

APRIL 1, 2026

Disability  
Advocacy Day  
at the Iowa State Capitol

Live.  
Work.  
Play.  
Flourish.

# Don't Fool Around with Medicaid! Investing in Medicaid is investing in Iowa's Future

## ✔ FACTS AND IMPACTS

- H.R. 1 (The One Big Beautiful Act) included historic cuts to state Medicaid programs (July 2025)
- The federal government is shifting more of the costs of Medicaid to states.
- For Iowa the cuts are equal to almost \$1 billion per year.
- These cuts equal approximately 29% of state-funded Medicaid per resident, or 19% of per-pupil in education spending
- At the same time, Iowa's Medicaid program budget is already facing a shortfall in 2026
- This is a critical time for Iowa's Medicaid program. Medicaid members are already seeing cuts in services (March 2026)

## ★ WHY IS MEDICAID IMPORTANT

- Medicaid provides 90,000 Iowans (25% of all Iowans with disabilities) access to health care services and supports that helps them live independently or live in the community rather than in a care facility.
- For many Iowans with disabilities (no matter their age or whether they are working) Medicaid is their **only option** for health insurance because they need certain types of care and supports that private insurance does not cover.
- Cuts to the Medicaid budget will affect services, eligibility and the payments that providers get for the care they provide—meaning they may not be able to provide care.

## 🗨️ MORE FACTS

- Medicaid is the largest funder of long term care services including home and community based services (HCBS).
- Medicaid is the largest funder of substance abuse treatment and mental health services.
- Medicaid/CHIP covers nearly half of ALL Iowa children
- Medicaid plays a key role in for kids in school who need therapies and support to be successful
- Medicaid's role is critical for rural Iowa. Cuts could force rural hospitals and clinics to close because they can't get paid enough for the care they provide.

## 📣 TELLING YOUR STORY

- Lawmakers need to hear how Medicaid helps Iowans. Your personal story is important. **See the back for help in how to talk to your legislators today!**

## WHAT IS "LET US WORK!" ?

**LET US WORK!** is a campaign to educate lawmakers about the barriers to and opportunities for employment for Iowans with disabilities. Changing Medicaid income and asset limits would allow Iowans with disabilities to work more, earn more and save more. This program is called "Work Without Worry." Ask your legislators if they know about Work Without Worry.