



# MEDICAID IS A LIFELINE

FOR PEOPLE WITH INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Medicaid is a joint Federal and State program that provides health insurance and access to long-term care to more than 1.85 Million Washingtonians, including people with disabilities.

Washington State provides supports and services for more than 61,000 Washingtonians with Intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families in 39 counties of the state.

Medicaid provides **nearly all** of the funding for these vital services.



## How Medicaid Supports People With Disabilities

Medicaid helps people with disabilities throughout their lifetime—to get the care they need to protect their health and well-being and live with dignity.

### Early Childhood

Medicaid-funded early intervention programs help infants and toddlers with disabilities get a healthy start through speech therapy, physical therapy, occupational therapy, family-centered therapies, and more.

### School

Medicaid-funded school-based physical, mental, and behavioral health care that children with disabilities need to learn and thrive.

### Health Care

Medicaid is the primary source of public health insurance for people with disabilities.

### Daily Living

Medicaid-funded Long-term supports and services (LTSS) assist people with disabilities in a broad range of essential activities like eating, taking medication, bathing, dressing, getting in and out of bed, and cleaning.

### Community Support

Medicaid-funded Home and community-based services (HCBS) provide people with disabilities the support they need to live and participate in their communities, instead of being isolated in institutions or nursing homes.

### Employment

Medicaid-funded employment programs provide job training, placement, and other supports to help people with disabilities find and maintain employment.

### Essential Resources

Medicaid provides critical resources to support the health, safety and independence of people with disabilities, including wheelchairs, prosthetics, prescription drugs, assistive technology, and more.

# MEDICAID IN WASHINGTON STATE

1.85 Million Washingtonians rely on Medicaid for health insurance and access, including:



**131,337** Washingtonians  
with disabilities



**852,176** children  
in Washington



more than **111,000**  
receiving long-term supports

## How Medicaid Supports All Washingtonians

**Health** Medicaid coverage unlocks access to health care and improves health.

**Financial Security** Medicaid protects families from high health care costs.

**Dignity & Community** Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services enable more than 27,406 Washingtonians with I/DD to live, work, and participate in their communities.

**Federal Investment** The federal government funds around 50% of the traditional Medicaid program in Washington state, and 90% of the Medicaid Expansion. Without that funding, Washington state taxpayers would shoulder the costs of this essential care.

**Jobs** Medicaid creates thousands of valuable local jobs in the health care sector and expands employment opportunities for people with disabilities.

**Rural Healthcare** Medicaid funding enables rural hospitals and other critical health care infrastructure to stay open and provide care to rural residents.

## The Devastating Impacts of Medicaid Cuts

- Cuts to federal Medicaid funding would shift caregiving responsibilities and costs onto Washingtonians— squeezing already-tight state, local, and family budgets.
- The state would be forced to make up for the loss in federal funds.
- Access to lifesaving and long-term care, job opportunities, educational support, transportation, medication, and more would be reduced or lost.
- Without adequate funding for HCBS, thousands of Washingtonians with disabilities would lose their independence and be forced into nursing homes or state-run institutions to survive.

## Medicaid Matters! Don't Cut Our Lifeline!



**LEARN MORE, AND TAKE ACTION!**  
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