RESULTS U.S. Poverty National Webinar – June 2017

*Defending Anti-Poverty Programs from Deep Budget Cuts*

Login online at: [http://fuze.me/32255914](http://fuze.me/32255914) or dial (201) 479-4595, Meeting ID: 32255914#
Welcome from Joanne Carter
Executive Director, RESULTS
Guest Speaker
Congresswoman Barbara Lee (D-CA-13)

- Serves on two powerful committees – Budget and Appropriations
- Chair of the Out of Poverty Caucus and the Whip’s Task Force on Poverty and Opportunity
- Former Chair of Congressional Black Caucus and former Co-Chair of the Progressive Caucus
- Vigorous advocate for issues impacting low-income Americans including affordable housing, the homeless, low income energy assistance, job training, making health care affordable and universal, just immigration policies, the establishment of a living wage
- First elected to Congress in 1998
- Before Congress, served in California State Assembly and State Senate
RESULTS Expert on Poverty
Kevin Pearson
Evansville, IN
(front with sign)
Meredith Dodson
Director of U.S. Poverty Campaigns
Medicaid

- Largest health program in the U.S. – provided health coverage for 97 million Americans over the course of 2015
- Largest population covered are children
- Covers doctor visits, hospital care, prescription drugs, nursing home costs, and other long-term care
- Medicaid used to be restricted to mandatory populations (low-income kids and pregnant women, certain TANF recipients, seniors/disabled on SSI)
- Medicaid expansion opened program to all low-income adults below 138 percent of poverty ($33,600 for a family of four)

House Health Bill Ends Medicaid as We Know It

- American Health Care Act (AHCA) passed by the House in May
- 23 million people would lose coverage, 14 million from Medicaid alone
- Effects of the bill
  - Caps federal Medicaid funding
  - Shifts costs and risks to states
  - Ends Medicaid expansion
  - Worsening coverage for children, seniors, and people with disabilities
  - Harming children, communities, and state budgets
  - Marketplace coverage would become less affordable for millions of Americans
The Senate Bill is Based on House Bill’s Bad Policy

- Senate leaders are planning a vote on their bill WITH NO HEARINGS
- Despite overwhelming opposition from the American people, Senate leaders have said that they will likely pass 80 percent of what was in the House bill
- Leaders want to vote before July 4th recess
- Compared to House Bill
  - Ends the ACA’s Medicaid expansion more slowly
  - Still imposes caps on the underlying Medicaid program
  - People with pre-existing conditions could still face higher costs or loss of coverage
  - Could lead plans in half the country to drop coverage for mental health, substance use, maternity care and other benefits

Delaying Medicaid Expansion is Just a Slower Death

- Delaying the reduction in expansion would still lead to millions of low-income people losing Medicaid coverage.
- Cost shifts to states would be almost as large as under the current AHCA.
June Action
http://www.results.org/take_action/june_2017_u.s._poverty_action

Action #1: Call Senate Offices about Protecting Medicaid
Call both your Senate offices and leave a message with the receptionist. You can find direct office numbers on our Elected Officials page or call (800) 826-3688 to get connected to their office. If you cannot get through to their DC office, call a local office in your state and leave the following message:

My name is ___________________ and I am a constituent from ___________________. I am appalled that the Senate is poised to take health care away from millions of low-income Americans, including many in our state, with deep cuts and structural changes to Medicaid. Medicaid is a lifeline for millions of children, seniors, and persons with disabilities. Yet Congress wants to undo all the good Medicaid does by slashing Medicaid funding and instituting a per capita cap on spending. This cannot happen. Please tell Sen. ________________ to oppose any health bill that cuts or restructures Medicaid, ends the ACA’s Medicaid expansion, or causes millions of Americans to lose their health insurance. Will you deliver that message?
June Action
http://www.results.org/take_action/june_2017_u.s._poverty_action

Action #2: Urge Others to Call Senators about Medicaid

Send e-mails to your Local Action Networks, post on social media sites, hand out flyers (Word version) at local events or meetings to get folks to call their senators. Here is a sample e-mail or Facebook post you can use:

We need your help! Congress is poised to end the Medicaid program as we know it, causing 14 million low-income Americans to lose health coverage. These cuts will be used to give the wealthy and powerful another giant tax cut. When did cutting health care for our most vulnerable become an American value? We must do all we can to protect Americans on Medicaid.

