Consequences of Inaction on Increased Medicaid Funding Amid COVID-19

Without increased funding for Medicaid, hardworking Americans most at-risk could be denied access to the essential care they need and deserve.

Women and Children

Less access to care for America’s children, due to lower payments to children’s hospitals and providers.

Less access to preventive and behavioral health services received through schools, due to cuts to school-based services.

Lacking postpartum coverage for new mothers, threatening maternal health and exacerbating health disparities.

Americans 65+

Fewer health care staff and higher infection risks, as payment cuts to nursing homes could lead to reduced staffing and personal protective equipment (PPE) needed to prevent and/or contain the spread of COVID-19 among vulnerable patients.

Fewer older Americans able to stay in their homes and communities, as programs reduce or eliminate home and community-based services and supports (HCBS) for older Americans.

People with Disabilities

Less access to services such as behavioral health specialists, food delivery and proper residential treatment, due to cuts in case management services.

Longer waitlists for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, as home care, group day activities and long-term residential support may be eliminated.

Less help at home, as rates and wages for providers and the workforce who support people with disabilities are slashed.

Newly Insured Americans

Decreased access to behavioral health and substance use disorder programs, 71% of which are paid for by Medicaid, due to cuts to program funding at the same time that opioid overdoses are skyrocketing across the country.

Inability to address dental, optometry, podiatry needs as states consider eliminating these and other critical services from Medicaid coverage for adults.

Less access to care for adults, including new enrollees, as payments are reduced for health care providers across the board.