

# Immigration Policy and Child Health: An Update

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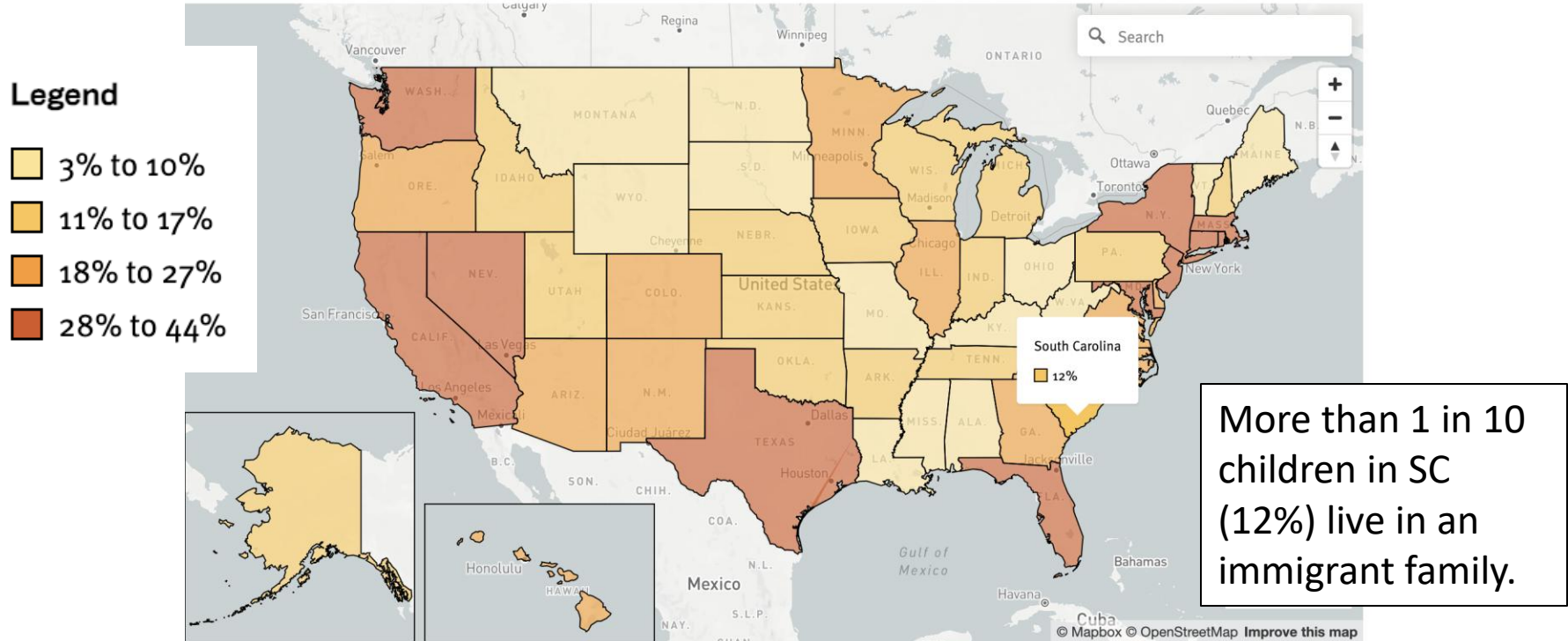
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# Children in Immigrant Families



# Key Updates

- Immigration raids and enforcement actions
- Rescission of “protected areas”
- “Closure” of the border to people seeking humanitarian protection
- Prolonged stays in ORR custody
- Challenges to birthright citizenship
- Cuts to health and nutrition programs
- Restricted eligibility for public programs
- Widespread fear and uncertainty



