

ABSTRACT
**Florida Covering Kids and Families Grant Application:
CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION ACT (CHIPRA)
OUTREACH AND ENROLLMENT GRANTS – CYCLE I**

This proposal aims to maximize existing opportunities and structures currently in place with the statewide Florida Covering Kids and Families (FL-CKF) Coalition and its network of regional collaborative partnerships to increase enrollment and retention in the Florida KidCare Children's Health Insurance Program, which includes Title XIX Medicaid and Title XXI. FL-CKF will engage four sets of partners to achieve its grant objectives: existing local coalitions, the Florida Association of Children's Hospitals, the Refugee and Entrant Project, and Human Resource departments in businesses around the state. The grant request is for \$1 million over a two-year period.

FL-CKF will utilize the existing statewide and local partners to facilitate outreach and retention by expanding the number of people who complete train-the-trainer modules intended to strengthen local partners' ability to increase enrollment and retention in Florida. The intended outcomes are to increase the knowledge base about the program at the grassroots, and to increase the number of locations locally where families may apply, obtain application assistance, and receive help resolving enrollment and retention problems.

Local projects in this plan include a partnership of volunteers from a wide range of private and public entities. Key strategies include community partners' engagement and training, conducting special enrollment projects, and providing families with one-on-one assistance. Local projects have demonstrated the capacity to overcome enrollment barriers, including those stemming from language and culture differences, lack of awareness of eligibility, concerns about stigma, fears associated with receipt of benefits (such as deportation), and burdensome enrollment and renewal procedures. Their partnerships include members of underserved populations and organizations that serve such groups. Efforts will continue to focus on geographic areas with high rates of those eligible for Florida KidCare, but not enrolled.

The grant funds will not replace currently allocated funds. The goal is to reach as many vulnerable Florida populations as possible in every region of the state, utilizing a collaborative and coordinated approach to ensure that activities are not duplicative. FL-CKF selected 10 local projects representing 17 Florida counties based on their current capacity to achieve the goals of the grant.

Local projects will use grant funds to pursue the following strategies to increase enrollment and retention in Florida:

- Target difficult-to-reach and minority populations with the highest percentages of uninsured children.
- Increase the number of locations where families may apply and receive assistance.
- Provide application and renewal assistance, and follow-up with each family to completion.
- Replicate and expand best practices compiled from FL-CKF's 10 years of successful CHIP activities and newly-discovered strategies.
- Produce and distribute statewide an application and renewal assistance guide.

Each local project will track information and provide the grantee monthly reports so the effectiveness of their methods can be measured and refined when necessary. They will also report qualitative information.