

Why We Need to Close the Healthcare Coverage Gap

In South Carolina, **400,000** adults **19-64** have **no** health insurance.

- **79%** of SC small businesses - more than any state except Alaska - don't offer it¹
- Among the one-quarter of workers nationwide with the lowest wages, almost **2/3** aren't eligible for their employer insurance²
- Many low income workers don't qualify for the exchange

Can SC Afford to Cover More Adults? **Yes!**

- **340,000** South Carolinians would gain access to affordable health coverage if we expand Medicaid³
- SC would only invest 10% of the total cost (\$356 million in FY28), 2-3% of the state-funded budget
- The SC investment would bring the 90% federal match - a **net \$7.2 billion** in the first 3 years. Additionally, **SC would get a \$904 million** Federal bonus in 2026 and 2027 - covering almost the first 3 years of the state's cost⁴
- The experience of other states shows the new tax revenue from economic growth and savings in state programs largely offsets the state's long term cost⁴

Medicaid Today

- Only covers **parents** earning **less than \$17,299** (3 person family)
- (*pregnant and post-partum women have higher income eligibility*)

Medicaid Expansion

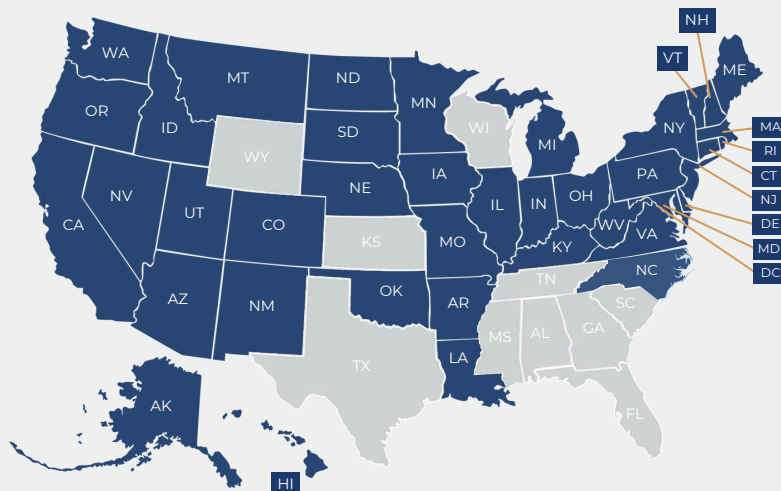
- Covers parents earning **less than \$35,632** (3 person family)
- Also covers **all adults** earning less than **\$20,783** (single adult).

Don't Let SC Be Left Behind

40 states and DC have already closed the gap

If South Carolina does not close the healthcare gap, we lose **\$28 BILLION** in federal funds over 10 years to other states⁴

- Not Adopted
- Adopted and Implemented



Most people on Medicaid in the US work, and work hard.

Data from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey:

- **61%** of adults insured through Medicaid are employed, many in essential jobs. **6%** are in school or training
- **13%** of those insured are caring for children, family, or other dependents full-time
- **11%** are either too ill or have a disability preventing them from work
- **9%** do not work for other reasons, such as retirement (20% of those benefiting from closing the gap in SC are 55-64) or inability to find work or transportation

Closing the Gap Leads to a Stronger Economy



29,000

new jobs will be created over three years



\$345 Million

in new tax revenue over three years



\$12 Billion

in economic output over three years

Closing the Gap Improves Health and Family Financial Independence



12%

decrease in mortality by year four for those ages 55-64⁶



47%

decrease in family medical debt⁷



18%

increase in access to diabetes care⁸



31%

more hypertension controlling prescriptions written⁹



20%

decrease in maternal mortality¹⁰



Join Today!

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