

Talking Points—Families

- A solution that adheres to American values would allow all workers and families, including immigrants, to share the responsibility of health care reform, pay their fair share, and purchase affordable health coverage.
- With 82% of uninsured Latinos living in families it is essential for any health care reform to streamline enrollment for families and allow them to be treated as a single unit.
- For individuals who cannot obtain access through employer-based coverage, it will be important to facilitate access to health care coverage for entire families and households.
- We all know that families, and in particular, children have trouble gaining access to coverage when family members have mixed eligibility for health care programs. To eliminate this confusion and facilitate access to health coverage, we should take the approach of allowing a family to purchase insurance at a fair price once one eligible person in the family applies.
- In the Latino community, there are an estimated 3 million citizen children who live in a mixed-status household with at least one undocumented parent. The confusion about eligibility rules and fear of immigration consequences often keeps these children out of health coverage programs for which they are eligible.
- One in four (25%) citizen children with an undocumented parent is uninsured, compared with approximately one in twelve (8%) citizen children in entirely citizen households.
- Families need affordable health care now. Many American families are one illness or accident away from bankruptcy. Let's stop creating ways to keep people from getting the affordable services they so desperately need and give them the health care they need right now.
- By having everyone buy health insurance they can afford, we can ensure a healthier society.