

Health insurance and the fight against cancer

Why we fight for health insurance

Health insurance is crucial for:

- People diagnosed with cancer
- Cancer survivors
- People who need cancer screenings

Newest study: Medicaid expansion reduced mortality during COVID-19.

Health insurance →

- Increased cancer screenings and preventive services
- Earlier diagnosis
- Timelier care
- Increased survival rates

These outcomes are specifically linked to expanding Medicaid.

What is Medicaid?

Medicaid is health insurance for:

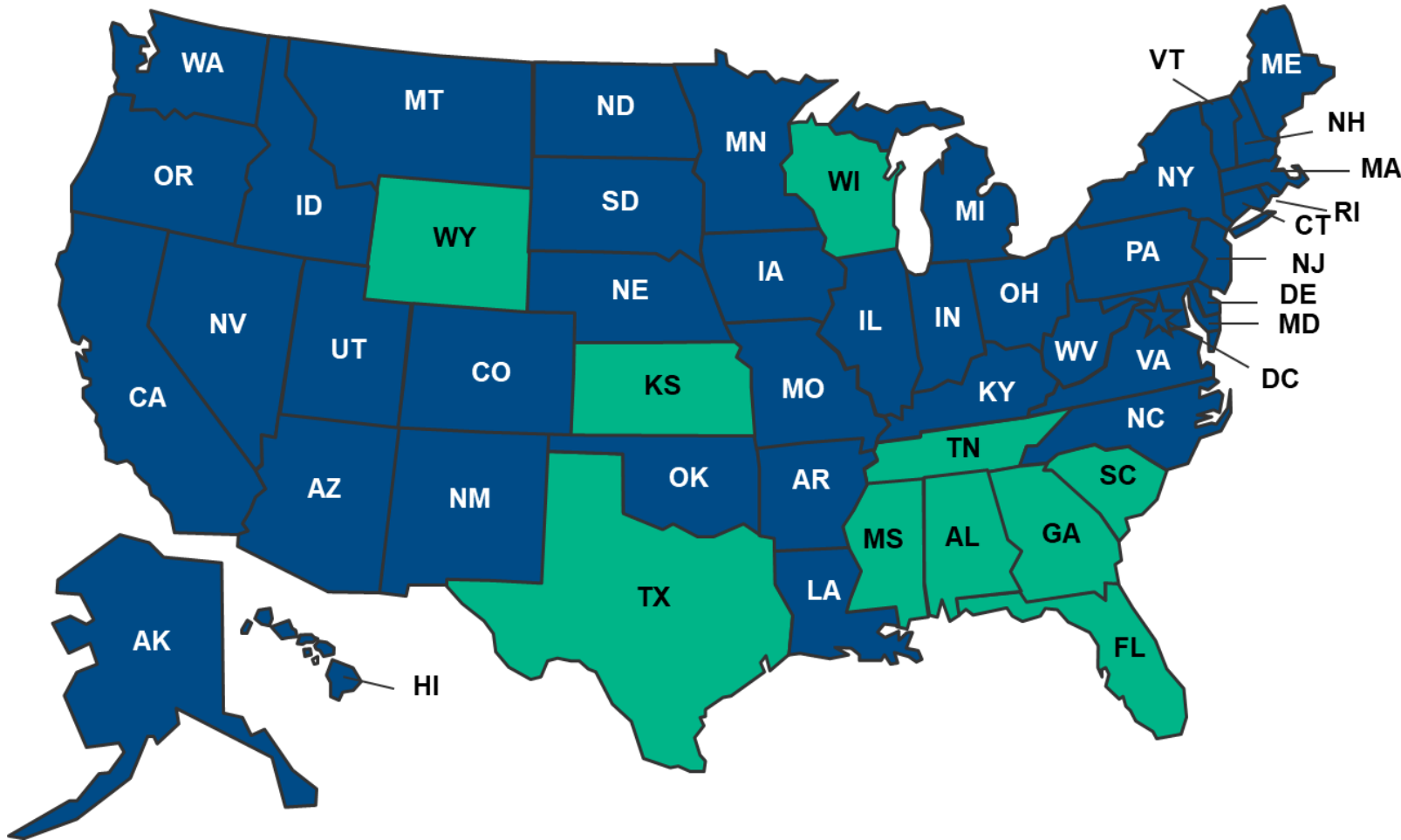
- Children
- Pregnant women
- Seniors in nursing homes
- People with disabilities
- Adults who don't make enough money to afford health insurance on their own and aren't offered coverage through their job

Medicaid covers regular check-ups, screenings and tests, treatments, surgeries, mental health services, prescriptions, emergency care, and nursing home services.



