

Texas Grants For School Outreach

What are the insure.a.kid Texas Grants for school outreach?

Started in 2002 and funded by the Michael and Susan Dell Foundation, the goal of the statewide grants is to build a system of outreach for children's health insurance in local school districts across the state. Local grantees partner with school districts and work to integrate outreach activities into normal district operations. Routine school procedures will then maintain the outreach once the grant ends.

Why are schools important to outreach?

Polling by insure.a.kid of Austin shows that families name schools as a major source of information, second only to television. Nationally, schools have been recognized as one of the best ways to outreach to families about children's health insurance.

Why is children's health insurance important to schools?

Research shows that uninsured children are 25% more likely to miss school because of an untreated illness. When students are absent districts lose money. When children consistently miss school their academics suffer.

How can school districts assist in outreach?

- Collect data on the health insurance status of students during the enrollment process
- Appoint a district administrator responsible for ensuring outreach occurs
- Train school personnel on health insurance benefits, availability, and application process.
- Distribute information on children's health insurance at least twice a year in student enrollment packets, weekly folders, report cards, etc.
- Have applications available to families at all schools
- Publicize information in school and district newsletters, website, and on school cable network

How many school districts are involved and who are they?

39 school districts serving over 971,000 students in 17 counties are participating in the insure.a.kid school outreach grants.

They are: Austin ISD, Beaumont ISD, Connally ISD, Dallas ISD, Del Valle ISD, Donna ISD, Edcouch-Elsa ISD, Edgewood ISD, Edinburg CISD, Galveston ISD, Georgetown ISD, Harlandale ISD, Hays CISD, Houston ISD, LaMarque ISD, La Vega ISD, Lockhart ISD, Longview ISD, Lubbock ISD, Lubbock-Cooper ISD, Luling ISD, Midway ISD, Mineola ISD, Mission CISD, Mercedes CISD, Northside ISD, Pharr San Juan Alamo ISD, Rosebud-Lott ISD, Round Rock ISD, San Antonio ISD, San Elizario ISD, San Marcos CISD, Socorro ISD, Taylor ISD, Tyler ISD, Van ISD, Waco ISD, Weslaco ISD, Ysleta ISD.

What communities received an insure•a•kid Texas Grant for school outreach and who is the grantee?

- Beaumont- Beaumont Independent School District
- Dallas- Children's Medical Center of Dallas
- El Paso- YWCA El Paso Del Norte Region
- Galveston- University of Texas Medical Branch- Galveston
- Houston- Children's Defense Fund
- Hays and Caldwell Counties- insure•a•kid
- Hidalgo County- Children's Defense Fund
- Lubbock- Texas Tech University- Health Sciences Center
- San Antonio- United Way of San Antonio and Bexar County
- Smith, Gregg, Van and Wood Counties- Lake Country AHEC
- Travis and Williamson Counties- insure•a•kid
- Waco- McLennan County Youth Collaboration

What is the Michael and Susan Dell Foundation?

Established in 1999 with a gift from Michael and Susan Dell, the Foundation was created to fund initiatives and programs designed to remove barriers that prevent children from achieving their greatest potential. With an endowment of more than one billion dollars, MSDF proactively seeks out opportunities to support or develop programs that address the five essential focus areas of children's health, education, safety, youth development and early childhood care. Using a collaborative, outcomes-driven approach, MSDF identifies programs and community leaders that share its vision of creating enduring systemic change for children. Within its first three years, MSDF has provided more than \$40 million to children's and community initiatives.

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