Please call your Senate offices at (800) 826-3688 and leave the following message with the receptionist:

My name is _______________ and I am a constituent from _______________. I am appalled that the Senate wants to make deep cuts and structural changes to Medicaid, which is a lifeline for millions of children, seniors, and persons with disabilities. Will you please tell Sen. _______________ to oppose any health bill that cuts or restructures Medicaid, ends the ACA’s Medicaid expansion, or causes millions of Americans to lose their health insurance?
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Action #3: Submit a Letter to the Editor about Medicaid

Submit a letter to the editor (LTE) to your local paper urging them to reject cuts or changes to Medicaid. Here's a sample LTE to get you started:

*I am outraged that the Senate is secretly negotiating legislation that will end Medicaid as we know it and take health coverage from millions. Senator leaders are planning a vote on their bill without one single hearing.*

*The House passed the American Health Care Act (AHCA) in May, which would force 23 million people to lose insurance, 14 million of them from Medicaid alone. The AHCA would cap Medicaid funding to states and force them to ration care, shoulder more costs, and deny health coverage to many of those who need it most. Yet, despite overwhelming opposition from the American people, the Senate plans to base 80 percent of its bill on the AHCA.*

*People's lives are literally on the line. I urge our Senators to oppose ANY proposal that cuts or restructures Medicaid or threatens the health care of millions of Americans.*
Keep Up Your Media Awesomeness!

- 2017: **224 U.S. Poverty media pieces in 44 states!** (remaining states we need: DE, HI, NV, ND, RI, VT,)
- Let’s hit **250 media pieces** – by the RESULTS International Conference (July 22-25)
- Use the media to tell Senators to protect Medicaid: [http://capwiz.com/results/issues/alert/?alertid=74463626&MC_plugin=2201](http://capwiz.com/results/issues/alert/?alertid=74463626&MC_plugin=2201)
June Action Training
Reaching Out to Others to Take Action

• All hands on deck

• We need as many people as possible calling senators about protecting Medicaid

• There are more people in your sphere of influence than perhaps you know – people who just need a nudge to get into action

• Community mapping is a great way to identify and leverage the influence of these groups
June Action Training
Reaching Out to Others to Take Action

Community Mapping

1. Identify the persons you want to influence on a particular issue
2. Identify the persons and groups who would potentially care about this issue
3. Identify the persons or groups you are connected with who can connect you with the people in #2 or influence #1
June Action Resources

- Senate Call in Flyer:
- Medicaid E-mail to Congress Alert: [http://capwiz.com/results/issues/alert/?alertid=12788156&MC_plugin=2201](http://capwiz.com/results/issues/alert/?alertid=12788156&MC_plugin=2201)
Grassroots Shares

Alison Hall
U.S. Poverty Free Agent
Boston, MA

Kathleen Duncan
RESULTS Houston and Regional Coordinator
Houston, TX
• Make your voice heard this summer at the RESULTS International Conference in Washington, DC!

• **FLASH SALE**: Get the Early Bird RESULTS Volunteer Registration rate ($150) **now through Thursday, June 15**. Go to [www.resultsconference.org](http://www.resultsconference.org) to register today and when asked, enter code FLASHRVOL.

• Also, **anyone new to the Conference this year** can get $50 off their registration with code FIRSTIC17.

• Top notch [speakers, briefings, and trainings](#) to help you be the best advocate you can be.
Announcements

• Lobby prep calls will start soon to help you get ready for your lobby meetings in DC. Look for an e-mail from Jos Linn (jlinn@results.org) and reply to him ASAP.

• Unlock the Match! For every new monthly donor we sign up in June, a donor will donate an additional $1,000, up to $25,000. Become a monthly donor today!

• Next RESULTS Introductory Calls, Wednesday, June 14 at 9pm ET and Friday, June 23 at 1:00 pm ET. Register for an upcoming Intro Call on the RESULTS website.

• U.S. Poverty Free Agents Calls, Tuesday, June 20 at 1pm and 8pm ET. Login at http://fuze.me/32256018 or dial in by phone at (201) 479-4595, Meeting ID: 32256018#. Meredith Dodson will be hosting this month’s calls.

• Find these and other events on the RESULTS Events Calendar.

Thank you for being on tonight’s webinar!

Our next National Grassroots Webinar is Tuesday, July 11 at 8:00pm ET
Take Action Today!
Call Senators Now about Medicaid

Call your Senate offices now and leave the following message:

My name is _________________ and I am a constituent from ___________________. I am appalled that the Senate is poised to take health care away from millions of low-income Americans, including many in our state, with deep cuts and structural changes to Medicaid. Medicaid is a lifeline for millions of children, seniors, and persons with disabilities. Yet Congress wants to undo all the good Medicaid does by slashing Medicaid funding and instituting a per capita cap on spending. This cannot happen. Please tell Sen. ______________ to oppose any health bill that cuts or restructures Medicaid, ends the ACA’s Medicaid expansion, or causes millions of Americans to lose their health insurance.

- Find office numbers on our Elected Officials page
- Can also call (800) 826-3688
- If cannot get through to DC, call a local office number