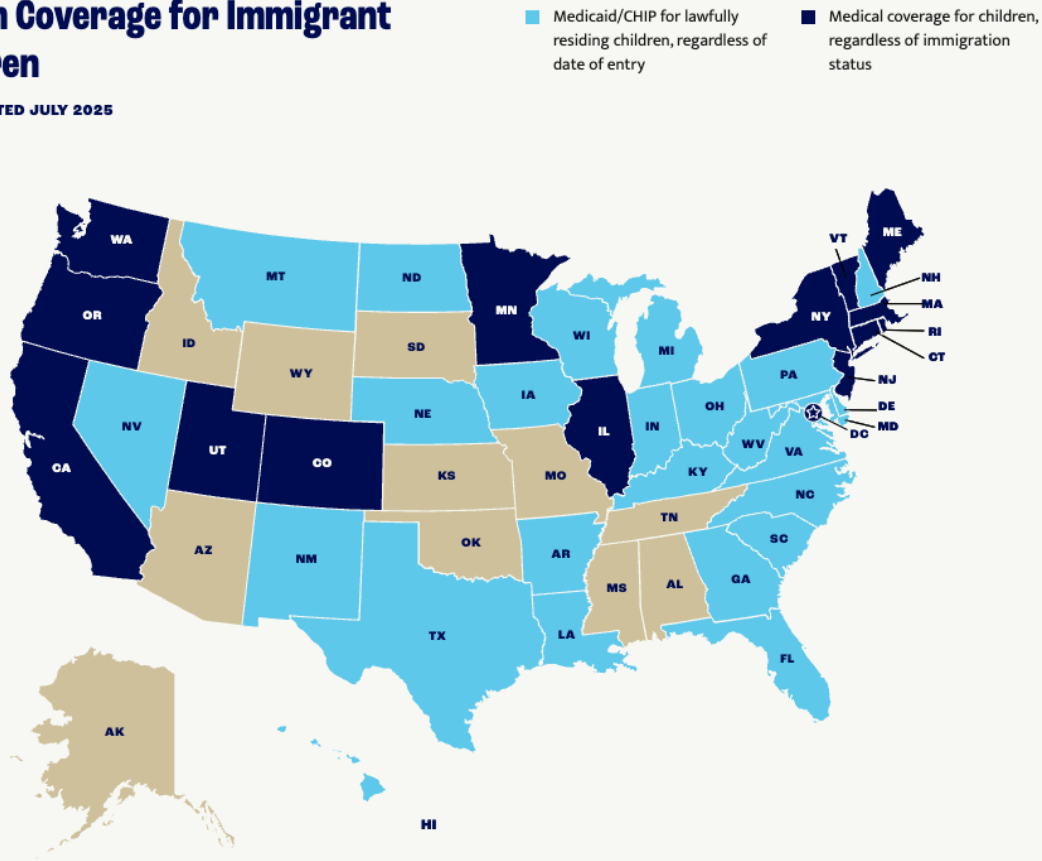
# Some Protections that Persist

- HIPAA
- 4<sup>th</sup> amendment
- EMTALA
- Language access



# Health Coverage for Immigrant Children

LAST UPDATED JULY 2025



South Carolina has taken the CHIPRA state option to cover lawfully residing children and pregnant people without a 5-year waiting period.

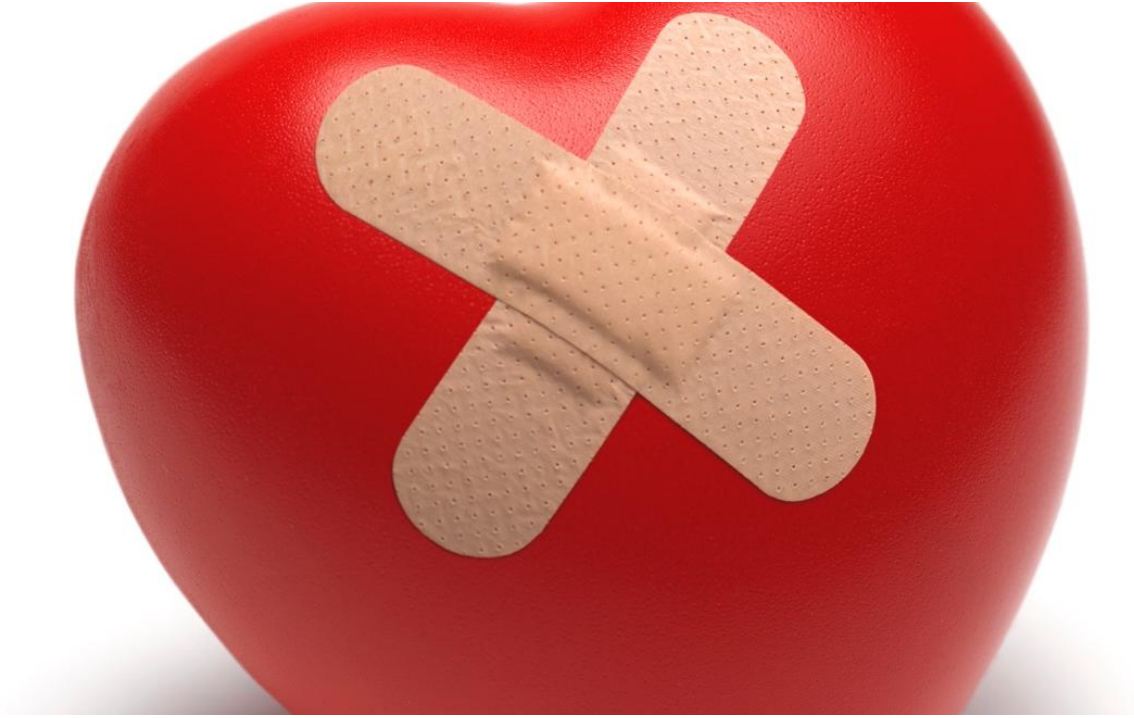
# Immigration Enforcement

- Healthcare institutions no longer “protected areas”
- Some protections exist:
  - HIPAA
  - 4<sup>th</sup> Amendment: unreasonable search and seizure
- Ethical obligations of healthcare institutions are clear
  - Private areas
  - Designated staff
  - Updated institutional policies

# Participation in Safety Net Programs

- On July 14, 2025, HHS added 13 programs to list of “federal public benefits,” restricting participation in key programs based on immigration status
- Programs include:
  - Head Start
  - Health Center program (e.g. FQHCs)
  - Title X family planning
- Enforcement delayed until 9/11/25 for ALL states

