MEDICAID
FIGHTING FOR THE HEALTH OF UTAHNS

Medicaid is our nation's health insurance program for low-income children, pregnant women, adults, seniors and people with disabilities. Medicaid provides necessary medical services, like inpatient and outpatient hospital care, preventative care, pregnancy and childbirth support, and physician services for families and individuals who do not have access to private health insurance. Medicaid helps people get and stay healthy so they can work and take care of their families.

In Utah, Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program, provide health insurance for 1 in 10 Utahns whose limited budgets force them to make tough decisions every day between healthcare, medicine, food and rent. In 2014, states were given the option to expand Medicaid coverage to adults with incomes below 138 percent of the federal poverty level. In November 2018, Utah voters approved Medicaid expansion which will enable 46,000 adults to access cost-effective care when implemented.

In Utah, Medicaid Provides Health Coverage for:

1 in 5 children

1 in 3 individuals with disabilities

1 in 2 nursing home residents

1 in 14 adults, 63% who are working

4,220 veterans

Medicaid Provides Cost-Effective Care with Lasting Impact

Medicaid does not provide direct services, but leverages existing channels by paying doctors, hospitals, nursing homes, and other healthcare providers that deliver services to Medicaid patients. The federal government pays for the majority of Medicaid costs, with states contributing a smaller amount.

- Medicaid provides access to preventative care, reducing use of costly emergency room visits and saving healthcare costs long term.
- Medicaid eligibility for pregnant women and children improves health outcomes from prenatal development through adolescence into adulthood.
- Medicaid coverage leads to improvements in educational outcomes for children at all levels and protects the whole family from financial hardships.

A Vital Community Program

United Way fights for the health, education and financial stability of every person in Utah, which includes making sure everyone has access to healthcare. Medicaid is essential to ensuring that children and families have medical care, improving abilities to work, learn, and succeed.

Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Medicaid State Fact Sheets, November 2018.

United Way