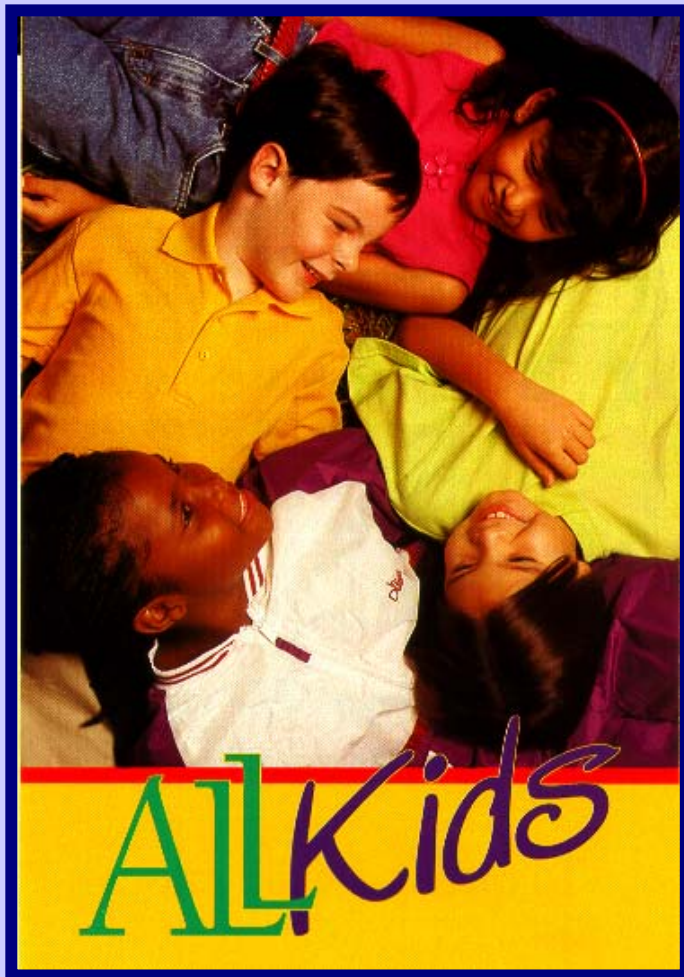


# The State Children's Health Insurance Program: Accomplishments and opportunities for Improvement at Re-Authorization



## ABC's of SCHIP

February 9, 2007

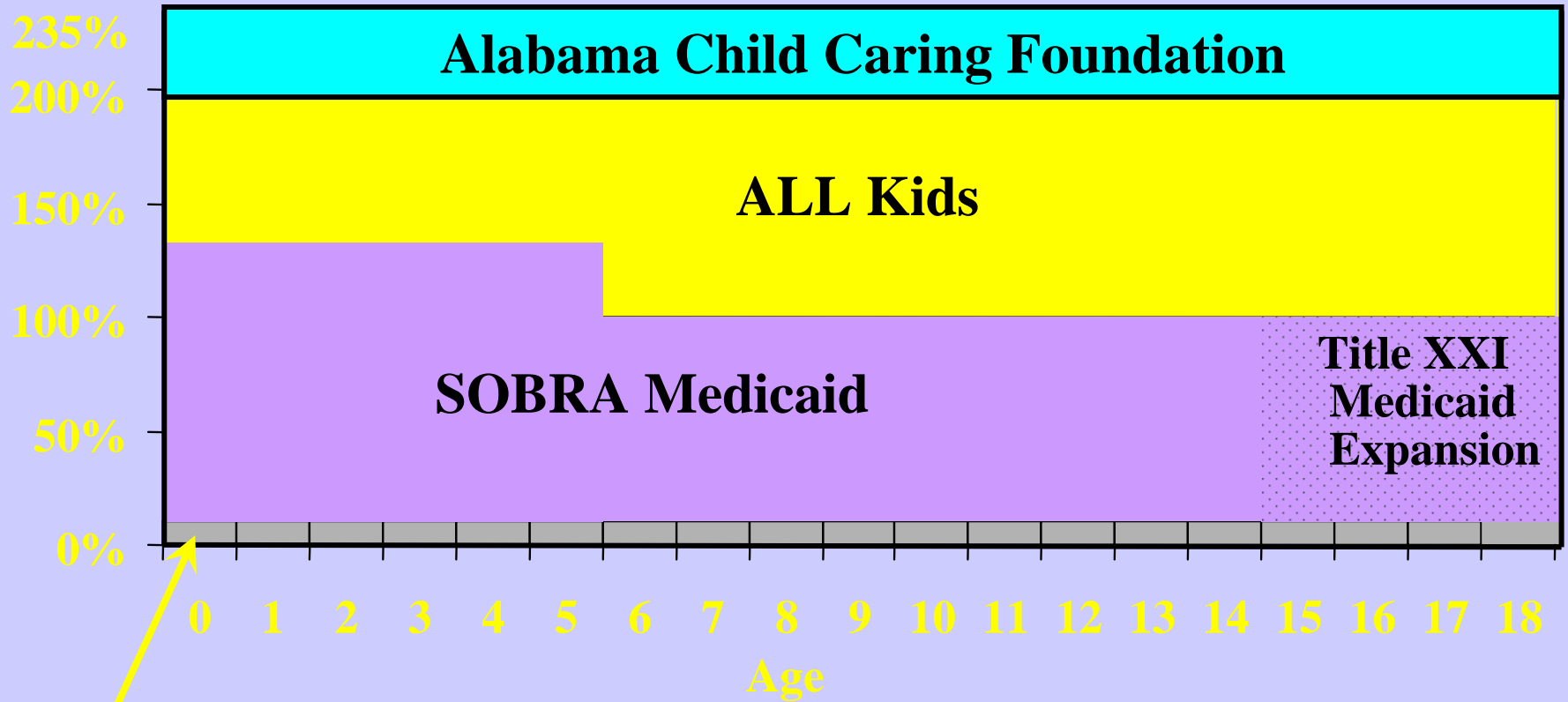
Gayle Lees Sandlin, Director  
Bureau of Children's Health  
Insurance  
Alabama Department of  
Public Health

## SCHIP PROVIDED:

“Devolution” - gave states the ability to design a program that best met the needs of the children while fitting with each state's environment for:

- Political climate
- Insurance market
- Health care provider system
- Appropriate agency to administer
- Eligibility criteria that “fits” the demographics of the State

