



Hawai'i Primary Care Association SPECIAL POPULATIONS IN HAWAI'I

NATIVE HAWAIIANS

Medicaid services for Native Americans and Alaska Natives are reimbursed 100% by the federal government. Congress should treat Medicaid payments for Native Hawaiians the same way. We thank you for your continued efforts to provide **100% federal reimbursement for Medicaid services for Native Hawaiians** who are users of Federally-Qualified Health Centers and the Native Hawaiian Health Care Systems.

IMMIGRANTS

Hawai'i has one of the largest *per capita* immigrant populations in the nation. In recognition of the cultural and economic contributions Hawai'i gains from its immigrant population, the State ensures that low-income legal immigrant children and pregnant women have access to public health insurance through Med-QUEST and SCHIP. We ask that you amend Medicaid provisions and include in SCHIP reauthorization provisions that would allow states the option to offer **Medicaid and SCHIP coverage to legal immigrant women and children** who meet income eligibility standards.

MIGRANTS UNDER THE COMPACTS OF FREE ASSOCIATION

Hawai'i pays an estimated \$40 million per year for **Medicaid coverage for migrants who come to Hawai'i under the federally-negotiated Compacts of Free Association**. Since 1996 these health care costs have not been shared by the federal government. We ask that you address this inequity by mandating at least the same federal participation in Medicaid payments for Pacific island migrants as for others.

It should be noted that Medicaid costs are only one of the many expenses related to the migrant population. Hawai'i also shoulders increased costs for public education, safety, and other services. Currently, the federal government provides Hawai'i only \$10 million in compensation for all costs, including Medicaid, education, public safety, and others. We thank you for your efforts to **increase the federal funds** that come to Hawai'i to ensure that migrants get equal access to public services and that those services aren't reduced for all because of lack of resources.

HOMELESSNESS IN HAWAI'I

Hawai'i has one of the highest rates of homelessness in the nation. Given the high cost of living, especially for housing, the situation is unlikely to be remedied soon. We ask that you take every opportunity to **increase funding for health care for the homeless programs, for low income housing**, and for other services needed by our neediest residents.
