

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Contact: Dave Lemmon Geraldine Henrich-Koenis (202) 628-3030

Campaign for Children's Health Care Seeks to Make Expanded Health Coverage for Children a National Priority

Families USA among National Organizations Leading Campaign Efforts

Washington, **DC**. - The Campaign for Children's Health Care, an initiative led by a diverse group of national organizations, was launched today at a National Press Club event. The Campaign, which Families USA is playing a leadership role, seeks to raise public awareness about the more than 9 million uninsured children in this country.

"It is high time that the 9 million uninsured children in this country get health care coverage," said Ron Pollack, Executive Director of Families USA. "Lack of health care impedes their ability to perform well in school, lead healthy and active lives, and the opportunity to be productive citizens. Children deserve to be healthy and it is our responsibility to work towards that goal."

The Campaign will involve numerous activities across the country over the next year. Among those activities are 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, a Washington lobby day, and a national online petition urging expanded health coverage for all children.

Among those leading the Campaign are influential groups focused on health care (such as organizations representing physicians, nurses, and hospitals), children's groups, educators, religious organizations, organized labor, and parents' organizations.

For more information about the campaign please visit the Campaign Web site at www.childrenshealthcampaign.org

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Families USA is the national organization for health care consumers. It is nonprofit and nonpartisan and advocates for high-quality, affordable health care for all Americans.