
WASHINGTON

Date: 2017-09-22 00:22:26

To: My Senator

From: Ruth Bacha

State: Washington

Email: [REDACTED]



Our family relies heavily on Medicaid for keeping ourselves afloat. Here is our family's situation, and the ways in which Medicaid is an essential lifeline to us.

Of the six people who live in my house, I am the only one without a disability.

- My husband and my daughter who lives with us has autism as well as multiple life-threatening food allergies. She has Medicaid and Medicare

- oShe and requires constant supervision to remain safe, yet she also only receives 3 ½ hours per day of Medicaid Personal Care Attendant hours. I also receive 11 hours per WEEK of respite care on her behalf, which greatly helps me keep my sanity.

- oShe also has a job, but is only able to work 2 ½ hours per WEEK at that job, because that is all the Medicaid-based job coaching services will pay for. If she loses her job coach, she will lose her job (and no longer be a tax-paying citizen).

- oShe also attends twice a week a mental health therapy group, funded by her Medicaid, which is very helpful in teaching her behaviors that will help her to continue to be able to live in a home-based environment (rather than an institution).

- oHer medication costs are over \$1,000 per month, and the Medicare co-pays are fully paid for by Medicaid.

- A non-family member with Down's Syndrome lives with us, and by her staying with us we are keeping her out of an institution (both her parents are deceased). She, too, has Medicaid Personal Care Attendant hours, Respite hours, and job coaching services. If she lost these services, she would lose her job, as well as place huge amounts of stress on our family. In addition, she receives 1:1 counselling (funded by Medicaid) to help her with social skills as well as grief processing from the loss of her parents. She also receives extra help (through Medicaid) with her prescription drug costs (about \$200 per month).

- The other three people who live with me do not have Medicaid, but are on fixed incomes and are limited in their ability to contribute to caregiving services for the household. If Medicaid is cut for the two people described above, the rest of the family members would have trouble "picking up the slack." Their needs are as follows...

- oMy sister-in-law, for whom I am a guardian, has a seizure disorder, developmental delay, and psychosis not otherwise specified. She has frequent outbursts of anger, which sometimes turn violent, in addition to complex health needs due to her being sixty years of age.

- oMy elderly mother, who lives with us, has chronic pain from a back fusion as plus complex medical needs.

- oMy husband is on disability, and is unreliable in his ability to help me with the needs of the household. Further, I must frequently assist him with various aspects of his own personal care. (As a side note, the Obamacare help my husband receives for his Medicare prescription drug costs greatly helps with his medication costs that exceed \$1,000 per month - half of his fixed income!)

I probably don't need to remind you of how much home care is saving taxpayer millions of dollars each year compared to housing all those clients in nursing homes! It seems to me that we're not asking for much in return... to keep the level of Medicaid assistance we currently have. Over the course of the last ten years, both Medicaid residents living with me have already received about a 40% reduction in Medicaid Personal Care hours. Please don't take any more away from us... we are barely treading "above water" as it is!

-Ruth Bacha

Date: 2017-09-22 20:43:14
To: My Senator
From: MARY ELLEN DEMROSE
State: Washington
Email: [REDACTED]



As an Elderly Parent of a Wonderful 53 yr old Special Needs Son & an active Member of the National ARC, I am well aware of the devastating effects of the Graham Cassidy Bill.

Please do not alter Medicaid that has successfully provided help to those less fortunate.

A Society is only as Healthy as its ability to Care for those who are not able to Care for themselves...

WE ARE ONLY AS STRONG AS OUR WEAKEST LINK ...

Date: 2017-09-21 19:02:15

To: My Senator

From: Cathy Murahashi

State: Washington

Email: [REDACTED]



I am the parent of 3 young adults who all have pre-existing conditions. My daughter has Down Syndrome and a congenital heart defect as well as other health issues, my other daughter has Type I diabetes, and my son has a brain injury caused by a congenital brain malformation that resulted in a stroke. Needless to say, healthcare is on my mind daily.

Two of them rely on Medicaid and my daughter receives Home and Community Based services that provide her with employment supports, respite, and personal care.

I also work with over a thousand families like my mine who have children with developmental and intellectual disabilities. They rely on their Medicaid services to keep their children alive and provide the supports they need to live in the community.

The Cassidy-Graham bill would gut the healthcare, supports, and services to families like mine. Do not Cap and block grant Medicaid, Medicaid is more than healthcare it is a lifeline to life in the community. Please kill this bill and work on bipartisan legislation that addresses the concerns in the healthcare market without devastating vital Medicaid services and protections. Families like mine are counting on you.

