



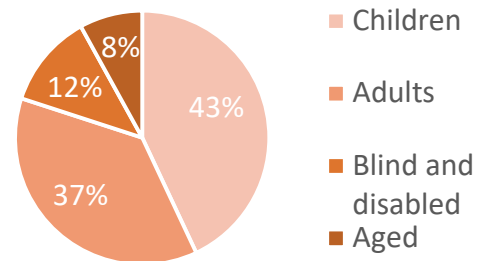
## Supporting and Protecting the Medicaid Program

It is essential that we protect individuals with serious and chronic health conditions by supporting the Medicaid program and its ability to provide quality, affordable coverage. This means preserving Medicaid’s current financing structure and opposing the addition of any barriers to coverage. Our organizations urge Congress to **support and protect Medicaid**.

### Medicaid provides quality and affordable healthcare coverage.

The Medicaid program provides **quality, affordable healthcare** for low-income children, adults, pregnant individuals, people with disabilities, and seniors. Children make up more than 40% of Medicaid enrollment, as seen in this chart.<sup>1</sup>

**One in four Americans** are currently enrolled in Medicaid and the Children’s Health Insurance Program, or nearly 95 million individuals across the country.<sup>2</sup>



### Medicaid supports patients with serious and chronic health conditions.

- Medicaid is critical for children. As of 2020, Medicaid covers 42% of all births in the United States.<sup>3</sup> Children’s hospitals also rely heavily on Medicaid, as 50-80% of their inpatient days are reimbursed by the program.<sup>4</sup>
- Medicaid is the single largest payer of mental health and substance use disorder services in the country.<sup>5</sup> As of 2017, Medicaid covers nearly four in ten nonelderly adults with opioid use disorder.<sup>6</sup>
- For most Americans, Medicaid is the only source of funding for long-term care like in-home assistance, nursing homes and more.<sup>7</sup>
- Patients experience additional benefits in states that have expanded Medicaid. For example, states that expanded Medicaid have seen an increase in **early stage** cancer diagnoses, when cancer is more treatable.<sup>8</sup> Medical debt is also lower in states that have expanded Medicaid.<sup>9</sup>
- Gaps in Medicaid coverage harm patients’ health. For example, gaps in Medicaid coverage for people with epilepsy are associated with negative health events like hospitalizations and emergency department visits.<sup>10</sup>

### Congress should support and protect the Medicaid program.

Our organizations urge Congress to support and protect Medicaid. We oppose any changes to the financing structure for traditional Medicaid or Medicaid expansion, as well as the addition of any barriers to coverage like work requirements.

American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network  
American Heart Association  
American Kidney Fund  
American Lung Association  
American Liver Foundation  
Arthritis Foundation  
Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America  
Cancer Support Community  
CancerCare  
Chronic Disease Coalition  
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation  
Epilepsy Foundation  
Epilepsy Foundation  
Foundation for Sarcoidosis Research  
Hemophilia Federation of America  
Immune Deficiency Foundation  
Lupus Foundation of America  
Lutheran Services in America  
March of Dimes

Mended Little Hearts  
Muscular Dystrophy Association  
National Alliance on Mental Illness  
National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship  
National Eczema Association  
National Health Council  
National Hemophilia Foundation  
National Kidney Foundation  
National Multiple Sclerosis Society  
National Organization for Rare Disorders  
National Patient Advocate Foundation  
National Psoriasis Foundation  
Pulmonary Hypertension Association  
Susan G. Komen  
The AIDS Institute  
The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society  
Volunteers of America  
WomenHeart

---

<sup>1</sup> Categories reflect the basis of eligibility for individuals. "Introduction to Medicaid." Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, April 14, 2020. Available at: [https://www.cbpp.org/sites/default/files/atoms/files/policybasics-medicaid\\_0.pdf](https://www.cbpp.org/sites/default/files/atoms/files/policybasics-medicaid_0.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> "As States Prepare to Resume Disenrollments, Medicaid/CHIP Enrollment Will Reach Nearly 95 million in March, and the Pandemic-Era Enrollment Growth of 23 million Accounts for 1 in 4 Enrollees." Kaiser Family Foundation, March 2, 2023. Available at: <https://www.kff.org/medicaid/press-release/as-states-prepare-to-resume-disenrollments-medicaid-chip-enrollment-will-reach-nearly-95-million-in-march-and-the-pandemic-era-enrollment-growth-of-23-million-accounts-for-1-in-4-enrollees/>

<sup>3</sup> "Births Financed by Medicaid." Kaiser Family Foundation, 2020. Available at: <https://www.kff.org/medicaid/state-indicator/births-financed-by-medicaid/?currentTimeframe=0>

<sup>4</sup> "Evaluation of Children's Hospital Reimbursement." Texas Health and Human Services Commission, December 2020. Available at: <https://www.hhs.texas.gov/sites/default/files/documents/laws-regulations/reports-presentations/2021/hb1-evaluation-childrens-hospital-reimbursement-dec-2020.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> "Behavioral Health in the Medicaid Program—People, Use, and Expenditures." Medicaid and CHIP Payment and Access Commission, June 2015. Available at: <https://www.macpac.gov/publication/behavioral-health-in-the-medicaid-program%E2%80%95people-use-and-expenditures/>

<sup>6</sup> Orgera, Kendal, Tolbert, Jennifer. "The Opioid Epidemic and Medicaid's Role in Facilitating Access to Treatment." Kaiser Family Foundation, May 24, 2019. Available at: <https://www.kff.org/medicaid/issue-brief/the-opioid-epidemic-and-medicaids-role-in-facilitating-access-to-treatment/>

<sup>7</sup> Chidambaram, Priya, Burns, Alice. "10 Things About Long-Term Services and Supports (LTSS)." Kaiser Family Foundation, September 15, 2022. Available at: <https://www.kff.org/medicaid/issue-brief/10-things-about-long-term-services-and-supports-ltss/#:~:text=3.,payers%20paid%20the%20remaining%2026%25.>

<sup>8</sup> Aparna Soni, Kosali Simon, John Cawley, Lindsay Sabik, "Effect of Medicaid Expansions of 2014 on Overall and Early-Stage Cancer Diagnoses", American Journal of Public Health 108, no. 2 (February 1, 2018): pp. 216-218. Available at [http://ajph.aphapublications.org/doi/abs/10.2105/AJPH.2017.304166.](http://ajph.aphapublications.org/doi/abs/10.2105/AJPH.2017.304166)

<sup>9</sup> Van Dam, Andrew. "Why the South has such low credit scores." The Washington Post, February 17, 2023. Available at: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2023/02/17/bad-southern-credit-scores/>

<sup>10</sup> Bensken, Wyatt P., Timothy H. Ciesielski, Scott M. Williams, Kurt C. Stange, Martha Sajatovic, and Siran M. Koroukian. "Inconsistent Medicaid Coverage is Associated with Negative Health Events for People with Epilepsy." Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved 33, no. 2 (2022): 1036-1053. doi:10.1353/hpu.2022.0079.