

# 2007 Advocacy Agenda

## Goal 1

### Strengthen Children's Health Care Coverage and Access

- **Preserve and strengthen publicly funded health care for children**
  - Maintain access to care through adequate Medicaid reimbursement to children's hospitals for inpatient, outpatient, home care, and selected physician services
  - Protect existing eligibility and benefits for children covered by Medicaid and CHIP
  - Simplify enrollment and improve outreach to enroll all eligible children
  - Implement Family Opportunity Act in Ohio so eligible families with chronically ill children can buy Medicaid coverage
- **Preserve Safety Net Hospitals through the Hospital Care Assurance Program**
  - Support HCAP policies that reduce the disproportionate burden of Medicaid losses and uncompensated care borne by essential providers, such as children's hospitals

## Goal 2

### Strengthen Investment in Patient Care, Teaching and Research

- Support continued equitable funding for children's hospital graduate medical education programs at the federal and state levels
- Support public policy to control growth in medical malpractice insurance premiums
- Protect the charitable, research, and teaching missions of non-profit hospitals and the associated community benefits by preserving their tax-exempt status

## Goal 3

### Protect Children's Health and Wellness

- Support the development and use of quality measures and standards for pediatric care
- Support efforts to prevent smoking among children and reduce exposure to second-hand smoke
- Support public policy requiring all children to be safely restrained in motor vehicles
- Promote bicycle safety through legislation requiring children to wear helmets when bicycling.
- Support efforts to ensure adequate supplies of all childhood vaccines
- Support public policy requiring equitable coverage for treatment of mental illness and diabetes
- Support continued eligibility and benefits for children covered by the Bureau for Children with Medical Handicaps
- Support public health initiatives that advance child health, including preventive health services, more restrictive teen driving laws, child abuse treatment and prevention, trauma care, palliative care, and bioterrorism and disaster planning