Thank you,

Cathy Murahashi

Date: 2017-09-21 18:48:32
To: My Senator
From: Jeanne Walter
State: Washington
Email: [REDACTED]



Dear Senators,

Please do not vote to pass the Graham-Cassidy Bill that is presently before Congress. Decades of work have gone into securing the Medicaid benefits that currently help our great Nation's Disabled Individuals. A nation is often measured by how it treats those less fortunate in our community. This is your chance to vote to protect the Medicaid that allows them to participate in work, civic and community life. Without the Medicaid funding, which the current ACA or Obamacare Repeal Bill will eliminate, disabled individuals and their families will stop having access to work programs, respite care, co-pay programs for lack of health care insurance, funding to get to medical and therapy visits, and many other programs to ensure the survival and improved life status of disabled individuals.

I want you to know our family will feel this cut personally. You say you are helping people in the middle class by passing this bill. Well, you are not. That is a completely false statement. My family is solidly middle class. We also have a child with Down syndrome. Our medical bills range from \$10,000-\$20,000 a year after our insurance pays their part. We have good insurance. Obamacare has helped many people in our situation to gain better, cheaper insurance. Insurance through Obamacare is also guaranteed regardless of pre-existing condition. The Graham-Cassidy Bill will cost out a lot of people with pre-existing conditions. If you don't believe me, wait for the CBO report for confirmation of exactly how many people will no longer be able to afford healthcare insurance before voting. This bill also eliminates breast pumps and other maternity care benefits. Many people need breast pumps who have children with disabilities as the newborns are unable to suckle. Without prenatal and maternity care, you will be putting the next generation at risk, along with their families.

Many families with disabled family members are worse off than my own. They will not be able to function without Medicaid. You will then see hospital emergency rooms overflowing from people post-poning health care visits. They will stop participating in community activities and work, their life blood.

Please do not vote for the Graham-Cassidy Health Care Bill. We are depending on you to keep Obamacare and Medicaid intact. Our children's lives are on the line. Without Medicaid, the logical conclusion is that many more disabled people will have to be institutionalized, a fate no one who is disabled wants. If you want to improve Obamacare, do your work. Hold public hearings, debate and follow your own procedures. Do not try to shove this down the American People's throats or it will be reflected in our voting.

Thank you for your time,

Jeanne Walter

Date: 2017-09-21 19:17:55

To: My Senator

From: Walter Abplanalp

State: Washington

Email: [REDACTED]



277 Tucker Rd we have a 33 yr old daughter with autism. She needs 24/7 care. We kept her at home until she was 31. We are in our mid sixties and want her to be prepared for the day we are no longer here. So she now lives in a group home and they allow her to live a full life. She depends on assisted living and Medicare to take of her needs. We think loosing these benefits will seriously effect her and many more living with disabities. Thank you for listening

Date: 2017-09-21 18:36:10
To: My Senator
From: Andrea Larsen
State: Washington
Email: [REDACTED]



I am a single parent caregiver and authorized representative for my developmentally disabled adult son. My son is now 48 years old and has been disabled with a severe head injury since an auto accident we were involved in when he was only 2 weeks old. He was covered under his father's and my medical insurance until age 18. For the past 30 years we have had to depend on Medicare and Medicaid for his medical care since he has never been able to work or care for himself. He suffers from seizures and requires medications to help control them. Without the help from Medicaid he would not be able to receive the medical care he needs.

There are so many other programs our government can look to for cost savings without putting this responsibility on the backs of people who cannot afford care they may disparately need.

I find it hard to understand how our elected officials can so callously disregard the welfare of all their constituents.

Date: 2017-09-21 22:34:01
To: My Senator
From: Sabrina Wood
State: Washington
Email: [REDACTED]



I am exploring you to vote against the new health care bill. This will unjustly affect my family. My son was born in 1993 with a genetic condition called Tuberous Sclerosis complex. However we could not have prevented his condition because he did not inherit a know disease. His was a spontaneous mutation. It affects every aspect of his life. Benign tumors in his brain, eyes, heart and kidneys. Causing epilepsy, autism, intellectual delays and behavior issues. He stated seizing at 2mo and had Brain surgery at 7yo. He isn't able to go to college or hold gainful full time employment like you or your colleagues. He had no choice in his health. He depends on Medicaid. He also has kidney tumors that require daily chemo type drugs to keep them from growing, rupturing and than losing his kidney. This bill would make health care unreasonable and unattainable for him. He would die from this condition that is manageable with proper care, Medicaid and medication. What if your child or grandchild fell into this lot in life? Is that fair? VOTE NO

