

Medicaid At Risk In Wisconsin

Medicaid and the closely related Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) are a partnership between states and the federal government to provide access to health care services for low-income children, pregnant women, adults, seniors, and people with disabilities.

Who Does Medicaid Help?

5.7 million people live in Wisconsin and Medicaid provides health care coverage for 18% of the population, which is a little over 1 million people. The majority of people who access health care services through Medicaid are children under the age of 19. In WI Medicaid/CHIP covers:



1 in 3 children



1 in 7 non-elderly adults



1 in 2 people with disabilities

What Does Medicaid Provide?

Medicaid provides access to important services that help children and families stay healthy:

- ➕ Primary care services, mental health and substance abuse services, x-rays and lab diagnostics, inpatient and outpatient hospital services, dental services.

Why Is Medicaid Important?

Medicaid has been in existence for over the past 50 years, and coverage through the program has increased and improved access to:



Insurance, resulting in declines in the uninsured rate



Behavioral health care services.



Well child checkups that include important developmental screening and preventative health care services.



Health related services for children in schools.



Dental care for both children and adults—an integral factor in overall health.

Who Is At Risk?

Wisconsiners who depend on Medicaid including 1 in 3 children, 1 in 2 people with disabilities, and 1 in 7 non-elderly adults.

Why Are They At Risk?

The Republican tax cut bill adds nearly \$1.5 trillion to the deficit over the next ten years. Tax cuts, primarily for the well-connected, is just one step in a two step process. Conservatives are likely to use the deficit they create to justify huge cuts to our health care safety net. For example, Speaker Ryan recently stated that he wants Congress to revisit cuts to Medicaid, Medicare, and Social Security in 2018.

Trump's proposed budget slashes Medicaid by more than \$1 trillion over the next ten years. It also changes how we fund Medicaid, calling for block grants or per capita caps. Both would shift costs and risks to state taxpayers, health care providers, and Wisconsin children and families who rely on Medicaid for basic health needs.

What Can You Do?



Tell Congress to protect health care for children and families by opposing any legislation that cuts Medicaid, Medicare, and Social Security.