



MEDICAID EXPANSION

One
Voice

Medicaid Expansion Toolkit

[Messaging Summary](#) | [Talking Points](#) | [Social Media and Graphics](#) | [Email](#)
| [Videos](#) | [Resources](#)

Messaging Summary

One Voice, as a part of the Care4Mississippi Coalition, seeks a sustainable healthcare system for all Mississippians. With hospitals and medical centers closing all over the state, especially in the most vulnerable areas, expanding Medicaid is a simple and viable solution. Mississippi deserves to have affordable quality healthcare that is easily accessible.

As our state leadership continues to fail to make sound choices, working families pay the cost of their health and, in some dire cases, their lives. The current state of healthcare in many places in our state makes it nearly life-threatening and dangerous to live in these areas. Some Mississippians have found themselves in situations where they were only minutes from a medical emergency turning fatal but hours away from any viable professional healthcare services.

Refusing to see the urgency in expanding Medicaid and, therefore, expanding healthcare options in Mississippi blatantly ignores the needs of black people and other people of color, making up 61% of those who are “too poor” to qualify for the Affordable Care Act.

Talking Points

- **Mississippians are losing their lives due to a lack of access to healthcare.**
 - In Belzoni, MS, a young pregnant black woman and her unborn child died on the side of the road while her husband attempted to give her CPR. They were on the way to the nearest medical center, which was several miles away. These deaths were preventable and senseless. Unfortunately, this isn't the first story of this kind, and if state leadership doesn't do something soon, it won't be the last.
- **What is the Medicaid expansion coverage gap in Mississippi?**
 - In Mississippi, some 96,000 uninsured adults with low incomes are in the Medicaid coverage gap – too poor to qualify for Affordable Care Act (ACA) marketplace assistance because they have incomes below the poverty line, yet ineligible for Medicaid because their state hasn't enacted the ACA Medicaid expansion.
- **Expanding Medicaid is affordable.**
 - According to the state economist, Mississippi would save money by expanding Medicaid.
 - Total estimated **annual costs** of Medicaid expansion in the state from 2022-2027: between \$186 million to \$207 million.
 - Total estimated **savings** of Medicaid expansion to the state in 2022: \$512 million; in 2023: \$527 million; in 2024: \$215 million; in 2025: \$219 million; in 2026: \$223 million; and in 2027: \$227 million.

Email

SL:

Hi [NAME],

The topics of every legislative session are important, but when lives are at stake, we pay even closer attention to the details. When it comes to Medicaid expansion, the working poor and the destitute come to mind. In this situation, the details are clear: federal funds are available, and if they aren't accepted and implemented for Medicaid in Mississippi, people will die. However, it doesn't seem to be important to some because of those who are threatened to be among the deceased – poor, disenfranchised people of color.

Who Is Left Out?

Sixty-one percent of people of color are too poor to qualify for the Affordable Care Act (ACA) in Mississippi. According to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (CBPP), there are more than

2.1 million uninsured adults with low incomes throughout America. There are 96,000 Mississippians who are uninsured adults living below the poverty line of the Medicaid expansion coverage gap.

Who Qualifies for Medicaid?

To qualify for Medicaid in Mississippi, parents must earn less than 25% of the federal poverty line (or less than \$5,758 for a family of three annually). Adults without dependent children are not eligible for Medicaid at all. Not to mention, 17% of disabled Mississippians, 30% of parents with children at home, and 33% of women of reproductive age were excluded from being qualified to receive Medicaid in Mississippi as well.

Reasons to Not Qualify for Healthcare—There Should Not Be Any

All Mississippians deserve the right to live a healthier life despite their income, education, race and ethnicity, geographical location, marital status, age or gender. We will continue the fight until ALL Mississippians are insured with proper and affordable healthcare.

Stay Tuned

We will keep you updated throughout the legislative session to make sure you are aware of the discussions and how you can help and join the conversation.

Email tips:

1. Introduce yourself
2. Let him/her know where you are from in Mississippi
3. Share a personal story.
4. Thank them for their time and ask again that they should expand Medicaid to establish a sustainable healthcare system for all Mississippians.