Date: 2017-09-21 23:00:31

To: My Senator

From: Sandra Alexander

State: Washington

Email: [REDACTED]



I am a parent of a young adult with cerebral palsy. My son cannot speak chew food or walk with out a walker or use of wheel chair. He also has a lot of cognitive issues. Due to his disabilities he is unable to hold a job My concern is what are these disable people to do. If they can't work no insurance no necessary medical attention. A lot of these children and adults would die. In some cases a very slow and painful death. I understand there needs to be budget cuts and reform but why are the cut taken to the part of the population with little or no voice and unable to go out and change the status of their life. I can think of a lot of other things that could be looked out to cut the budget instead of hurting our most venerable population.

With cuts to Medicaid for my son would be devastating. My husband is now retired . Social Security would not allow my husband to keep him on our medical and dental policy without my son being penalized with reduction in his SSI benefits.

My son would be one of the unfortunate ones without proper and on going medical care would be hospitalized or dead.

With proper medical care my son has been kept relatively healthy and has never had to be hospitalized for his on going and declining health issues Which is cheaper preventive care of care after person becomes ill?

Date: 2017-09-23 18:12:41

To: My Senator

From: Donna Godfrey

State: Washington

Email: [REDACTED]



My daughter, Emma, is developmentally/intellectually disabled, as well as, having severe Reactive Attachment Disorder, Bipolar Disorder, GERD, hearing loss (wears hearing aids), Hep B that's in Carrier Status.....with a multitude of medical, mental, behavioral & emotional issues which is all covered under Medicaid/Molina Health and if she loses her Medicaid coverage we are both screwed!! As all her issues are 'pre-existing she'd have no coverage for anything!! Her meds for psychiatric diagnoses would be over \$1500/month.....I can't afford that, it's more than I make in a month being her full-time care provider but paid for only 3.4 hrs/day!! If this passes we will be forced into homelessness!! Plus I'll have raging out of control, psychotic on my hands and I risk being seriously hurt or worse!!

How can you people even sleep knowing what you are doing to other Americans?? Would you do this to your sister, mother, aunt, cousin, daughter or friend??? Put yourselves in my shoes and think about how you would survive and provide for your loved one!!!

I implore you to NOT PASS this Bill!!

Donna Godfrey on behalf of Emma Sill

Date: 2017-09-21 19:29:53

To: My Senator

From: Molly McCoy

State: Washington

Email: [REDACTED]



I am a single mom with a 14 year old daughter and a 12 year old son who has a random genetic mutation (does not run in my family and there was no way to know ahead of time) that causes Angelmans Syndrome. I have a Bachelors of Science degree (which I paid for myself by working while in college). I am healthy. I had my kids when I was 27 and 29 years old and was married. I have worked since the age of 15. I currently have a full time job in healthcare and run my own consulting business on the side.

My son is a joy to everyone he meets. He is the happiest person I know and gives unconditional love to anyone who needs it. He had enriched our lives, reminded us what compassion is, and he keeps us humble. He has also made me a better mom, better employee, better business owner, better healthcare provider and better person so that I can contribute to US society and the economy in a meaningful way.

My son needs and deserves community support and our community needs and deserves him. He receives Medicaid healthcare coverage to pay for medications to control his severe seizures and improve his life skills in therapy. This will allow him to grow up and contribute to society and the economy just like every other American. He also has Medicaid Personal Care attendants. These helpers keep him safe while he learns and plays and interacts with the world and they keep me safe by physically helping me care for him (ex. diaper changing help, help with activities of daily living, help with bathing and eating). Lastly, my son receives Respite Care Services which allow him to get out into the world with other people besides just his family. This allows him to become more independent so when I'm dead he can live on his own or with other people who have Intellectual or Developmental Disabilities and possibly have a job. That not only benefits my son and his community, it also means his older sister can work full time, pay taxes, and stay off public assistance because she will not have stay home and care for her brother.

Medicaid is NOT a handout. It is NOT optional. It allows people to contribute meaningfully to society and the economy and improve their lives. We do not choose to have children with special needs or family members with intellectual and developmental disabilities we are chosen to receive them. With support we can all benefit from these extraordinary people and learn to be better humans and better citizens. Medicaid makes America stronger because it allows ALL it's citizens to contribute.

