



# Medicaid **covers** US

Alabama

We are your friends, your neighbors, your community.

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[www.MedicaidCoversUS.org](http://www.MedicaidCoversUS.org)



**Peyton with EmmaLynn**  
Bridgeport, AL

## Introduction

Medicaid is a vital health insurance program for America's families. It allows children to reach their fullest potential, adults to get and stay healthy enough to work and be part of their communities and seniors and people with disabilities to get the care that can help them stay at home. Medicaid can be life-changing and lifesaving.

This storybook was designed to help you meet some of the Americans impacted by Medicaid. You will read stories of adults and children who have received critical and often lifesaving health care through Medicaid, health care providers who see the impact for their patients and adults who could benefit but are currently unable to gain access to health insurance through Medicaid.

Medicaid also helps in the fight against cancer. There are more than 700,000 Americans with a history of cancer currently covered by Medicaid. Among these cancer patients and survivors:<sup>1</sup>

- ★ 1 in 12 have served in the US Armed Forces
- ★ 1 in 5 could not afford to see a specialist
- ★ 1 in 10 reported difficulty with activities of daily living
- ★ Majority are non-Hispanic white female
- ★ Majority have at least a high school diploma or equivalent

A majority of Americans support Medicaid.<sup>2</sup>

- ★ 92% of voters feel Medicaid is an important program
- ★ 76% of voters feel positively about Medicaid including majority of voters across political party ideology feel positively about Medicaid
- ★ 70% of voters believe Medicaid plays a major role in helping low-income families and individuals support themselves financially

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*Medicaid Covers US* is a new project led by the American Cancer Society and the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) to create a conversation about Medicaid and the role it plays in the health and well-being of our families, friends and communities. We're sharing stories about how having health insurance through Medicaid helps Americans stay healthy, go to work and care for their families. When we ensure that people get the care they need, our communities – our hospitals, schools and economy – thrive. Join the conversation and explore how Medicaid covers US.

1. Analysis provided to ACS CAN by Avalere Health. *Medicaid Covers US: Profiles of Medicaid Enrollees with Cancer*. Analysis performed March 2019. Analysis performed from data collected from Medicaid enrollees over the age of 15.

2. Research provided to ACS CAN by PerryUndem Research/Communication and Bellwether Research & Consulting. The survey was conducted March 15 – 21, 2019 using YouGov's nationally representative panel of 1,000 registered voters 18+ years old.

## Nora Fort Payne, AL



*To learn more, align the camera app on your iPhone or Android with the QR code and follow the pop-up link.*

When Nora was born with trisomy 13, her family was told she would only have a 10 percent chance of living past her first birthday. But Nora recently celebrated her 2nd birthday thanks in part to the care she received from Medicaid.

Although Nora's parents both work full-time and have private insurance, they quickly became overwhelmed by the co-payments and deductibles from Nora's numerous doctor visits, medicines and surgeries. When their insurance refused to cover monthly \$2,000 immunity shots before Nora's heart surgery, Nora's mom, Katie, applied to and was approved for Medicaid which has helped Nora thrive.



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*States have the option to offer additional coverage for children with severe disabilities through Medicaid 1915(b) waivers.*

## Sandy Mobile, AL



 To watch full video, align the camera app on your iPhone or Android with the QR code and follow the pop-up link.

Sandy worked her whole life. But when she ripped the tendons in her back, she realized the years of hard work had taken a toll on her body, and after her back injury she had several other health conditions that worsened.

After five hospital visits in one year, she knew she needed a higher level of support. Fortunately, she found Mercy LIFE of Alabama, a Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) that combines funding from Medicaid and Medicare to provide comprehensive care to low-income older adults.

“If not for Mercy LIFE and Medicaid, I’d be dead. I know that,” said Sandy. Thanks to Medicaid and the care she has been able to receive, Sandy hasn’t been back to the hospital once.

“If not for  
Mercy LIFE  
and Medicaid,  
I’d be dead.”





## **Aleta** Mobile, AL

“Medicaid helps keep our patients out of nursing homes. It saves and extends the lives of so many of our patients.”



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## **Elias** Fort Payne, AL

“Medicaid saves lives.  
It saves kids’ lives.  
It saved my son’s life.”



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**Jamie** Mobile, AL

“I don’t think I would have made it through my breast cancer treatments without this program. Medicaid saved my life.”



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To read the full stories please visit: [MedicaidCoversUS.org](https://www.MedicaidCoversUS.org)



**QR code help:**

To follow the code, align the camera app on your iPhone or Android phone with the QR code and follow the pop-up link. Samsung users please use the Bixby app. Requires updated software.

## Elaine Fort Payne, AL



 To watch full video, align the camera app on your iPhone or Android with the QR code and follow the pop-up link.

When her husband was injured and lost his factory job, Elaine's family was suddenly down to one income and without private insurance.

Elaine and her husband remain uninsured and they are afraid of what would happen if either of them got sick. Her employer does not offer health insurance and she makes too much money to qualify for Alabama's Medicaid program, but also too little to qualify for tax credits to help them afford private health insurance. Thankfully their children are covered by Medicaid.

She wishes she and her husband had peace of mind for themselves. "To be able to provide for your kids, you need to keep yourself going as well. You just have to save and choose what ailments you can look into. That's something people take for granted when you are covered."

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