



## **\$10 a month insurance policy for Grand Rapids-area families in need**

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GRAND RAPIDS (WZZM) - More than 20% of children in Michigan are either without health insurance or underinsured. A group is trying to change that by offering a \$10 a month policy. All it takes is a phone call and if you qualify you can have insurance the same day.

The call center at Cherry Street Health Services in Grand Rapids workers with AmeriCorps are helping families sign up for this program by holding a "MI Child" telethon.

It's being funded by the Patient Protection and Affordable Health Care Act. It will provide health care for children from prenatal through the age of 18.

It includes primary care services, emergency room treatment and even dental visits; Jennie Mills with AmeriCorps says all it takes is a phone call. "It fills in all the gaps for them. Some patients do have insurance but it doesn't cover everything. Some are offered insurance through their work but they can't afford it. And some are not working or have unemployment and don't have access to coverage so this is one of those programs that helps fill in those gaps."If you qualify you are immediately enrolled in the program.

They are taking phone calls until 9 p.m. Monday night and they do have bilingual operators on hand. The number to call is (616) 776-2283.

If you can't call you can also walk into any of the Cherry Street Health Services locations and fill out an application.