Date: 2017-09-23 21:37:32
To: My Senator
From: Debra Brown
State: Washington
Email: [REDACTED]



I'm a right leg amputee and can't work so I need my medical to make sure I'm covered in awe something happens to my left leg I have clogged veins behind my left knee leave Medicare alone and miss with the rich people of the world and it there stuff but leave Medicare alone lots of people need it it's all we got

Date: 2017-09-22 00:21:12
To: My Senator
From: Julie Persitz
State: Washington
Email: [REDACTED]



Dear Senate,

Our daughter came to us 23 years ago at 5 weeks of age as a foster child. She was born with multiple medical handicaps including severe developmental disabilities , all of which are permanent and lifelong. After two years we were blessed to adopt Annie into our family legally and despite her ongoing setbacks and health struggles Annie has been the joy of our lives. She is a blessing to the community and a valued member of many social groups outside her immediate family. She is happy and daily brings value to the lives of all around her.

This would not have been the case had we not had the support of Medicaid and Medicare to keep her at home and provide the services she needs to survive in a loving home environment.

Please consider all those vulnerable and valuable members of our society who need our support and help when you make decisions for all of us. We have dedicated our lives to Annie's needs but we could not have done it without you and the support she has had over the years.

Please don't abandon her and so many like her whose very lives depend on the decisions you will make.

Thank you for remembering us all.

Julie and Jeff Persitz

Date: 2017-09-23 19:41:45
To: My Senator
From: Lynn Schoeneberg
State: Washington
Email: [REDACTED]



Hi my name is Lynn schoeneberg

I have developmental disabilities and intellectual disabilities I've had it for 33 years now please keep our Medicaid insurance. Because if I don't have my Medicaid insurance I will not have medical necessity stuff I need for my medical stuff and I would not have housing I would be homeless so please keep your paws off of my Medicaid insurance and I cannot afford insurance like regular people and I would not know what to do if I did not have my Medicaid insurance I would not be able to go see my doctor. And all my other friends I know have development and intellectual disabilities like me so please keep your hands off of our Medicaid insurance this is one top priority for us to keep our and save our Medicaid insurance please keep your hands off my Medicaid insurance it's already bad enough you guys already took Vision away from us and dental from us so we would have to pay out-of-pocket just to go see it eye doctor or a dental or if we need like hearing device which I am hearing impaired and vision-impaired on top of it so please keep her insurance and add on to our insurance of the Medicaid insurance and I'm not able to work like regular people due to the fact I have physical ddisabilitie. #save Medicaid insurance

And thank you for listening to my story so I hope you guys think real hard before you guys cut our insurance of the Medicaid insurance. So if you guys take our insurance away you're going to hurt the disability population like development disabilities and intellectual disabilities please save our Medicaid insurance we really desperately need this insurance to keep us independent as possible you will be taking our Medicaid insurance and taking their independence away.

Nicole Jorwic

From: Nicole Jorwic
Sent: Wednesday, July 19, 2017 5:39 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Washington

Sarah Rogers
[REDACTED]

When my daughter was born in 1982, the future was described to be bleak. So glad that proved to be wrong. After she graduated from high school, she got a job at a day care center. Her job coach worked so hard to keep her successful in this arena. They were able to complete Stars certification. Next it was time to explore living in an apartment with support. She has lived with assistance for 9 years now. Eventually her job ended, but she found one at a photo studio. She fills her days off in the community with Special Olympic swimming and bowling, art class, computer class and volunteering at her church.

She could not live such a full life if she didn't have the support of the Medicaid waiver program where she gets help with medical coverage, job coaching and her caregiver hours for her roommate. She also benefits from assistance with transportation through our local Access bus. Section 8 housing helps her with her apartment.

All of these helps gives her great self esteem as she continues to conquer new goals in life. If not, she would stay in our home where she would spend her days lacking motivation, watching TV.

We are very grateful for the Medicaid waiver program.



Maria Putman
[REDACTED]

This is my son Cory he is Autistic. He works at jack-in-the-box, wich he loves. He never missed a day of work. He works 6 days a week between 3 to 5 hours a day. This would not have happen if it was not for his JOB COACH, his JOB TRAINING, and PLACEMENT. He is a productive part of society. Cory is Learning to be independent, but unfortunately he will never be 100% independent. I will not out live him so he will need the support of SUPPORTED LIVING. So I ask save our Medicaid services



Christina Frye

I'm a job coach for adults with developmental disabilities!

