



**Fulfilling the Promise of Apple Health for Kids:**  
*Payment Reform Proposals to Achieve the Triple Aim*

Washington State Chapter – American Academy of Pediatrics

# Our Vision for Washington's Children

- Every child is healthy and able to succeed in learning
- Every child has a medical home that meets national standards
- Our state has achieved the Triple Aim of improving care, controlling costs, and improving health

# Apple Health for Kids is critical to achieving the vision

- Provides coverage for 46% of Washington's 1.7 million children and youth.



# Apple Health for Kids is still a work in progress

- 100,000 children are still uninsured
- Key preventive services aren't adequately covered
- Apple Health pays less than 60 cents on the dollar compared to Uniform Medical Plan for children of State employees
- Some providers cannot afford to care for additional Apple Health patients, limiting access

- The State's system for paying providers hasn't kept pace with new technology and best practices in care management
- The system lacks tools to help practices achieve national medical home standards



# Challenge #1: 100,000 children still are uninsured

**Goal:** Cover *all* kids

- Strategies:**
- Continue to streamline enrollment
  - Implement Express Lane eligibility
  - Simplify renewals
  - Provide reliable funding for outreach to hard-to-reach families
  - Integrate these activities with ACA outreach

# Challenge #2: Key preventive services aren't adequately covered

**Goal:** Create a payment system that *rewards* prevention

- Strategies:**
- Fully incorporate Bright Futures recommendations in payment systems for all State programs
  - Incorporate Bright Futures in Benchmark Plan for the Health Exchange
  - Track and reward performance

# Challenge #3: Inadequate provider rates reduce access

**Goal:** Achieve rate parity among State programs

- Strategies:**
- Implement ACA primary care rate increases
  - Increase Apple Health provider rates to match Uniform Medical Plan
  - Use State's full purchasing power in negotiating with health plans



# Challenge #4: Keeping pace with new technology and care management

**Goal:** Adjust payment system to reward best practices

**Strategy:** Update payment structure as needed to reflect evidence-based changes in health care

# Challenge #5: Bringing more practices to national standards for medical homes

**Goal:** Increase number of practices meeting national standards by \_\_% by 2016

**Strategies:**

- Provide higher rates for practices that meet national standards
- Implement “glide path” system to provide incentives for meeting benchmarks along the way to certification