## PROTECT HEALTH CARE FOR KANSANS

## **Protect Health Care at the State Level**

There are **248,308 Kansans** who are uninsured. Medicaid expansion would benefit about **150,000** Kansans.<sup>1</sup>



About 70% of non-elderly adults in the coverage gap work at least one job. Those who don't work are caretakers for family members or have a chronic condition that keeps them from working. 4

Approximately 75% of Kansans with disabilities don't qualify for Medicaid. But Medicaid expansion would mean they could get access to affordable health care.

Additionally, direct service workers who currently live without health insurance would gain access to affordable health care.<sup>1, 6</sup>

A single parent with two children won't qualify for Medicaid if she makes more than \$10,127 per year.

That's about \$844 per month to pay for food, rent, transportation, clothing, and other needs. Medicaid expansion would fix these eligibility limits, which are too low.<sup>2</sup>

Medicaid expansion would benefit the approximately **1 in 10 veterans** 

who don't have health insurance or their family members who don't otherwise have access to coverage.<sup>5</sup> Nearly every industry in Kansas has employees that would benefit from Medicaid expansion. The top five jobs that would benefit the most are: <sup>3</sup>



Cashiers



Waiters & waitresses



Nursing assistants



Janitors & cleaners



Cooks



Eight rural Kansas hospitals have closed in-patient services since 2015.

Kansas currently has more rural hospitals at risk of closing than any other state our size. Hospitals in states with Medicaid expansion are about 84% less likely to close than in states without expansion, like Kansas.<sup>7, 8, 9</sup>

## **Protect Health Care at the Federal Level**

More than a third of Kansas children are covered by Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

Federal Medicaid cuts would take health care away from children and create financial pressures on Kansas families who are already struggling with rising costs. <sup>10</sup>



Medicaid is critical to rural communities.

Kansans in rural areas and small towns rely more on Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program than people who live in urban areas.<sup>11</sup> The majority of Kansas nursing home residents (53%) rely on Medicaid coverage to pay for nursing home costs. Medicaid cuts will put a financial strain on long-term care facilities and the families of Kansas elders. 12

## Resources

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- 9. *Medicaid Expansion: Frequently Asked Questions*, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, Jun 14, 2024; Available at <a href="https://www.cbpp.org/research/health/medicaid-expansion-frequently-asked-questions-0">https://www.cbpp.org/research/health/medicaid-expansion-frequently-asked-questions-0</a>
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- 11. *Medicaid's Role in Small Towns and Rural Areas*, Georgetown University McCourt School of Public Policy, Center for Children and Families, Jan. 15, 2025; Available at https://ccf.georgetown.edu/2025/01/15/medicaids-role-in-small-towns-and-rural-areas/
- 12. *Public Policy Resources*, Leading Age Kansas, accessed Jan. 30, 2025; Available at <a href="https://www.leadingagekansas.org/public-policy-resources">https://www.leadingagekansas.org/public-policy-resources</a>





