In 2019, 98.1% of Rhode Island children had health insurance coverage. Only about 4,000 Rhode Island children were uninsured, and 3,000 of these children were income eligible for RIte Care but not enrolled. To achieve our goal of covering all kids, we must restore access to RIte Care health insurance for income-eligible children who are undocumented immigrants. All children need access to health care that supports their healthy growth and development and promotes school success.

Cover All Kids Medicaid Expansion

- The Cover All Kids proposal in both the Governor’s FY23 budget proposal and in H-7484 and S-2187 extends full benefit medical assistance for children who would otherwise be eligible for RIte Care, if not for current immigration status.

- Rhode Island previously provided access to RIte Care health coverage for undocumented children until 2007 when funding was removed. This legislation and budget article will restore RIte Care coverage to income-eligible kids regardless of immigration status.

- Health insurance coverage increases the likelihood that children will receive needed preventive services and reduces emergency room costs.

- COVID-19 has shown that the health of one is important to the health of all. All children need coverage and access to health care for us all to be healthy. This legislation along with the Medicaid 12-Month Postpartum Extension gets Rhode Island closer to supporting all moms and children so they can thrive.