

ARIZONA 2023 LEGISLATIVE ASKS



1

Reauthorize Arizona's Medicaid Program

Support reauthorization of the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) Arizona's Medicaid program

- More than 2 million Arizonans are current AHCCCS recipients.
- Studies have demonstrated that uninsured patients are more likely to present with late-stage disease and have worse short-term survival after cancer diagnosis.¹⁻³
- Ensuring access to comprehensive health insurance coverage is crucial for improving access to cancer care and outcomes, including stage at diagnosis and survival.⁴
- AHCCCS provides necessary cancer screenings at recommended guidelines.

2

Support Comprehensive Tobacco Control

- The use of tobacco products remains the nation's number one cause of preventable death. In Arizona an estimated 8,300 deaths are caused by smoking each year.
- In 2023 we will support comprehensive tobacco control legislation that will:
 - Define all tobacco products, including e-cigarettes, as tobacco
 - Implement a tobacco retail license with real fees, fines and penalties, including the possibility of suspension and revocation of the license. Arizona is one of the very few states that does not have a tobacco retail license.
 - Raise the tobacco sales age to 21 conforming to federal law
 - Protect local jurisdictions from preemptive action.
- We will also oppose any legislation that further protects tobacco industry interests, including the preemption of cities and towns from regulating tobacco.

3

Support the Well Woman HealthCheck Program

Support \$1.369 million in state Funding for Arizona's Well Woman HealthCheck Program

- It is estimated that more than 100,000 low-income, uninsured Arizona women qualify for the Well Woman HealthCheck Program (WHHP).
- Annually, approximately 130 WHHP women are diagnosed with cancer and provided comprehensive health care and cancer treatment services through AHCCCS (the state's Medicaid program).
- The "community referral" option enacted in 2012 and supported by ACS CAN has now referred more than 750 women to AHCCCS for treatment since the policy change.

1 Ward EM, Fedewa SA, Cokkinides V, Virgo K. The association of insurance and stage at diagnosis among patients aged 55 to 74 years in the National Cancer Database. *Cancer J*. 2010;16:614–621.

2 Niu X, Roche LM, Pawlish KS, Henry KA. Cancer survival disparities by health insurance status. *Cancer Med*. 2013;2:403–411.

3 Ward E, Halpern M, Schrag N, et al. Association of insurance with cancer care utilization and outcomes. *CA Cancer J Clin*. 2008;58:9–31.

4 Institute of Medicine. *Delivering High-Quality Cancer Care: Charting a New Course for a System in Crisis*. The National Academies Press; 2013. Accessed January 26, 2022. doi.org/10.17226/18359