Threats to Medicaid

All Eyes on Expansion



Medicaid expansion
provides health
insurance to 21
million adults.

2.1 million New Yorkers!

Expansion = Success



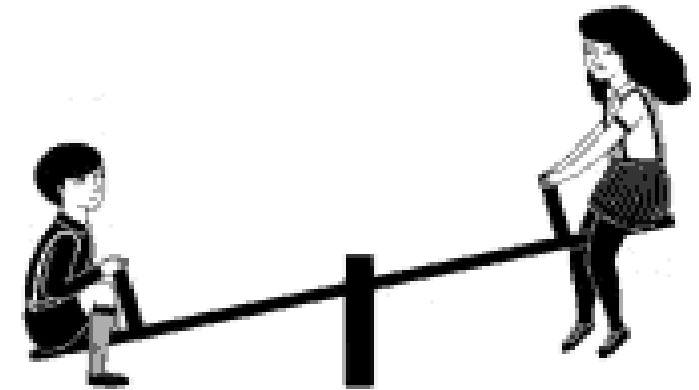
- ACS research shows Medicaid expansion improves cancer survival, increases early diagnosis and reduces medical debt for patients.
- Research also shows Medicaid expansion reduces eviction, reduces child abuse and neglect, increases mental health treatment, increases household income and reduces health disparities.
- Medicaid expansion to low-income adults is **single biggest reason** the U.S. uninsured rate is at record lows.

Threats to Medicaid: Funding Cuts

Medicaid is funded by the federal government and states.

Types of funding cuts:

- Per capita cap
- Block grant
- FMAP reductions
- Provider taxes, state directed payments



How will it harm people with cancer.

States will have to:

- Find more money to fund Medicaid at current levels
- Cut benefits – likely optional ones, like prescription drugs
- Cut people