# Empathy Can Be Healing

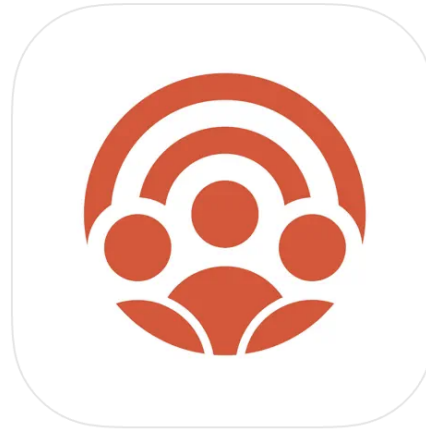




# Practical Resources for Families



<https://www.ilrc.org/red-cards-tarjetas-rojas>



**ReadyNow!** 4+

Send Emergency Alerts Fast

[Jung Rae Jang](#)

Designed for iPad

Free

[View in Mac App Store ↗](#)



# Practical Resources for Professionals

Protecting Immigrant Families	<a href="https://pifcoalition.org/">https://pifcoalition.org/</a>
National Immigration Law Center	<a href="https://www.nilc.org/">https://www.nilc.org/</a>
SC Appleseed Legal Justice Center	<a href="https://www.scjustice.org/">https://www.scjustice.org/</a>

# PASOs Response

Faith Rosenberger  
Health Coach  
Prisma Health Upstate  
Accountable Communities



# Common Concerns We are Hearing

- Families feeling unsafe sending children to school
  - Children are targeted for bullying
  - Concerns about ICE in car lines
- Caregivers worrying that they are cannot apply for WIC/SNAP/Medicaid for their children
- New fear of going to doctor appointments as medical facilities are no longer "Safe Spaces"
- Calls with questions on if they should go to their immigration court hearings
- Reports of less work available for undocumented parents which affects family income
- Not having anyone to name as POA for children if parent were to be deported
- Parents of children with medical complexity asking how to make sure their child will continue receiving care if the parents are no longer in the country (deported)
- Pantheon of struggles after deportation of one parent which changes family into a single parent household

## School concerns

- Connecting with family and bringing in trusted school social workers if needed.
- Discussing how not sending children to school could cause truancy issues.
- Making sure there is reliable transportation for students.
- Showing caregivers the pathway to communicate with someone at the school in Spanish

## Medical concerns

- Explaining the hospital's policies on privacy-offering to take patient back to wait out of "public space"
- Helping connect for POA documentation in cases of children with more severe medical needs,
- Helping set up virtual appointments
- Offering in-home therapies with Babynet
- Reminding families that they are ALWAYS entitled to an interpreter

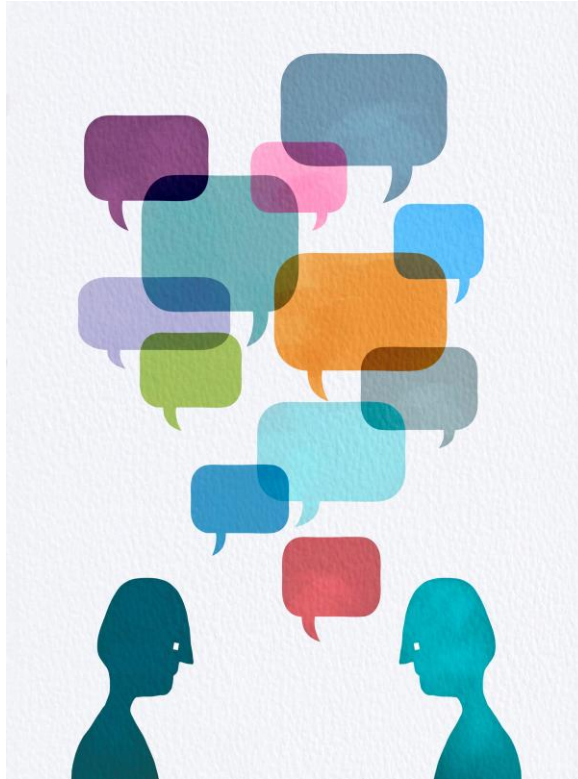
## Financial concerns

- Connecting families with local agencies and supports like youth base, food banks, WIC, clothes closets, hospital sponsorship (Unfortunately, there are huge gaps in resources available to undocumented families)

## Legal concerns

- Connecting to locally vetted immigration attorneys
- Sharing POA events with Hispanic Alliance
- Referring to Medical Legal Partnership in cases where one of the parents is documented
- Encouraging families to make an emergency plan together before something happens
- Sharing Know your Rights resources

# Let's Chat



ありがとう  
Sağ ol  
благодаря  
Salamat  
Tak  
спасибо  
Grazie  
dankjem  
Dankie  
pakka pér  
matur nuwun  
Dankie  
Paldies  
dėkuji  
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aitäh  
obrigado  
Tack  
謝謝  
Mauruuru  
Gracias  
hvala  
Dankon  
kiitos  
Na gode  
Grazas  
gràcies  
Merci  
Grazzi  
ju faleminderit  
eskerrik asko  
terima kasih  
köszönöm

# Thank you!