Announcements

Lynn Blewett Presents on the Exchange

SHADAC Director Lynn Blewett presented "Health Insurance Exchange," at the Policy not Politics: A Dialogue about the Health Insurance Exchange event hosted by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota, the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce and the American Cancer Society. Held February 7, 2012 on the Medtronic Campus in Mounds View, Minnesota, the event also included an update from Minnesota's Exchange Task Force and a panel discussion from the consumer, small business and provider perspectives.

Report on Louisiana's Express Lane Eligibility

SHARE grantee Stan Dorn, Senior Fellow at the Urban Institute, released "Louisiana Breaks New Ground: The Nation's First Use of Automatic Enrollment through Express Lane Eligibility." This report details findings from Dorn's analysis of Louisiana's landmark automated Medicaid enrollment via Express Lane Eligibility (ELE), a strategy authorized by the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009 (CHIPRA). Dorn and his co-authors found that the total return on investment dollars was between 15 and 22 to 1 after one year of ELE renewals. Based on these and other outcomes, the authors offer a number of lessons for other states considering the use of ELE for public program eligibility determination.
Brief on Risk Selection for State Basic Health Plans

SHARE grantee Deborah Chollet, Senior Fellow at Mathematica Policy Research, released "Selection in Massachusetts' Commonwealth Care Program: Lessons for State Basic Health Plans." This brief analyzes risk selection over time in the CommonWealth Care program, which serves low-income adults ineligible for Medicaid. Chollet and her co-authors offer lessons for other states considering whether to form a Basic Health Plan, looking at questions of program design, impacts on the commercial market, and financing and operations.

Safety Net Article in Minnesota Medicine

SHADAC Research Assistants Gilbert Gonzales and Heather Dahlen, along with SHADAC Director Lynn Biewett, published "Rescued by the Safety Net: How Government-Sponsored Programs Eased the Pain during the Recession" in the February 2012 issue of Minnesota Medicine. The authors present national and Minnesota-specific data on the loss of employer-sponsored insurance coverage, exploring how government-sponsored programs provided a safety net that enabled many people with low incomes to retain health insurance coverage, lessening the recession’s impact in Minnesota.

Resources

Map of Medicaid Expansion Effects

The Kaiser Family Foundation released "Mapping the Effects of the ACA's Health Insurance Coverage Expansions." This online tool uses 2010 American Community Survey data to estimate sub-state share of the population who will benefit from new Medicaid eligibility and the new health insurance tax credit. These estimates show substantial variation throughout the country. On average, an estimated 17% of the non-elderly population nationwide would benefit from the
Medicaid expansion and tax credits. In parts of Florida, New Mexico, Texas, Louisiana, and California, 36-40% of population could benefit. In areas of Massachusetts, Hawaii, New York, and Connecticut - states that generally have high levels of employer-provided health insurance or have already implemented reforms to make insurance more accessible and affordable - 2-4% of the non-elderly could benefit from the coverage expansions in the ACA.

**News from the States**

**Kansas Insurance Coverage**
The Kansas Health Institute released a new fact sheet, "Snapshot of Insurance Coverage in Kansas." Using estimates from the Current Population Survey to profile the insurance status of Kansans, this fact sheet shows that 12.8% of Kansans are uninsured, and that employer-based coverage has declined. The fact sheet also provides county-level estimates of uninsurance for non-elderly adults and children, as well as Medicaid and CHIP participation rates by county.

**Minnesota Projected Health Care Spending Report**
Mathematica Policy Research released "Projected Health Care Spending in Minnesota: 2009-2019." This report provides an update to previous work that established a health care spending baseline for calendar years 2008 to 2018 and calculate the annual projected private and public health care spending in the state. This update includes projections to 2019 and improvements to the models to account for the impacts of recession, recovery from the recession, and national health care reform.

**Mississippi Coverage Chartbooks**
The Center for Mississippi Health Policy released "Profile
of Health Insurance Coverage in Mississippi," two chartbooks that profile coverage for adults and children, based on data from American Community Survey and the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey. The analysis shows that, compared to the nation, Mississippians are more likely to be uninsured, to have higher rates of public coverage, and to have lower rates of private coverage.

Ohio Health Issues Poll Results
The Health Foundation of Greater Cincinnati released final results from the 2011 Ohio Health Issues Poll (OHIP) on health issues that affect communities, the state, and the nation. The study found that more than 1 in 6 non-elderly are uninsured, 3 in 10 report changes because of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), and two-thirds say they don’t have enough information to understand how the ACA affects them. Data highlights and data tables with detailed information on all of these topics are available online.

Oregon and Rhode Island ACA Implementation Reports
The Urban Institute released "ACA Implementation - Monitoring and Tracking" for Oregon and Rhode Island. These site visit reports are part of a comprehensive monitoring and tracking project to examine the implementation and effects of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) in ten states. The quantitative component of the project will produce analyses of the effects of the ACA on coverage, health expenditures, affordability, access, and premiums in the states and nationally.
Visit SHADAC's blog for regular updates and commentary

- Read our latest blog posts
- Forward this email to a colleague
- Follow @shadac and @LynnBlewett on Twitter
- Invite your colleagues to stay up-to-date on SHADAC's resources by signing up for our e-mail list

These updates include our bi-weekly newsletter; webinars on data, evaluation, and reporting related to Affordable Care Act implementation; and other resources pertinent to state health policy.

If you were forwarded this message and would like to subscribe to our email list, please visit our signup page at www.shadac.org/content/stay-updated.

SHADAC is funded by The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to help states monitor rates of health insurance coverage and to understand factors associated with uninsurance. Visit us online at www.shadac.org

SHARE is a National Program funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to fund, synthesize and disseminate evaluations of state health reform. SHARE operates out of SHADAC. For more information, visit SHARE's web site, www.statereformevaluation.org.

Copyright (C) 2012 State Health Access Data Assistance Center (SHADAC) All rights reserved.