

YOU ARE INVITED TO A

# CALIFORNIA HEALTH POLICY Roundtable



Presented by the Center for Health and Public Policy Studies, University of California, Berkeley,  
and the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation



## THE FUTURE OF MEDI-CAL: CHALLENGES AT THE FEDERAL, STATE, AND COUNTY LEVEL

### *CAN WE PRESERVE ACCESS IN AN ERA OF RISING HEALTH COSTS AND DECLINING REVENUES?*

**Tuesday, May 13, 2003, 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.**  
**State Capitol, Room 3191 - Sacramento, California**

The Medicaid program (Medi-Cal in California) plays a key role in providing access to health care for millions of low-income Americans. Faced with record budget shortfalls, however, many states are reducing Medicaid eligibility, benefits, and provider reimbursement rates in an effort to control program spending. For the nearly one in five Californians who rely on Medi-Cal for their health coverage, proposed reductions in health spending in response to the state's budget crisis may be cause for concern. One of the key challenges facing state policy makers is how to preserve the meaningful set of benefits offered by Medi-Cal for the state's most vulnerable residents when services are needed and state fiscal resources are limited. This roundtable features a discussion of the future direction of Medi-Cal in light of the state's current fiscal constraints and federal restructuring and financing proposals.

Among the questions to be addressed at the Roundtable are:

- ◆ What are the national proposals being debated to restructure Medicaid or offer states fiscal relief? How could these proposals affect California's Medi-Cal program?
- ◆ How are other states changing their Medicaid programs to address funding shortfalls? What could California's policy makers learn from other states in these efforts?
- ◆ What are Governor Davis's proposed changes to Medi-Cal coverage and benefits? How could these changes affect counties, the health plans and providers that serve Medi-Cal enrollees, and enrollees themselves?
- ◆ How has the California State Legislature responded to the Davis Administration's proposals?

*Seating at this Roundtable is limited.*

*Please RSVP using the enclosed fax-back form, or e-mail [chpps@uclink.berkeley.edu](mailto:chpps@uclink.berkeley.edu), by Monday, May 12<sup>th</sup>.*

## THE ROUNDTABLE PANEL

### *DISCUSSANTS*

**Daniel Carson**

*Legislative Analyst's Office*

**Victoria Wachino**

*Kaiser Commission on Medicaid & the Uninsured*

### *RESPONDENTS*

**Susan Fleischman**

*Venice Family Clinic*

**Anthony Wright**

*Health Access*

*County and Health Plan Representatives Also Invited*

### **Center for Health and Public Policy Studies**

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