

*Voice of the Poor*

**ACTION ALERT**

**April 5, 2010**

**Restore KidsCare to Arizona Children**

**Background:**

SVdP has consistently supported KidsCare in Arizona. KidsCare is a health insurance program for children 18 years or younger in low-income families who are not covered by Medicaid (AHCCCS) or employer-based health coverage. The federal government funds 75 per cent of the KidsCare program. The Arizona legislature has cancelled KidsCare as part of the recently adopted state budget, impacting 40,000 children. Federal funding to help states like Arizona address budget shortfalls in health care is expected in about a month. In addition, the recently passed federal health care reform law requires all states to maintain eligibility for healthcare programs as of the date of the signing of the act. Program changes in violation of this provision will result in the loss of all federal Medicaid funding. **Arizona will lose \$7 billion of federal funds unless KidsCare funding is restored by June 15, 2010.**

**Action:**

**Please call or e-mail all three of your members of the Arizona legislature (two representatives and one senator) and urge them to restore KidsCare.**

**Who are My Legislators?**

**ONLINE:**

**Go to [www.azleg.gov](http://www.azleg.gov) and click on “How do I find my Legislators?” There is a small box in the upper right hand corner for your address and zip code. The number of your congressional district (federal) and legislative district (state) will be displayed. Click on List of State Senators and Representatives (in green) and scroll down to find the elected members from your district.**

**BY PHONE:**

**Call the Information Desk and ask for help in determining your elected members:**

**Arizona State Senate: (602) 926-3559**

**Arizona State House: (602) 926-4221**