



PRESS STATEMENT ON THE CENSUS BUREAU'S RELEASE OF NEW POVERTY FIGURES

AUGUST 26, 2008

Statement of Robin Christian – Executive Director, Children First for Oregon

“The Census numbers released today show that legislators on both sides of the aisle must make health care coverage for children a top priority during the upcoming legislative session.

“The Healthy Kids Plan will provide affordable, quality health care coverage for Oregon’s children who would otherwise be uninsured. Because of the Healthy Kids Plan, tens of thousands of Oregon children will be able to get the checkups they need to stay healthy and see the doctor when they get sick or injured.

“As the Census figures confirm, rising health care costs and a troubled economy have increased the need for the Healthy Kids Plan, an effective and money-saving initiative. Oregon can make real progress by prioritizing children’s health care during the 2009 legislative session.

“With smart solutions and bi-partisan support during the 2009 session in Salem, Oregon can turn this trend around and provide coverage for every uninsured child.”