

# Understanding and Promoting Medicaid to Age 26 for Former Foster Youth

**Starting January 1, 2014, most young adults who were discharged from foster care at 18 or older and are still under 26 are eligible for Medicaid regardless of income.**

Under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) children may stay on their parent's health insurance until age 26. Recognizing that youth who age out of the foster care system may not have that option, the ACA allows former foster care youth who were on Medicaid at the time of discharge to remain in Medicaid until 26, regardless of income. This provision took effect January 1, 2014.

Outreach efforts will be very important to assure that young adults who qualify for this provision can take advantage of it. Young adults who left foster care after January 1, 2007 who are eligible may not be aware of this important benefit. Together we can help reach them.

**A toolkit** is available that can help you:

- ➔ Learn about the provision
- ➔ Understand how it is being implemented in New York
- ➔ Get ideas about outreach to inform eligible youth
- ➔ Find hand-outs, videos and newsletter templates you can use



Click [HERE](#) to access the toolkit, or visit our website at: [scaany.org](http://scaany.org) and go to our Health or Child Welfare pages.

**This toolkit was made possible by a grant from the Casey Family Programs**