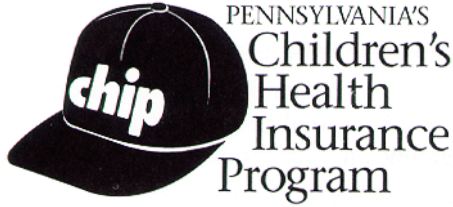


Polish American Social Services "PASS"

PolishAmericanSocialServices.com

Pennsylvania Becomes One of Six States to Offer Health Care Access to ALL Uninsured Children

Thanks to Governor Rendell's initiative called "Cover All Kids," all children living in Pennsylvania, that do not have medical insurance for healthcare, can get coverage through the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).



Edward G. Rendell, Governor

For very low income individuals, children will be screened for Medicaid eligibility. Low to mid-income, children can get free coverage under CHIP and have no premiums or co-pays for services. Parents at higher income levels will have a monthly premium and co-pays, but costs will be reasonable calculated on a sliding scale fee based on income. In this manner, ALL Pennsylvania children will have access to medical coverage.

For example, let's look at a family of four people with different income ranges:

Income for a family of four	Monthly premium per child
\$41,300 or less	\$0
\$41,301 - \$51,625	\$40
\$51,626 - \$56,788	\$56
\$56,789 - \$61,950	\$64
over \$61,951	\$161

Co-pays apply for the following:

Service	Annual Income \$41,300 or less (family of four)	Annual Income \$41,301 up to \$61,950 (family of four)	Annual Income above \$61,951 (family of four)
Doctor Visit	\$0	\$5 (except for well-child visits)	\$15
Specialist Visit	\$0	\$10	\$25
Emergency Room **	\$0	\$25	\$50
Brand Name Prescriptions	\$0	\$9	\$18
Generic Prescriptions	\$0	\$6	\$10

**Emergency room visit co-pay applies if the child is not admitted for a hospital stay.

Other CHIP eligibility requirements are:

- child does not have medical insurance
- child must be a Pennsylvania resident
- child is not eligible for Medicaid
- child must be a citizen of the United States, a permanent legal alien or a refugee as determined by the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service

If you think this program would be helpful to your family, call PASS at (215) 923-1900 for more information or the program directly

Walk Against Hunger 2008

On Saturday, April 12, 2008, Polish American Social Services will join dozens of other Philadelphia agencies in the Walk Against Hunger. This fundraiser will provide nutritious meals and groceries to thousands of vulnerable senior citizens who often have to decide between paying their utility bills or buying food because of low fixed incomes.

Polish American Social Services will have its own team of walkers and you are invited to join the group. The Walk Against Hunger is Saturday, April 12, 2008 at 9 A.M. and begins in front of the Philadelphia Museum of Art. For information on participating, call PASS at (215) 923-1900.

If you are unable to participate but would still like to help, you can sponsor PASS with a financial donation. Any amount is helpful. All donations should be made payable to the Coalition Against Hunger, and mailed to Polish American Social Services, 308 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106. All donors will receive a letter of acknowledgement.

Please consider joining or sponsoring our team to help thousands of senior citizens!

You are Invited to Become a Polish American Cultural Center Museum Exhibit Hall Sponsor
Call Theresa Romanowski, Monday through Friday, 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. • (215) 922-1700.
All donations are tax deductible.

For more information about PASS Services, go to:
PolishAmericanSocialServices.com

Business Directory continued...

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From the Desk of
Richard Klimek
Program Supervisor

Polish American Social Services "PASS"



There is much talk about the **Economic Stimulus Act of 2008** which will be providing payments to over 130 million households beginning in **May, 2008**. This one-time program is being referred to as the "**Stimulus PAYMENT.**"

For those people that **HAVE TO FILE** tax returns, and will be filing by the **April 15th deadline**, the IRS will determine eligibility, and send the Stimulus PAYMENT separately from any refund due. For those that qualify, Stimulus PAYMENTS could be **\$600 for individual filers and \$1,200** for those filing jointly plus additional amounts for each qualifying child.

For those people that **DO NOT HAVE TO FILE** tax returns, especially **senior citizens and other low income individuals**, and have not filed a tax return for many years, they would have to file a tax form **1040A for 2007** in order to get a **Stimulus PAYMENT**. These people would have to have some form of income from Social Security, earned income and certain veteran's payments that is \$3,000 or more. SSI income does **NOT** count. The **filing date** for these people, just filing for the stimulus payment, is **OCTOBER 15, 2008**. Stimulus Payments for these people is **\$300 for individual filers and \$600 for those filing jointly**.

There is a **word of caution** for senior citizens and other low income individuals. Scam artists are already calling and knocking on doors trying to get social security numbers, dates of birth and bank account numbers using this program as their reason to get this information. **ONLY GO** to a trusted family member, friend or community agency you know for help. If you receive something from the IRS, especially anything that says, Stimulus PAYMENT, do not throw it away but turn to trusted people for help.

PASS will be **assisting** seniors and low income individuals **until OCTOBER 15, 2008** to file for this payment. Assistance will be given in either the **English or Polish Languages**. So if you have any questions about the Stimulus PAYMENT program call **PASS** at **215-923-1900**.

Polish American Social Services "PASS" Welcomes Information and Referral Council



The January meeting of the Information and Referral Council, a consortium of Philadelphia-area social service and multidisciplinary organizations, took place on Thursday, January 24, 2008, at Polish American Social Services headquarters, 308 Walnut Street, in historic Philadelphia. The Council meets regularly to update member agencies about programs and policies in the social service delivery system. PASS is a long time member of the council and was pleased to once again host this meeting.

Michael Blichasz, Director of PASS, and Richard Klimek, PASS Program Supervisor, welcomed 100 agency representatives. The council enjoyed a productive meeting and a full selection of home made Polish food. Rose Epstein of the Philadelphia Corporation for Aging, coordinator of the I & R Council, conducted the meeting.

The I & R Council is just another example of the great things that can happen when people pull together their talents and resources. PASS is proud to be a member of the Council and congratulates the member agencies for their outstanding community work.