**Enrollments of adults in the BadgerCare Plus “Core Plan” has dropped by 14,300 in the last two years in Milwaukee County.**

The monthly data on BadgerCare Plus enrollments shows a continuing decline in the number of “childless” adults (i.e., without dependent children at home) in the program. Among Milwaukee County residents, enrollments in the Core Plan peaked in January 2010 when 22,963 adults were enrolled. Two years later in Jan. 2012 the state reported 8,636 enrolled in Milwaukee County, a 62% drop in the number of “childless” adults covered.

Individuals had been eligible to apply for the Core Plan if they were ages 19-64, did not have dependent children living with them, had income below 200% of poverty, and had gone for over 12 months without private health insurance coverage. This limited plan covers basic health care services, including primary and preventive care and generic drugs.

**Declines in “Childless” Adults Covered by BadgerCare Plus**

A total of 205,350 Milwaukee County residents were covered by BadgerCare Plus in January 2012, compared to 201,351 two years earlier.

**Monthly Economic Data for Milwaukee County**

**Unemployment:** The unemployment rate in Milwaukee County was estimated at 7.8% in December 2011. The rate has improved every month since last summer. Since June, however, the est. employed workforce has dropped by 2,628 while the number of unemployed job seekers (including summer workers) is down by 10,225, for an estimated net decrease in the labor force of 12,853.

**Plant closing and mass layoff notices:** In January M&I Administrative Services Center (BMO Harris Bank) announced a planned layoff of 57 workers.

**Unemployment insurance:** 33,233 laid-off workers in the county were receiving weekly UI payments in mid-February of 2012, down by 20% from a year ago.

**FoodShare:** 254,263 county residents received FoodShare benefits in December, up 7% over the previous month (the highest jump of the year).

**BadgerCare Plus:** 205,350 county residents were in the BC+ program in January. A majority (64%) of those insured are children (under age 19).

**Wisconsin Shares:** 24,128 children from 13,405 Milwaukee County families received child care subsidies totaling $10.5 million in January.

**Families receiving “W-2”:** 10,422 Milwaukee County families received “W-2”/TANF cash assistance payments in January 2012.