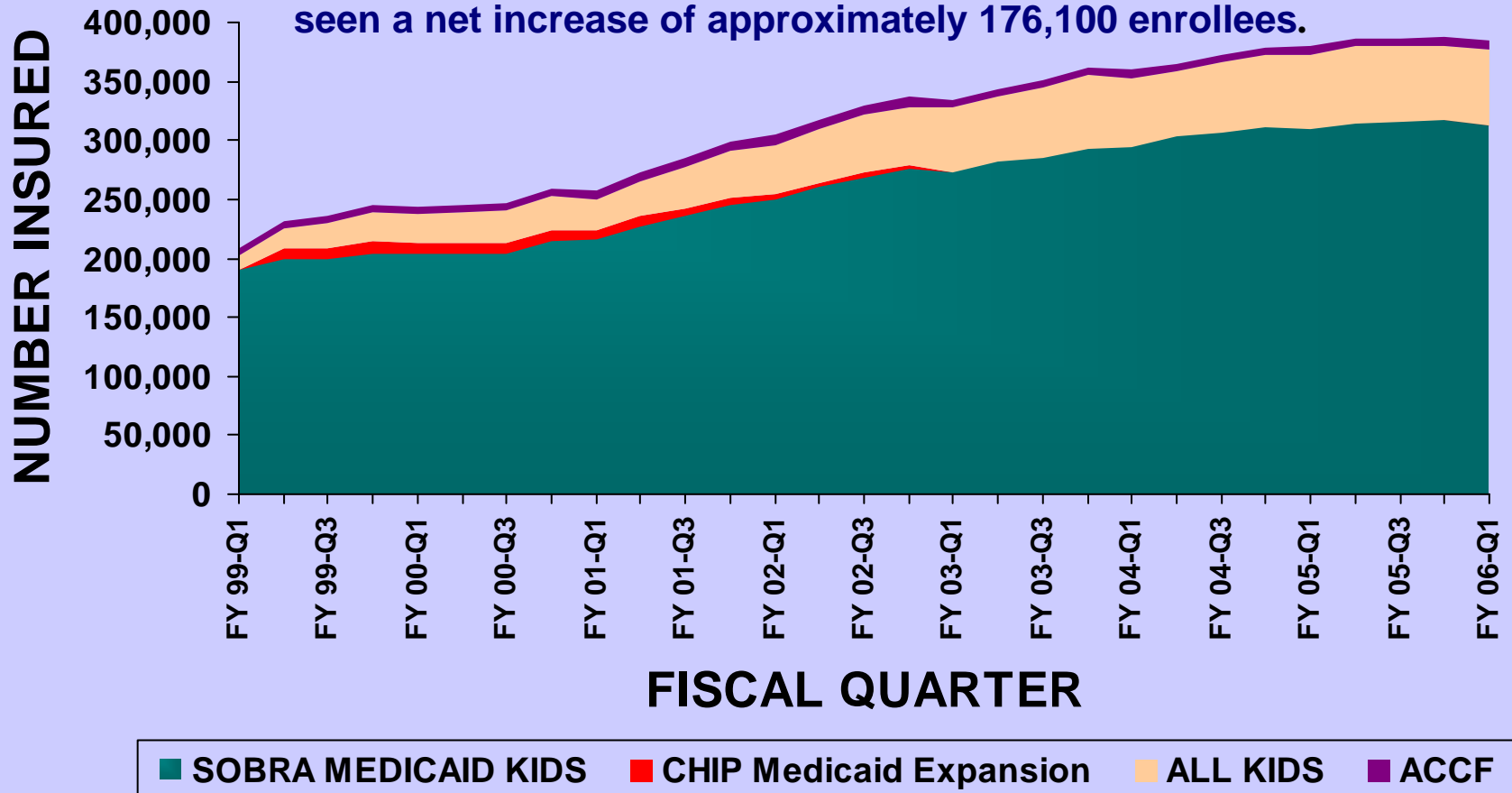
# Alabama's Health Insurance Coverage for Children



Medicaid for Low Income Families

# Insuring Alabama's Children

Since CHIP began in February 1998, the three programs providing health coverage to children in Alabama have seen a net increase of approximately 176,100 enrollees.