Nicole T. Jorwic, J.D. | jorwic@thearc.org
Director, Rights Policy, The Arc

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Nicole Jorwic

From: Walter Abplanalp [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 18, 2017 12:08 AM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Washington State better health care bill

I'm writing to share my adult daughters story. She will be 33 yrs old at the end of this month. She was born with autism. She has little verbal communication skills. She can express her wants but she doesn't have conversations. She depends on Medicaid for her medical needs and her 24 hr. care. I took care of her at home as long as I could. She shares a home with another disabled adult. They share housing costs. She is looking for a job with the assistants of a job coach vendor. She is able to get out in the community with staff to do things that she enjoys. She participates in Special Olympics as well as art, bowling, swimming and going to church.

There are many people in my daughters community that would be devastated by the end of Medicaid. It is inconceivable how in this great nation we could throw these people off their care. This is a country that believes in the principles of caring for the weak and poor. I believe that the wealthy are doing just fine and will continue to do so without cutting Medicaid from the least among us.

Thank you for your time.

Nicole Jorwic

From: Janell Satterwhite [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2017 4:48 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Medicaid Matters to Me - in Washington State
Attachments: donor-thank-you-2012-SKCAC (1).jpg; Jamie and Cliff June 2017.jpg

TO Whom It May Concern,

I am the parent and legal guardian of a 33 year daughter who has disabilities, her name is Jamie Burger. Jamie's disability does not have a name, but basically she is a micro-cephalic and a deformed brain stem. She also in her teenage years developed a "Parkinson's like" disorder which causes her to shake and have moderate issues with walking and balance. She is at a mental age of approximately 2-3 years old. Jamie is very friendly, has a sweet personality and loves unconditionally. Our entire family and many friends have learned from Jamie's special ways about life that if we hadn't had her with us we never would have been able to experience.

The reason for this email is to express how CRITICAL our Medicaid program is to our Jamie and her co-workers at SKCAC Industries. Without this opportunity Jamie and many others like her would not have anywhere to go to live contributing, productive full lives. Jamie thrives in a structured environment and routine. She is so dedicated she actually doesn't like weekends, holidays or vacations. Without SKCAC Jamie would **wither away**. We have faced many challenges having a special needs child, now with Jamie at age 33 things are settled and running smoothly. Please don't take this away from Jamie and her co-workers, they need this!

Please do not vote to approve the revised health care bill, **WE CANNOT TAKE THIS AWAY FROM THESE DESERVING PEOPLE, PLEASE!**

Regards,
Janell Satterwhite

[REDACTED]
Auburn, WA [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Nicole Jorwic

From: Janell Satterwhite [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2017 4:48 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Medicaid Matters to Me - in Washington State
Attachments: donor-thank-you-2012-SKCAC (1).jpg; Jamie and Cliff June 2017.jpg

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Regards,
Janell Satterwhite

[REDACTED]
Auburn, WA [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Nicole Jorwic

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2017 1:04 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Senate Proposed New TrumpCare Bill

United States Senate,

As a Member of the National ARC, and the King County Parent & Family Coalition for the Developmentally Disabled, I am well aware of the Negative ramifications of the proposed Senate New TrumpCare Bill...

Our Wonderful 53 year old Developmentally Disabled Son has Medicaid, / Medicare. My 80 year old husband and myself (76 yrs old this year), are on Medicare.

We value Medicaid, Medicare, and All programs that Benefit the Elderly, Sick, Poor, and All Those Who Cannot Defend Themselves !

We All Know the New TrumpCare is a Tax Bill, not a HealthCare Bill....

And that an attempt to Prioritize Medicare by taking monies out of the Medicare Trust Fund for the Benefit of Wall Street, is an Economic Disaster.

Medicaid supports Nursing Homes, Hospitals, and all Medical Facilities, along with Caring for Those Less Fortunate....again, an Economic Dishevel, if altered..

Please DO NOT VOTE for the New TrumpCare Bill, which Benefits the Drug Companies, & others Corporations, on the Backs of U. S. Citizens !!!

Remember -----

WE ARE ONLY AS STRONG AS OUR WEAKEST LINK !

