

PROTECT OUR CARE

Arizona Health Care Advocates Join Protect Our Care Arizona to Call Out Republicans for Proposed Cuts to Medicaid as Democrats Work to Protect and Expand Coverage



Watch the event [here](#)

(Phoenix, AZ) – Today, leading health care experts from advocacy organizations across the state joined Protect Our Care Arizona to highlight the vital role the Medicaid program serves in providing affordable health care coverage and access to services for Arizonans. One in four Americans relies on Medicaid for access to health care, and the program serves people from all backgrounds, including children, mothers, people of color, people with disabilities, working families, rural Americans, and seniors.

April marks the [seventh annual Medicaid Awareness Month](#) and speakers shared what President Biden and Democrats in Congress have done to strengthen Medicaid in the face of ongoing attacks from Republicans who want to severely cut funding for the program and limit access to care.

Democrats have created incentives for states to expand Medicaid through the Affordable Care Act, stopped onerous work requirements, pushed for expanded postpartum coverage, and worked to minimize the impacts of Medicaid unwinding. Meanwhile, Republicans have proposed [slashing trillions of dollars](#) from Medicaid through capping federal funding and other draconian

measures designed to reduce the number of Medicaid beneficiaries through bureaucratic tripwires that kick them off the program. If Republicans get their way and repeal Medicaid expansion, 654,000 Arizonans' coverage will be at risk. When it comes to health care, the contrast between Democrats and Republicans health care agenda couldn't be clearer.

"Together AHCCCS and Kids Care are responsible for record high rates of health insurance for kids nationally and in Arizona," said Matt Jewett, Health Policy Director for Children's Action Alliance. "They help protect families from medical debt, give them peace of mind, and allow their kids to grow up healthy and succeed in life."

"We are here today to tell you that it has been an incredible godsend to seniors to have Medicaid Expansion in Arizona and have that healthcare available to seniors," said Linda Somo, President of the Arizona Alliance for Retired Americans. "The Affordable Care Act that allowed for Medicaid Expansion has made a huge difference for seniors in Arizona."

"The Affordable Care Act expansion of Medicaid to lower income adults is preventing thousands of premature deaths for adults aged 55 to 64," said Claudia Boyer, Director of Resource Navigation Systems for Chicanos por la Causa.

"Valle del Sol is proud to be part of the community of federally qualified health centers in the state," said Shelli Ross, COO of Valle del Sol Community Health Centers. "The whole purpose for community health centers is to serve the underserved communities. The expansion of Medicaid has allowed us to serve more patients throughout their life."

You can watch the full event [here](#), and learn more about how Medicaid benefits Americans across the country [here](#).

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