and families to learn about and share their experiences with autism with the goal of building a network of support to improve the lives of those affected by autism in West Virginia.

The conference will have two tracks; one for families and one for providers. For families, the conference aims to lessen the challenges of caring for children with autism by increasing their knowledge of ASD. Participants will discuss evidence-based effective treatments, teaching strategies and techniques for coping while waiting for care.

Providers will benefit from the conference by increasing their understanding of ASD by addressing such topics as ethics, sleep

training, play skills, community organizing and advocacy. Continuing education hours will be provided for Psychologists, pending approval, by the West Virginia Board of Examiners of Psychologists and for Board Certified Behavior Analysts, pending approval, by West Virginia University.

The registration fee for the conference is \$50 per attendee in advance and \$60 on the day of the event. Full time students can register for \$30. The group rate for providers and families with four or more people is \$30 per attendee. To register for the conference go to <https://2018mapconference.eventbrite.com>. For questions contact mapwvautism@gmail.com.



2018 MEDICAID SUMMIT

West Virginians for Affordable Health Care (WVAHC) and the West Virginia Medicaid Coalition will host its second annual Medicaid Summit at the Holiday Inn and Suites in South Charleston on September 17, 2018. The theme for this year's conference is "Medicaid Matters to West Virginia." Speakers will present on a variety of topics including the opioid crisis, women's health issues, Medicaid waivers, and the Medicaid budget.

The goal of the Medicaid Summit is to promote awareness of Medicaid and the Medicaid expansion as an essential program for West Virginia, provide information for effective advocacy, and energize and expand the list of partners working together to

protect, defend and improve Medicaid and the Medicaid expansion.

"While we are in the early planning stages of this year's conference, we are anticipating a really packed day with lots of great speakers," said Doris Selko, Deputy Executive Director, WVAHC. "We are committed to providing information that our stakeholders are interested in learning more about and welcome suggestions about particular areas of interest. Please don't hesitate to contact me with your ideas."

Suggestions for topics to be covered at the Medicaid Summit can be sent to Doris Selko at doris@wvahc.org. Registration information will be forwarded soon.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

04/20/18

MAP CONFERENCE

9:30AM-4:45PM

BRIDGEPORT
CONFERENCE
CENTER

05/13/18

MEDICAID MATTERS
TO MOMS

TBD

06/19/18

MEDICAID COALITION
MEETING

10-12PM

KANAWHA-CHARLESTON
HEALTH
DEPARTMENT

09/17/18

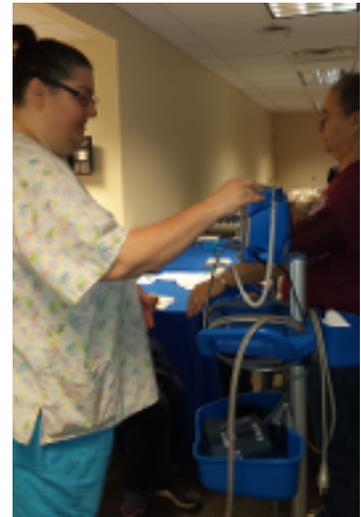
MEDICAID SUMMIT

9AM-4:30 PM
CHARLESTON'S
HOLIDAY INN SUITES



ROANE COUNTY COMMUNITY HEALTH FAIR

On March 27th, 2018 West Virginians for Affordable Health Care and Roane County Family Health Care partnered to curate the Roane County Community Health Fair. In an effort to help Medicaid recipients better understand the roles MCOs (Managed Care Organizations) play in Medicaid health benefits and additional services, the Family Resource Network, WIC, Women's Health (RCFHC), Mental Health (RCFHC), Master Gardener and Health Right Dental. Informational booths, complete labs, vaccinations and free screenings were also provided.



WEST VIRGINIA TOGETHER FOR MEDICAID CAMPAIGN

West Virginia Together for Medicaid (WVTFM) campaign brings together many diverse organizations and individuals dedicated to defending and improving Medicaid for West Virginia families. WVTFM is coordinated by WVAHC and supported by the Health Justice Fund. The campaign has recently released new resources:

[Medicaid: Good Medicine for West Virginia's Budget and Economy](#)

[FAQ Medicaid Work Requirements: What are work requirements and what are their impact?](#)

[Lessons for West Virginia: Looking at the Indiana 1115 Medicaid Waiver](#)

[Insured Without Care: The Impact of Premiums and Cost-sharing In Medicaid](#)

[Non-Emergency Medical Transportation: Critical for West Virginia](#)

[Medicaid: Vital for West Virginia \(candidate education fact sheet and pledge\)](#)

[Affordable Care Act: Vital for West Virginia \(candidate education fact sheet and pledge\)](#)

The campaign is planning activities around Mother's Day, May 13, to raise awareness of why "Medicaid Matters to Moms" in our state. Contact Kat Stoll if you would like to share your Medicaid story or help at katdstoll@gmail.com.



THE STATE OF OUR CHILDREN ISSUE BRIEF



West Virginians for Affordable Health Care and West Virginia Kids Count have issued a children's health insurance brief "The State of Our Children: Covering West Virginia's Kids" that touts the progress that West Virginia has made over the past twenty years to achieve health insurance coverage for almost 98% of our children.

This historic achievement is particularly important because evidence shows that having health insurance is associated with a number of positive outcomes, especially for low-income children. Having health insurance provides children with access to preventive health services, helps protect a family's financial security, and helps put them on the right path for academic success and a healthy future.

Improvement in children's insurance coverage is a result of more children enrolled in Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). Both nationally and in West Virginia, Medicaid is the largest insurer of children with 43% of children insured under the program. Medicaid provides guaranteed coverage, pediatrician-recommended services, well child check-ups, immunizations and even dental care.

The Children's Health Insurance Program builds on the foundation of Medicaid to cover kids in working families who are not eligible for Medicaid but lack the money or access to affordable private coverage. CHIP provides affordable coverage with benefits including well child visits, dental care, vision care and immunizations. At any one time in West Virginia approximately 21,000 children are covered by CHIP.

"Since CHIP started nearly 20 years ago, it has played a pivotal role in reducing the rate of uninsured children in our state by nearly half while helping to assure coverage for children overall at a historically high rate. Studies of CHIP nationally have shown that CHIP has not



only contributed to improved access and use of recommended care for children, but is also reduces disparities affecting low income children" said Sharon Carte, Former Executive Director, WV CHIP. "We are now faced with the challenge of preserving these gains so that we can build on them to achieve better health for the children of West Virginia."

A large percentage of West Virginia's kids are insured through their parents' or guardians' employer-sponsored insurance and more are covered by Affordable Care Act marketplace plans.

"During this time of transition and fluctuation in our nation's health care system, it is more important than ever for West Virginia to continue to build on its historic success of and commitment to insuring its children," said Kelli Caseman, Director of Child Health, WVAHC. "With the 4th highest coverage rate for kids in the nation, we are a model for other states around the country. And we must protect and build on that progress."

To read the full brief go to <http://wvkidscount.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/KC-ISSUE-BRIEF-1-REVISED-CREDIT.pdf>

Medicaid Coalition Membership Update

West Virginians for Affordable Health Care is currently updating our Medicaid Coalition membership list. If you would like to continue receiving communications about Medicaid, please update your contact information per the membership form sent via email. If you no longer wish to take part or can no longer locate your membership form, please contact LaTonya Fuller, Medicaid Coalition Coordinator, at your earliest convenience. (latonya@wvahc.org)