

JOINT LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ON MEDICAID

NC Department of Health and Human Services

Kody H. Kinsley Secretary

October 11, 2022

Recover Stronger – DHHS Priorities

These priorities and our work across the department are grounded in **whole-person health**, driven by **equity**, and responsive to the lessons learned responding to the greatest health crisis in more than a generation.

Behavioral Health & Resilience



We need to offer services further upstream to build resiliency, invest in coordinated systems of care that make mental health services easy to access when and where they are needed and reduce the stigma around accessing these services

Child & Family Wellbeing



We will work to ensure that North Carolina's children grow up safe, healthy and thriving in nurturing and resilient families and communities. Investing in families and children's healthy development builds more resilient families, better educational outcomes and, in the long term, a stronger society.

Strong & Inclusive Workforce



We will work to strengthen the workforce that supports early learning, health and wellness by delivering services to North Carolina. And we will take action to be an equitable workplace that lives its values and ensure that all people have the opportunity to be fully included members of their communities.

The health insurance coverage gap coupled with insufficient access to affordable care disproportionately impacts Historically Marginalized Populations who have also experienced worse outcomes than others under COVID-19. Medicaid expansion would help close the health insurance coverage gap.

Medicaid Successes

- Implemented pandemic-related flexibilities
- Launched Medicaid Managed Care
- Began serving individuals through Healthy Opportunities Pilots
- Extended 12 months postpartum coverage
- Implemented Bonuses for Direct Care Workers
- Reduced CAP/DA Waiver Waitlist

Initial Goals for Tailored Plans

- Mitigate Disruptions: Have the least amount of beneficiary – provider disruption
- Ensure Robust Networks: Ensure that primary care and specialty care network meets the needs of beneficiaries
- Prevent Payment Interruptions: Assure that providers are able to be paid day 1
- Implement Care Management: Assure that the innovative Tailored Care Management can begin December 1

Medicaid Expansion & HASP

600,000 Projected enrollees due to expansion, including a disproportionate number of rural North Carolinians

\$4.9 billion Annual federal dollars NC is leaving on the table

\$1.5 billion "Signing Bonus" from the Federal Government

\$3.2 billion Annual federal dollars for the Hospitalization Access and Stabilization Program

\$0 State funds

Now is the time to:

- Improve overall health of NC
- Advance rural economic vitality, health
- Build sustainable infrastructure to combat the behavioral health crisis and the opioid epidemic
- Put downward pressure on everyone's premiums