



A Nationwide Network of Doctors  
Advocating for Young Children

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**“Doctor Advocates Tout Importance of Health Insurance for All Children”**

Washington D.C.— A nationwide network of doctors advocating for young children, Docs For Tots, joined national organizations to launch the Campaign for Children’s Health Care at the National Press Club today. The Campaign is dedicated to making high-quality, comprehensive, affordable health insurance coverage for all of America’s children a top national priority.

Campaign for Children’s Health Care, a national public education campaign, draws attention to the fact that 9 million children in the U.S. are uninsured. The launch, which occurred at The National Press Club today in Washington DC, included the release of new polling data containing the nation’s view on the importance of health care for children, as well as information on the impact of inadequate insurance for children. Nationwide activities planned for the campaign include town hall meetings connected nationally by satellite, a national essay contest for school children about the importance of health coverage, the release of a series of policy reports, grassroots events in communities across the country, and a Washington lobby day.

“Insurance has a direct impact on children receiving the services they need. Twenty-two percent of uninsured children have at least one unmet health need which could include immunizations, dental care or vision screenings. Children’s health care should be a priority in our nation, ensuring that every child has a chance for healthy development,” said Dr. George Askew, Founder and Executive Director of Docs For Tots.

Docs For Tots is partnering with advocacy organizations, children’s groups, educators, health care groups, and parents’ organizations to educate society on the effects a lack of insurance can have on children and encourage the public to sign an online petition. Posted on the newly unveiled Campaign Web site ([www.childrehealthcampaign.org](http://www.childrehealthcampaign.org)), the Campaign petition urges expanded health coverage for all children. The petition will be delivered to the President and Congress next spring at a time when Congress considers the reauthorization of the State Children’s Health Insurance Program (SCHIP).

The Campaign will help Docs For Tots encourage doctors to fulfill their important role as active advocates for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers on the national, state and local level. Docs For Tots is a nonpartisan, advocacy organization providing resources and advocacy opportunities to make it as simple as possible for doctors nationwide to become involved in advocacy or to increase their advocacy activity.

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