

# *Forging Pathways to Health Care Coverage for Undocumented Immigrants in California*

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*Founded in 1996, CIPC is a non-partisan, non-profit statewide organization that seeks to inform public debate and policy decisions on issues affecting the state's immigrants and their families in order to improve the quality of life for all Californians. CIPC engages in policy advocacy, and also provides technical assistance, training and education on immigrant issues.*

# Undocumented Immigrants in the U.S.

- 11 million undocumented immigrants nationwide
  - 2.6 million are in the state of CA
- Prior to Admin. Relief: Deportation Raids
  - > 2M deportations under the President Obama Administration
  - Fear and mistrust and mistrust in communities



# The Path to Health for All: California Takes Several Steps to Integrate Immigrants

Driver's Licenses – AB 60 (Alejo), 2013

TRUST Act – AB 4 (Ammiano), 2013

Professional Licenses SB 1159 (Lara), 2014  
and State Bar Dream Act AB 1024 (Gonzalez, 2013)

Protections for Workers – E-Verify; Anti-Retaliation

Full Scope Medi-Cal for All Low-Income Lawfully Present  
Immigrants; Transitioning to Covered California Soon

One California - \$15M for education, outreach, and legal services

Healthcare for All Kids Regardless of Status – Begins May 16<sup>th</sup>  
2016

What Has California Done to  
Ensure Access to Healthcare for  
Immigrants?

What more should be done?

# California's Immigrants and the Affordable Care Act

## ❖ Eligibility

- All lawfully present immigrants are eligible for federal coverage under the ACA (*Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals recipients are not eligible*)
- Undocumented immigrants are not eligible to purchase coverage through state's exchange Covered CA or access full scope Medi-Cal if low income
- CALIFORNIA: covers all low-income lawfully present immigrants, regardless of age, who are designated as PRUCOLs or Permanently Residing Under Color of Law in Medi-Cal. This includes DACA/DAPA folks in CA's Medi-Cal program.
- All Kids, regardless of status, to be covered as of May 16, 2016

# Undocumented Californians and Health Access

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) has expanded health coverage to millions of Californians but many are purposefully, discriminatorily, and explicitly excluded:

## ❖ Remaining Uninsured

- ❖ UC Berkeley Labor Center study- After the full implementation of the ACA, there will be **2.7-3.4 million** Californians who will remain uninsured
- ❖ About **1.2 million** will be undocumented Californians
- ❖ Nearly 10% of the state's workforce; 130 Billion in GDP – bigger than GDP of neighboring Nevada
- ❖ 3.2 Billion in Tax Revenue

## ❖ Access “Band Aid” Care-Patchwork of coverage for the undocumented.

- Some counties offer coverage, other counties don't offer any coverage, and some offer limited scope/duration coverage.
- Emergency and charity care

# California's Safety Net

- Emergency Rooms: However, only to stabilize emergencies; subsequently Big bills and debt
- Private providers: clinics, hospital charity care
- Counties as the final safety-net option
- State-Funded Programs



# CA Programs Available Regardless of Status

- **Emergency Medi-Cal**
- Prenatal care (Medi-Cal)
- Access for Infants and Mothers (AIM)
- Long-term care
- Early Breast Cancer Detection
- Breast and Cervical Cancer Treatment
- California Children's Services (CCS)
- Children's Health Initiatives
- Health Programs in some counties (Healthy SF, Healthy Way LA Unmatched)
- **Community clinics**
- Child Health and Disability Prevention Program (CHDP) and CHDP "Gateway"
- Family PACT
- Minor consent services
- Mental health services
- Regional Center Services
- Women Infants and Children (WIC)
- School lunch and breakfast

# DACA/DAPA Recipients & Medi-Cal

- Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Program passed in June 2012
- President Obama's announcement to excluded DACA's from the ACA
- PRUCOL eligibility category
  - PRUCOLs are eligible for many safety net programs in California, including full scope Medi-Cal.
  - Therefore, DA recipients are eligible for full scope Medi-Cal, if they meet the income requirement of 138% of the FPL

