

News Release

For Immediate Release

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American Diabetes Association Supports 2006 Covering Kids & Families Back-to-School Campaign

Campaign highlights the ADA's continuing efforts to address the health coverage needs of millions of children and adults with diabetes in the United States

Alexandria, VA (August 9, 2006) – As a national supporter of the 2006 Covering Kids & Families Back-to-School Campaign, the American Diabetes Association again reinforced its commitment to ensuring that every child and adult with diabetes in America has access to quality and affordable health insurance that adequately enables them to manage their disease. This means having access diabetes supplies, education, and equipment. While there is no cure for diabetes, it can be successfully managed with the proper tools.

It its seventh year, the Back-to-School campaign seeks to raise awareness of available low-cost or free health care options for children and their families, and encourage enrollment in one of these options.

“The American Diabetes Association is proud to be supporting the Covering Kids & Families Back-to-School Campaign again this year,” said Lawrence T. Smith, Chair of the American Diabetes Association. “For the millions of children that have yet to receive adequate health coverage, the effort to raise awareness of the many choices out there is extraordinarily important. We must do everything we can to address this issue and ensure that those who are in need receive the care they deserve.”

The Association continues to address issues of insurance coverage at national, state, and local levels, and serves as a resource for those with diabetes to help them understand their coverage options. The Association has detailed information on health care coverage at diabetes.org/healthinsurance and state-specific information at diabetes.org/statehealthinsurance. The Association welcomes the opportunity to expand upon the message of the Back-to-School campaign to educate and inform parents about available health care coverage programs, including Medicaid and the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP).

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National Office

1701 North Beauregard Street
Alexandria, VA 22311
Tel: 703-549-1500

Diabetes Information

call 1-800-DIABETES (1-800-342-2383)
online www.diabetes.org
The Association gratefully accepts gifts through your will.

The Mission of the American

Diabetes Association is to prevent and cure diabetes and to improve the lives of all people affected by diabetes.

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Diabetes is one of this nation's most prevalent, debilitating, deadly, and costly diseases. While nearly 21 million children and adults live with diabetes today, estimates predict that if current trends continue, one in three Americans, and one in two minorities, born in 2000 will develop diabetes in their lifetime. In 2002, one in 10 health care dollars went towards diabetes care and the cost of diabetes in America was at least \$132 billion.

The American Diabetes Association is the nation's leading voluntary health organization supporting diabetes research, information and advocacy. The Association's advocacy efforts include helping to combat discrimination against people with diabetes; advocating for the increase of federal diabetes research and programs; and improved access to, and quality of, healthcare for people with diabetes. The Association's mission is to prevent and cure diabetes and to improve the lives of all people affected by diabetes. Founded in 1940, the Association provides service to hundreds of communities across the country. For more information, please call the American Diabetes Association at 1-800-DIABETES (1-800-342-2383) or visit diabetes.org. Information from both these sources is available in English and Spanish.

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