

What would potential Medicaid cuts mean for Washington children and adults with developmental disabilities?

Right now in Washington, over **32,000** people with developmental disabilities depend on Medicaid-funded long-term services and supports. **By 2028, that number is expected to be at least 45,000.**

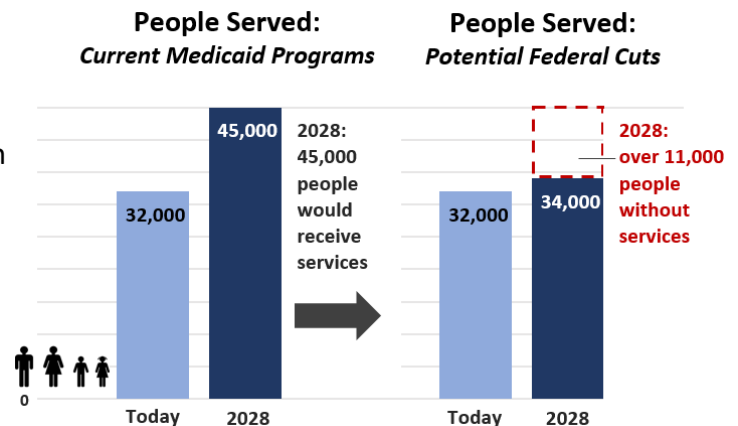
These critical day-to-day Medicaid services include personal care, residential, respite, nursing, employment and other services that keep people safe and healthy.

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



Why should we be concerned about potential Medicaid cuts?

- The U.S. House of Representatives has passed legislation that places caps on future Medicaid growth, and reduces federal match.
- Cutting Medicaid would mean decreasing funding for an already-underfunded system, reducing services to children and adults with disabilities, and shifting even more costs onto Washington families.
- Losing these services may result in families being unable to support their loved ones at home.

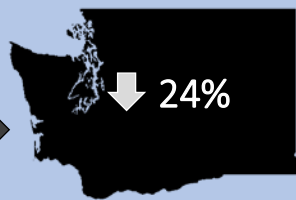
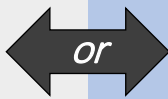


Potential Medicaid cuts will force hard decisions. Washington residents could lose:

Cuts could mean:



Not serving 1 in 4 people who will need it (over 11,000 clients in 2028)



Reducing services for all Medicaid clients by 24%

- Necessary assistance with personal care such as help eating, bathing, and taking medicine
- Vital community residential options that prevent homelessness and institutionalization
- Crisis intervention and behavioral support services that avoid expensive emergency room treatment
- Caregiver respite services that enable families to continue supporting loved ones
- Needed home modifications such as ramps, lifts and shower access

"Potential Medicaid cuts" assumed above includes eliminating enhanced federal matching funds and creating caps on annual Medicaid per capita growth.



Washington State
Department of Social
& Health Services

For questions contact:
Luisa Parada Estrada
paradLA@dshs.wa.gov

Transforming lives

May 2017