

What Will Medicaid Cuts Mean for New Jersey's Children and Adults with Developmental Disabilities ?



Right now in New Jersey, over 300,000 people with disabilities depend on Medicaid-funded services and supports.

For people with developmental disabilities, these critical day-to-day Medicaid services include personal care, job coaches and supported employment, medical transportation, residential services, family respite, in-home and institutional nursing care, and many other services that keep people safe and healthy.

Today, most New Jersey residents with developmental disabilities receive care from family members. As these family caregivers age, the need for paid caregivers will rise.

Why should New Jerseyans be Concerned about Medicaid Cuts?

- Both houses of the US Congress are working on legislation that places caps on future Medicaid growth, and reduces federal match. Congress has proposed an overall cut of \$834 billion over 10 years. In addition, the Executive Branch has released a budget proposal with an additional \$610 billion in cuts. With a potential combined total of over \$1.4 trillion, this would be a 46% reduction in funds to Medicaid over a 10 year period.

Congressional Healthcare Bills
\$834 OVER
billion cut | 10
years

+\$610 billion
IN CUTS
President's Budget Proposal

- Cutting Medicaid, either through block granting or per-capita caps, will require the state to decrease funding for an already underfunded system, reducing services to children and adults with disabilities, and shifting even more costs onto New Jersey families. Even a small cut to Medicaid, to say nothing of the massive 46% currently being considered, would put an incredible strain on our system.

- Losing these services may result in families being unable to support their loved ones at home, and requiring people with more significant disabilities to move into state-run institutions. This will roll back over 40 years of progress in creating community-based support services that give people with disabilities dignity and self-determination.

total **46%** OVER
reduction in funds to Medicaid | 10
years

Medicaid Cuts will force Hard Decisions. New Jersey Residents with Disabilities Could Lose:

- Necessary assistance with personal care such as eating, bathing, getting dressed, and taking medicine
- Vital community residential options that prevent homelessness and institutionalization
- Crisis intervention and behavioral support services that help avoid expensive emergency room treatment
- Caregiver respite services and in-home supports that enable families to continue supporting loved-ones while maintaining full-time employment
- Needed home modifications such as ramps, lifts, and shower access
- Community-based support services that enable people with disabilities to obtain employment, exercise their rights, and participate in their communities

