

# Utah's Partial Medicaid Expansion

- *Understanding Prop 3 vs. S.B. 96*
- *How to Connect with Coverage*
- *How to Stop Harmful Caps, Cuts and Barriers, so everyone can get the affordable care they need!*

# Recap of What Happened...

November 2018: Prop 3 passes, expands Medicaid to all eligible adults up to 138% FPL

February 2019: Governor signs S.B.96, rolls back Prop 3 to a 'partial expansion' up to 100% FPL and directs the Dept of Health to do the following:

- Add work requirements (effective January 2020)
- Have the ability to cap Medicaid enrollment
- Ask the federal government to essentially block grant Utah's Medicaid program
- Create a 'fall back' option if Utah cannot block grant Medicaid. Fall back option is a full expansion, closer to what Prop 3 envisioned



What Does This Mean? Let's Start with the Good...

More adults can get Medicaid!

Call 2-1-1 or visit [TakeCareUtah.org](https://www.TakeCareUtah.org)

- Longer term: The Department of Health is also exploring new ways Medicaid enrollees can get more **mental/ behavioral health care**, even **housing** support...

# What Does This Mean? The Bad....

- Right now, individuals between 100-138% are still shut out of care. (In January they can enroll through the ACA marketplace)
- Work requirements DON'T WORK. They just mean more red tape for Medicaid enrollees. In other states, they've led to eligible people losing coverage.
- Enrollment caps mean people could get shut out of care, just when they need it the most.
- Medicaid block grants= less money for Utah Medicaid. Less money = fewer benefits, or fewer people eligible.



# So What Can You Do? Promote the Good...

Help spread the word that Medicaid is now open for more people!  
When parents have coverage, it helps the whole family.

Call 2-1-1 or visit [TakeCareUtah.org](https://www.TakeCareUtah.org)

If you run into problems, snags, questions, please reach out to us! Let's help eligible people get the care they need.

# So What Can You Do? Help Stop the Bad.

**Comment! Comment! Comment!**

Submitting public comments on the bad S.B. 96 provisions are the KEY way to stop harmful reporting requirements, caps on enrollment and block grants, so people can get the care they need without barriers. Why?

- ✓ State and feds have to hold a comment period, then respond to every unique comment
- ✓ Comments form the foundation for legal challenges
- ✓ Comments help generate stories and personal experiences, support advocacy going forward

The state public comment period will be opening soon. Utah Children will share a survey to make commenting easy.

**Help us reach 1,000 comments!**

# In Conclusion...

- Medicaid is now open for more people, let's help connect people with coverage.
- But let's **STOP** the harmful reporting requirements, caps and cuts that will make it much harder for families to get care and undermine the full Medicaid expansion Utahns need (and voted for!)
- Complete the comment survey! Your help is needed!



# Utah isn't getting the Medicaid expansion we voted for.

UTAH LAWMAKERS IGNORED VOTERS TO DENY HEALTH INSURANCE FOR TENS OF THOUSANDS OF UTAHNS



## VOTER APPROVED MEDICAID EXPANSION

- 53% of Utah voters approved this plan and budget.
- Covers 150,000 Utahns who earn less than \$17,238/year.
- Unlocks more than \$800 million in federal funds each year to help Utahns.

## PARTIAL MEDICAID EXPANSION

- Lawmakers changed the plan, limiting coverage to Utahns earning less than \$12,492/year.
- Covers as few as 70,000 Utahns and arbitrarily caps coverage when needed most.
- Costs state more and leaves millions of dollars for Utah on the table.
- Likely to be challenged in court, wasting Utah's time and money with costly litigation.

\$17,238 refers to an individual. The threshold for a family of four is \$35,537. <https://www.utahdecided.com>  
\$12,492 refers to an individual. The threshold for a family of four is \$25,756. <https://health.utah.gov/featured-news/utah-receives-approval-to-implement-medicaid-expansion>

Utah's partial Medicaid expansion plan could shut Utahns out of coverage when they need it most. It's not right that arbitrary enrollment caps can make people like this ineligible.

### Graduate Student

A lab assistant in Salt Lake County is working her way through graduate school. Since her employer doesn't offer health insurance, she needs Medicaid help keep her healthy, working and ready to succeed in school.



### Business Owner

A carpenter in San Pete County had to close his family business. Now he works part-time to pay the bills but doesn't make nearly enough to buy health insurance on his own.



### Cancer Patient

A working mother of two from Weber County was just diagnosed with cancer, but her employer doesn't offer health coverage. Without Medicaid, paying for treatment could lead to bankruptcy and keep her from taking care of her family.



### Mother of Three

A child care aide from Utah County has three kids at home and no benefits through work, so none of them have health coverage. Research shows that when parents aren't covered, children don't get covered.



# Thank you!

Please feel free to contact Voices for Utah Children anytime!

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**DON'T  
GAMBLE WITH  
UTAH'S  
FUTURE.**