Threats to Medicaid: Work Requirements

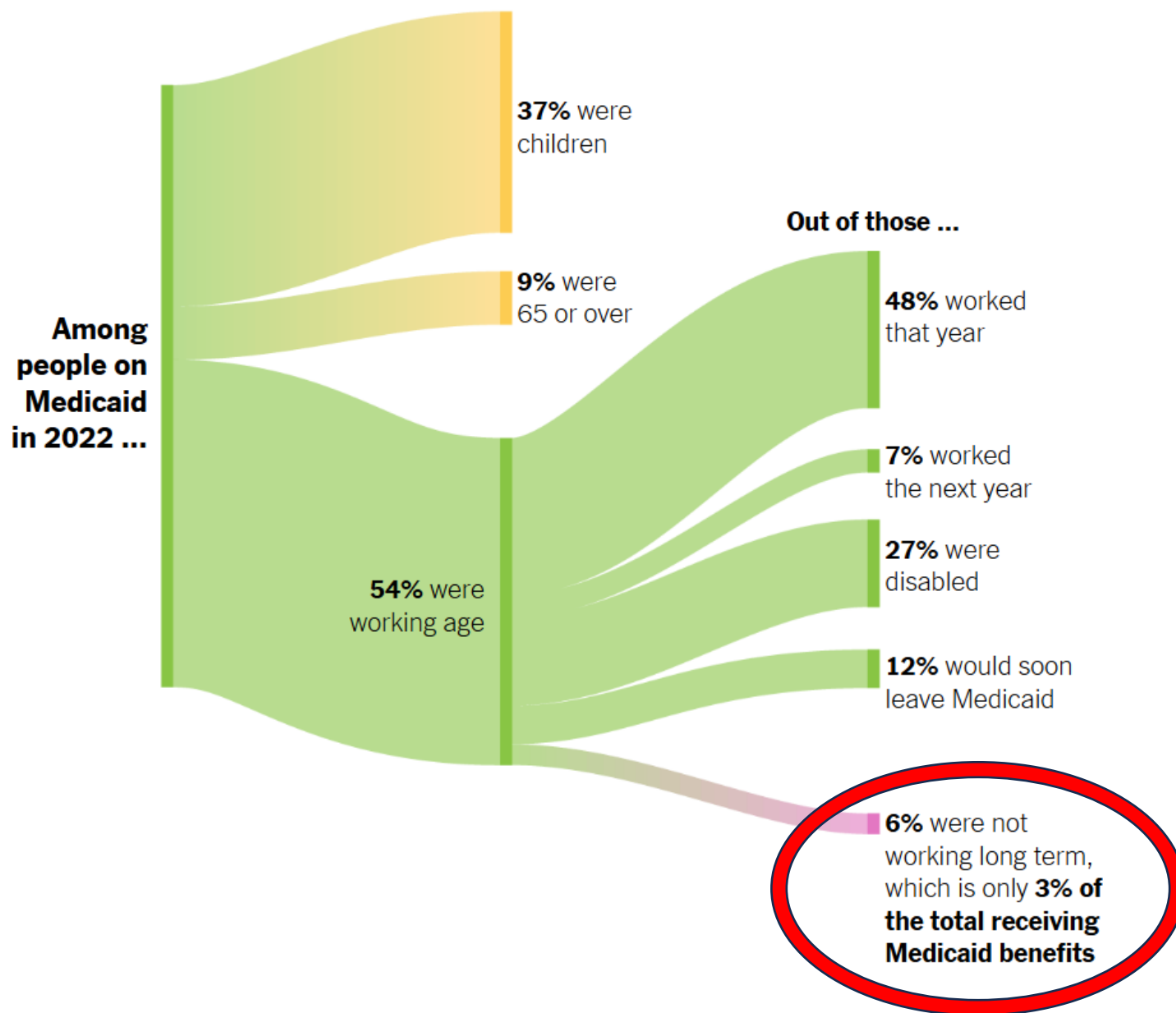


- Requirement to report work → enroll or stay enrolled in Medicaid
- **The reason this saves the federal government money is because it kicks people off of coverage.**

How will it harm people with cancer?

- People with cancer may be dropped from coverage
 - Whether or not they're exempted
- People who have NOT YET been diagnosed with cancer will get dropped from coverage
- Proving an exemption is a burden

Threats to Medicaid: Work Requirements



- Risk of unintended consequences is very high
- Evidence from GA & AR shows people lose coverage due to paperwork
- Proving exemptions will still be a barrier

Impact of Federal Cuts

Trigger laws

- A cut to the 90% matching funds from the federal government
- 12 states have these laws on the books

No enhanced APTCs

- 4.8 million people lose coverage

Federal work requirement

- 8.6 million adults would lose coverage, including many for paperwork reasons
- XX in New York alone

Trigger Law States

Arizona
Arkansas
Idaho
Illinois
Indiana
Iowa
Montana
New Hampshire
New Mexico
North Carolina
Utah
Virginia

Medicaid Campaign Timeline



Inflection Points

Pass reconciliation package by August recess

Mid-May

House Energy & Commerce markup of the bill including Medicaid policies/proposed cuts

End of May

House goal for passage of its version of the reconciliation package

July/August

Senate goal for its version of the reconciliation package

Sept. 30th
End of Fiscal Year

Deadline for passage of the package under the current budget resolution passed in April

Time to Activate!

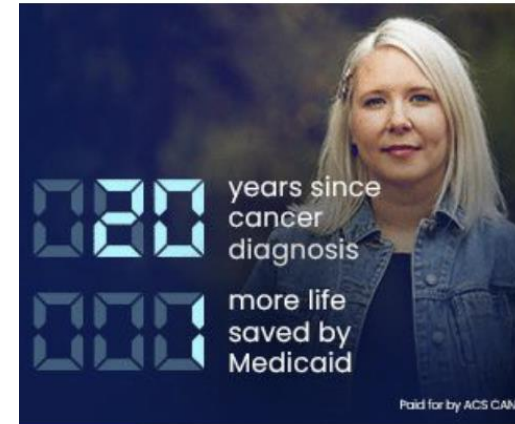
Elevating Our Efforts:

Protect Medicaid Campaign

Goal: To maintain insurance for the millions of Americans on Medicaid

Midterm Goal: Create significant pressure on focused members of Congress to delay and prevent expedited votes that jeopardize Medicaid

Long Term: Increase public support that will protect and strengthen health care insurance for everyone



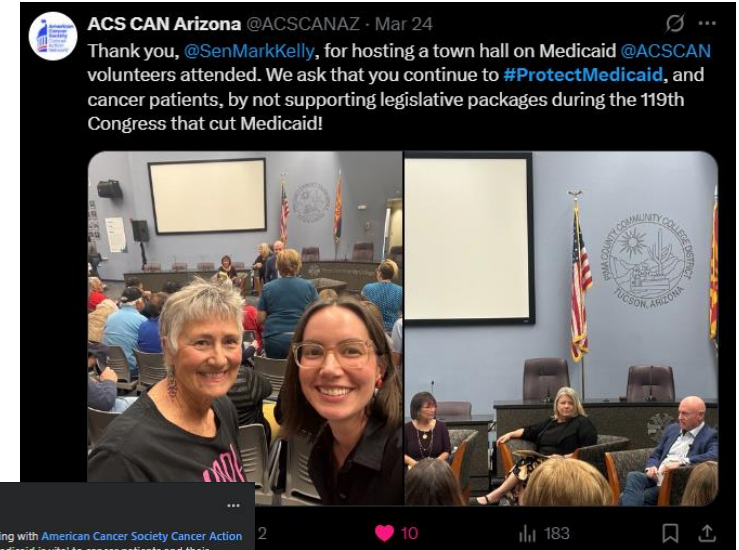
Campaign Tactics

To Date:

- 229 drop bys, 125 meetings, and 30 town halls and counting!
- 57,000 emails, 9,778 patch through calls, in-district ad placement

It's time to up our game!

