Young Invincibles Eligible to Enroll in...Medicaid?

5.4 million uninsured young adults, ages 19 – 34, are currently eligible or will be eligible for Medicaid starting January 1, 2014.

Who are they?

Young Invincibles are uninsured people, ages 19–34, who are generally perceived to be uninsured because they consider themselves healthy enough to go without coverage.

FACT
While 90 percent report being in good, very good or excellent health, only 11 percent of uninsured young adults say they lack insurance because they feel they don’t need it.

MYTH
Young adults don’t buy health insurance, because they think they don’t need it.

FACT
Young invincibles have incomes that allow them to purchase private coverage. They just choose not to.

MYTH
Young adults represent about half of those newly eligible for Medicaid due to their relatively modest incomes.

How Can They be Found and Enrolled?

The key may be reaching them THROUGH OTHER PUBLIC PROGRAMS in which they’re already enrolled.

51% of them are the parent of a child on Medicaid, and/or are enrolled in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and/or receive unemployment compensation or live in a household where someone receives unemployment compensation.

8% receive UNEMPLOYMENT compensation
25% have A CHILD on MEDICAID
17% have someone in household that receives UNEMPLOYMENT compensation
28% live in a household that receives SNAP

An additional 4.3 million uninsured young adults could be covered if all states expanded Medicaid under the ACA.