# Administrative Relief Impact on California

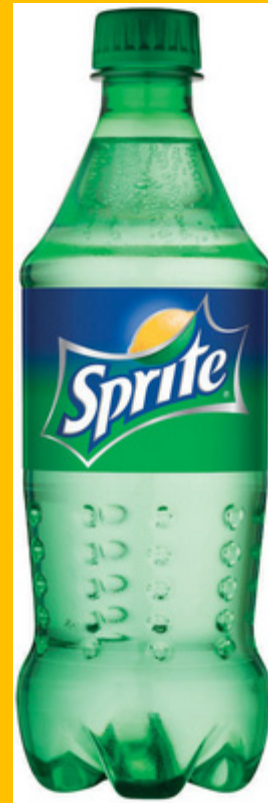
- 2012 – DACA – Approximately 300,000 Californians
- 2014 – Approximately 1.3 Million Eligible with Expanded DACA and DAPA
- Protection from Deportation – Work Permit
- TX Lawsuit
- Recent DOJ appeal; SCOTUS to hear case
- Timelines
- Expectations
- Implications for California

# Progress for County Safety-Net Programs

- There is a trend toward expanding access to the undocumented: Sacramento, Contra Costa, Monterey, and 35 rural counties in CMSP expanded their eligibility, including offering a limited benefit to include the undocumented. Fresno, after suing to not serve the undocumented, secured a program to fill a gap in specialty care for the undocumented.
- Some counties are enhancing their safety-net in a smarter way, with programs like My Health LA and Healthy SF.
- All of these efforts are bridges to a statewide solution.



**In the absence of  
health coverage,  
what type of care  
do immigrants  
receive?**





# Recent Investment and Next Steps on Health for All





# Pro-Immigrant Investments in California's 2015-2016 Budget

The 2015-2016 state budget included exciting and historic package of investments that will help lift up our immigrant communities.

- ❖ SB 75 – Budget Trailer Bill – Health for All Kids: \$40 Million in 2015-2016; \$145M proposed in 2016-2017 for all kids to be covered in full-scope Medi-Cal no sooner than May 1<sup>st</sup> – Target Date: May 16
- ❖ One California: \$15M investment in a newly created state-funded program to support grants to community based and legal services organizations who are engaged in education, outreach, or legal support to immigrants seeking administrative relief and legal permanent residents seeking naturalization -- \$15 M proposed in 2016-2017 – Huge Implications for Healthcare

# California's #Health4All Effort

- ❖ Original proposal introduced by Senator Ricardo Lara in 2014 as SB 1005 – “Equitable Access for Immigrants” – Held in Appropriations
- ❖ Re-introduced in December 2014 as SB 4 by Senator Ricardo Lara (cutting costs) – 1332 waiver discussions with Medi-Cal Expansion
- ❖ SB 75: Legislature invests/ Governor approves healthcare for all kids as part of the 2015-2016 budget
- ❖ Modified version of SB 4 is signed to ensure that undocumented children have seamless access to quality and affordable healthcare if they are currently enrolled in Restricted Scope Medi-Cal – “Lift and Shift” – 1332 Waiver amended into SB 10
- ❖ SB 10 awaits action in the Assembly: Undocumented Adults in Medi-Cal and 1332 Waiver

# Current Budgetary Challenges on Achieving a Statewide Solution Today

- Fiscally Prudent Governor
- SCOTUS Decision – Administrative Relief
- Expiration of Prop 30 and 2018-2019 Projected Deficits
- HHS Budget: General Trend on Restorations and Other Competing Priorities

# Next Steps on Health4All

- ❖ Health for All Kids Begins May 16th
- ❖ SB 10 : Medi-Cal Expansion and 1332 wavier
- ❖ SCOTUS Watch: Future Coverage for DACA/DAPA?
- ❖ 1332 Waiver: Upcoming Decision and Next Steps
- ❖ County Efforts Continue

# What can you do?

- ❖ **If in CA: Outreach Fairs to Enroll Children in Restricted Scope Medi-Cal**
- ❖ Town Halls in Your Communities to Lift Up importance of Health for All
- ❖ Participate in advocacy visits to educate policymakers at the county or state level
- ❖ Join community actions and town halls
- ❖ Share and Collect constituent stories
- ❖ Share information on social media

**#Health4All**



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