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CENTER

Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law
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Taking action to end poverty

NEWS

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John Bouman of the Shriver Center wins the 2005 Child Health Advocate Award from the American Academy of Pediatrics

(Chicago, IL)—John Bouman has been awarded this year's Child Health Advocate Award from the American Academy of Pediatrics. The award honors individuals who have been outstanding in their advocacy for children's rights. As Director of Advocacy for the Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law, John was recognized for his outstanding service and advocacy on behalf of low-income children in a Medicaid settlement, *Memisovski v. Maram*.

The settlement was designed to ensure that children from low-income families in Cook County have access to regular, consistent physician care. According to the award letter, "*The Memisovski v. Maram* case ruling was a landmark victory for the rights of 600,000 children in Illinois and a source of hope for others across the county."

John and his colleagues in the case, Frederick B. Cohen and David J. Chizewer of Goldberg Kohn, and Stephanie Altman and Thomas Yates of Health & Disability Advocates join a list of distinguished recipients that includes former Illinois Attorney General, Jim Ryan, and former Governor of Vermont, Howard Dean, M.D. "This is a tremendous honor," says Bouman. "I'm proud that the professionals on the front line of providing health care to children recognize our contribution to improving children's access to quality care."

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The Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law, www.povertylaw.org, works in Illinois and nationally to champion law and policy promoting equal opportunity and support for low-income individuals, families, and communities so that they can escape poverty permanently. Contact: Rikeesha Cannon, Media Coordinator at 312-368-2677 or rikeeshacannon@povertylaw.org.