# States were encouraged to “outreach” and find uninsured children and facilitate enrollment in appropriate program

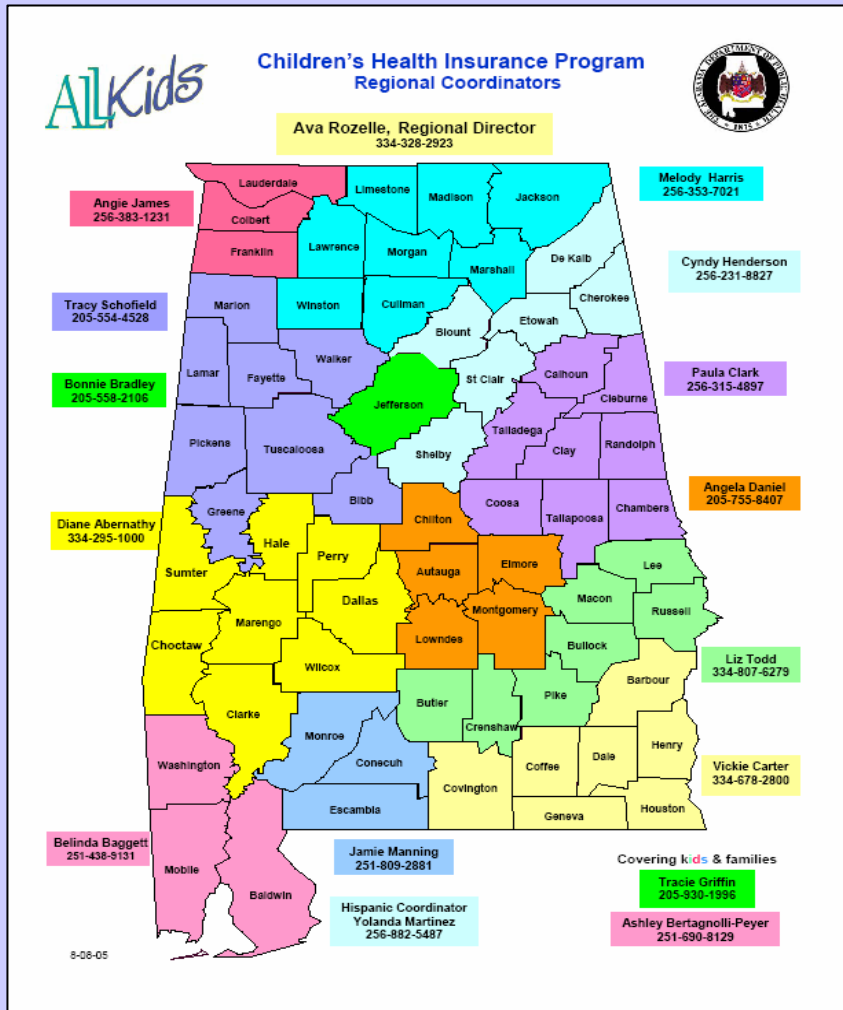
- Joint application
- Find all uninsured children
- “Seamless” and “family friendly” enrollment and referral processes
- “Destigmatize” publicly funded insurance
- Creative use of media and print advertising
- Use of enrollment brokers
- Woodwork effect
- Procedures to keep children insured
  - 12 months continuous coverage
  - Helpful/joint renewal process

# ALL Kids - "Administratively Simple"

- Self declaration of eligibility criteria
- 3 program application -Medicaid, ALL Kids, Alabama Child Caring Foundation
- Built ability to exchange application information electronically
- Centralized processing
- Mail-in application
- Web-based application
- Yearly premiums with 12 months to pay
- Co-pays collected by providers
- Outreach designed to "Teach the People Who Reach the People"

# ALL Kids - Regional Coordinators

## “Teach the People Who Reach the People”



Provide Systems Coordination  
to assist decentralized Medicaid workers in identifying problems, gaps, miscommunications, etc., that result in barriers to enrollment of children

Provide Staff Trainings  
to offer contact hours for nurses and social workers

Attend Meetings and Community Events  
to educate and distribute information about ALL Kids

# SCHIP Re-Authorization Issues

- Fund @ levels to support mature CHIP programs incorporating medical trend rates and program growth
- Maintain enhanced match rate
- Continue to encourage state flexibility
- Remove prohibition to stand alone SCHIP programs for enrolling children who are eligible for state and teacher's dependent coverage
- Provide administratively simple process to create "wrap around" SCHIP coverage for under insured children



# SCHIP Re-Authorization Issues Continued

- Provide administratively simple process to provide graduated coverage to assist families moving from SCHIP to private coverage
- Encourage Medicaid programs to establish simple, family friendly processes for enrollment and renewal
- Address PERM unfunded mandate and standardized sample size
- Establish minimum levels of coverage for children to ensure that states with less resources are able to provide basic levels of coverage



**Leave no child behind**

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