

Medical Assistance

Mission

To provide cost-effective health care services for low-income Hoosiers, and to promote and protect public health.

Summary of Activities

Medical assistance programs provide access to health care for underinsured and uninsured individuals. Those services include physician services, drug assistance, durable medical goods, and public education and outreach. The **Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA)** oversees the Medicaid program, which provides health insurance to low-income persons. The Hoosier Healthwise program, a component of Medicaid, provides free and low-cost comprehensive health care services to children, pregnant women, and low-income adults. The coverage includes primary, preventive, and specialty medical care. In June 1999, 376,000 people received healthcare coverage through Hoosier Healthwise, of which 315,000 (84%) were children. Medicaid also provides a wide range of health care services to non-institutionalized aged, blind, and disabled persons. The programs include home health services, prescription drugs, hospital stays, and other important health care benefits. In FY 1999, Medicaid spent \$1.6 billion on non-institutional health care services, which were provided to 551,507 Medicaid and Hoosier Healthwise members.



FSSA collaborates with the **Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH)** to administer the First Steps program, which provides services to infants and toddlers under age three who have medical conditions resulting in or caused by developmental delays. In FY 1999, First Steps served 9,943 children. The ISDH is also responsible for providing training and information to health professionals in control of communicable diseases, sexually transmitted diseases and HIV prevention, tuberculosis control and intravenous drug user counseling programs. The Children's Special Health Care Services (CSHCS) program provides primary care, treatment, rehabilitation, and care coordination services to children who are financially and medically in need of care as a result of a chronic illness or disability. The ISDH also coordinates the Breast and Cervical Cancer program to promote the early detection of cancer. This program brings critical services to underserved women, particularly low income, racial/ethnic minorities, and older women.



External Factors

A strong economy and Indiana's successful welfare reform efforts resulted in declining Medicaid enrollments in the mid-to-late 1990's. Passage of Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) legislation and intensive outreach efforts have resulted in a reversal of this trend, creating budgetary pressures. Prescription drug expenditures also continue to rise 15% to 18% per person annually. In addition, people with serious illnesses such as HIV/AIDS are living longer and enrollments in various health care programs are increasing.

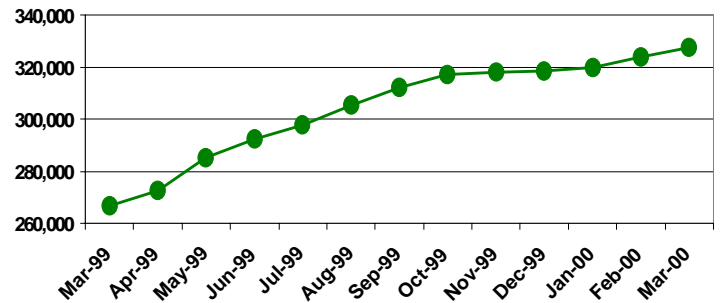
Evaluation and Accomplishments

Over the last four years, over 150,000 low-income children without health insurance were enrolled in the CHIP and Medicaid programs. FSSA and ISDH have joined forces to coordinate and maximize outreach resources, and promote high quality health care and services for the children and families of Indiana. FSSA has implemented sweeping changes that have simplified enrollment and improved outreach for the Hoosier Healthwise program, including a simplified Medicaid application, the establishment of over 400 enrollment centers, and the publication of various marketing materials promoting Hoosier Healthwise for children. Hoosier Healthwise customer satisfaction surveys continue to show a high satisfaction rate. In the 2000 survey, 84% of those surveyed rated the program as "good" or "very good."

Both the HIV claims system and the CSHCS system have been redesigned to allow analysis of client services. This system was created to evaluate effectiveness of provided services and to identify other opportunities to enhance client information.

Passage of the 1998 and 1999 CHIP legislation expanded Hoosier Healthwise eligibility to uninsured children in households with incomes up to 200% of the federal poverty level. The state also launched an aggressive outreach campaign in the late 1990s. Thanks to CHIP, more than 34,000 uninsured children have enrolled in Hoosier Healthwise, and it is expected that up to 16,000 additional uninsured children will enroll by December 2000. Also, more than 85,000 previously eligible but unenrolled children are now receiving healthcare through Hoosier Healthwise.

Hoosier Healthwise Child Enrollees



Plans for the Biennium

New legislation approved during the 2000 session of the Indiana General Assembly will help FSSA and ISDH to improve and enhance medical assistance services in the 2001-2002 biennium. Effective January 1, 2001, individuals with disabilities who have severe medical conditions that are expected to last for four years or more and prohibit the individuals from working will be eligible for Medicaid insurance. The previous law provided benefits only to people whose disabling conditions were expected to last a lifetime. Other legislation has committed \$112.5 million from the national tobacco settlement for health-related purposes, such as smoking prevention programs and enhanced healthcare services to medically underserved rural and inner-city areas. FSSA and ISDH will continue to work together to increase pediatric and dental provider access for Hoosier Healthwise enrollees, and to improve vaccination and lead screening rates for children. Further, all medical assistance programs will be evaluated to assure that primary health care access is available to uninsured and underinsured people, to build healthier communities.

Special Initiatives

In response to the rising cost of prescription drugs and the burden of those costs on low-income senior citizens, the General Assembly passed Senate Enrolled Act 108 at Governor O'Bannon's request, authorizing \$20 million annually from tobacco settlement funds to support a prescription drug program for low-income seniors. The state's new Hoosier Rx program was created and is already providing relief to seniors in need.

<i>Program: 0300</i>	FY 1999	FY 2000	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003
Appropriation (All Funds)	\$1,783,926,793	\$2,170,735,484	\$2,320,937,228	\$2,675,210,090	\$2,958,158,485
Expenditures	\$1,912,331,227	\$2,202,828,480	\$2,358,660,928		

**Sources of Funds
FY 2001 (Approp)**

■ General
 ■ Dedicated
 ■ Federal
 ■ Other

**Uses of Funds
FY 2001 (Approp)**

■ Personal Services
 ■ Distributions
 ■ Capital
 ■ Other