- Postcards
- Events
- Story collection
- Social media
- Earned media



Stories Matter

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act's expansion of Medicaid, I was able to receive world-class care at Mayo Clinic without facing medical bankruptcy. This allowed me to focus entirely on healing rather than worrying about crushing medical debt.

Toby Cain
Decorah, Iowa



Medicaid Resources

- Talking Points
- One Pagers
- Toolkit
- Postcards
- New Ads (coming soon!)

How to Talk About Cuts to Medicaid

The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) works with cancer and their families through advocacy, research, and patient support to ensure everyone has an opportunity to prevent, detect, treat, and survive cancer. It provides critical access to affordable health insurance for people with disabilities and low-income workers.

This resource includes research-backed guidance on how to talk about funding cuts at the federal level, as well as suggested talking points and the critical role it plays in the prevention, detection, and treatment of cancer.

Key Imperatives

- 1. Keep it simple**
Medicaid is complicated. Conversations about health care changes can often end up "in the weeds" and less effective. It's important to state the facts: Medicaid provides critical access to affordable health insurance, and that any attempts to cut or fund Medicaid will mean people with cancer could have their care interrupted or stopped completely, and others would lose access to cancer screenings. This would have a devastating impact on cancer patients and their families.
- 2. Focus on who receives Medicaid and why**
There is a lot of misinformation about who does support Medicaid cuts. It's important to emphasize that Medicaid provides critical access to affordable health insurance for people with disabilities and low-income workers. It's important to emphasize that Medicaid provides critical access to affordable health insurance for people with disabilities and low-income workers.
- 3. Keep the burden of cancer front and center**
People are very aware of the burden of cancer: the pain, the fear, and the financial cost associated with it. Making it a powerful demonstration of the value of Medicaid – and what's truly at stake if the program were to be cut – is essential.
- 4. Meet people where they are**
Conservative lawmakers and voters are committed to cutting federal spending. It can help to recognize that, while there is pressure to find places to cut, there is also pressure to find places to invest. Medicaid cuts to health care are not the way to care more expensive for everyone and take care of them.

The Real Cost of Cutting Medicaid

Proposed cuts to Medicaid will terminate health care for millions of people – cancer patients receiving lifesaving treatment, seniors in nursing homes, children, veterans, people with disabilities, and working families.

Rushing these cuts will hurt those who can least afford care – and won't do anything to lower health care costs.

Cancer patients can't afford these cuts.

Access to health coverage is the greatest predictor of whether or not someone survives their cancer, and more than one-third of kids diagnosed with cancer get their health insurance through Medicaid. These cuts will mean people with cancer could have their care interrupted or stopped completely, and others would lose access to cancer screenings. This would have a devastating impact on cancer patients and their families.

Working families can't afford these cuts.

Cutting Medicaid will rip health care away from those who can already least afford it – families with loved ones in nursing homes, working families making less than \$30,000 a year, and veterans who've served this country. Not only will this hurt those who can least afford care, it will also raise premiums and out-of-pocket costs for everyone else – and place even more burden on the system due to more uncompensated care.

So-called work requirements are not common sense. They will make it harder for people to get and stay healthy. In order to work, you have to be able to show up. Punishing people for not being able to show up for cancer by terminating their care will only make them sicker and more expensive to treat. These proposals do not make sense and make health care more expensive for families.

The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) seeks to improve the lives of cancer patients and their families through advocacy, research, and patient support, to ensure everyone has an opportunity to prevent, detect, treat, and survive cancer. **Medicaid is essential to this effort.**

Cutting Medicaid means cutting health care for millions who need it most.

Cancer treatments delayed or denied

Seniors forced out of nursing homes

Children and working families unable to get care

Medicaid made time for Milly:

- 20 years since cancer diagnosis
- 12 years building a successful law career
- 2 wonderful children raised
- 1 more life saved by Medicaid

Key Takeaways

- Medicaid is a lifeline for cancer patients.
- We are fighting to protect Medicaid from the largest proposed cut in history.
- Everyone has a stake in this fight.
- It's time to be loud!