Mary Ellen Demrose

[REDACTED]
Bellevue, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Nicole Jorwic

From: Amy Miller [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2017 12:38 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Washington

Medicaid matters to me - because it means independence for my son. Although he is 6ft. tall and 210 lbs and 33 years old, cognitively he functions at the level of a 6 year old. This means that he has poor regard for danger and needs assistance with most tasks of daily living - including meal preparation, transportation, taking his many medications, and maintaining social connections so that he doesn't deteriorate into depression.

Medicaid means that he has a job 2 mornings a week, with a job coach. It means he has a personal care provider so that I can work and pay taxes. It means that he can be an integral part of our community, instead of a placeholder in an institutional setting.

Medicaid matters. Medicaid means he has a life. If you take it away, you will take his life away. Please don't.

Zach's Mom.



Nicole Jorwic

From: John Smiley [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2017 12:05 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Medicaid Matters to Me and My Family - WA 98052

My 39 year old daughter with developmental disabilities depends on Medicaid to be able to live and work in our community. She receives Medicaid Personal Care dollars to pay for her care provider in an adult family home. My daughter also has job coaches, Dental and HealthCare for Workers with Disabilities, all subsidized by Medicaid. She and the 4 other women in her home depend on these dollars. All of these women have parents that are aging baby boomers who are unable to care for their child at home.

Without Medicaid dollars where and how are these women supposed to live? WA State has 4 institutions where care is at least six times the cost of community living.

People with intellectual and developmental disabilities are extremely vulnerable. Many still live at home with their aging parents. Community based living is clearly the preferred and lowest cost solution. However, Medicaid funding is currently inadequate for the demand. Cutting Medicaid will be a disaster and drive many of these people to be homeless and be preyed upon on the streets.

Consider the perfect storm situation we are in. Thousands of people with I/DD live at home with their aging boomer parents. In one event, they will lose their parent(s), the only home they ever knew and, if lucky, be transitioned to an unfamiliar living arrangement. This population doesn't have the financial, intellectual, physically or emotional capability to exist without supports.

In our specific case, without Medicaid our daughter would have to live with her only sibling in their already tiny home; would likely lose her job since her job coach trains and negotiates for her at work; would be financially destitute at the first ER visit; and her health would suffer from lack of preventive medical and dental care.

If it's not Medicaid, what is it? For what are we trading these Medicaid cuts? A Medicare Tax break for the very wealthy? What a horrible choice!

Please retain Medicaid expansions under ACA and do more not less. Axing Medicaid would be short sighted and will greatly burden this family, community, medical providers and employers.

John Smiley
[REDACTED]

Nicole Jorwic

From: teri mckeehan [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2017 11:14 AM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: How Medicaid affects us in Washington State

Dear Senator:

In 2007, I left a career in management at a local grocery company to stay at home and care for my daughter who has severe autism, as there were few services for her after her high school years. I paid student loans to re-educate myself so that I could work at home, as my daughter needs 24-hour supervision. I do not sit around "waiting for free Medicaid," as Mr. Mulvaney sneered to the camera in an interview. Without my daughter's Medicaid Personal Care Hours she qualifies for, I would not be able to continue to care for her in our home, costing our state hundreds of thousands of dollars for her care. I know of no state that can afford to lose the federal partnership in Medicaid so that the rich and corporations can be give a massive tax break, and they will be forced to slash programs, jeopardizing the lives of 40% of America's children, our aged people, and America's most vulnerable citizens. Please vote NO ON THE CURRENT HEALTHCARE PLAN.

Nicole Jorwic

From: Georgia [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2017 11:00 AM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Washington

To whom it may concern

I am a 70 year old grandmother who is raising my 25 year old granddaughter that has co. Her mother passed away in 2006. Katie requires an electric wheelchair to get around. I bathe her..dress her..prepare her food among many other tasks. Through Medicare and Medicaid she is able to live with me and I can take care of her. With her age we have lost dental...vision as well as shower chair upgrades. Anymore cuts to this program will leave both of us with hard decisions. ~~Really not the way I want to live out my older days.I have worked since I was 20...contributing to Medicaid/Medicare~~ programs! I humbly ask for your consideration to not cut these programs. Sincerely Georgia Hayth

Nicole Jorwic

From: Carol Collier [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2017 10:23 AM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Washington state

As an Occupational Therapist I work with children birth to 3 years of age who are demonstrating delayed development. These are not just poor families, sometimes they are families who have been dealt a devastating financial blow such as having a premature baby. In all cases of families with Medicaid, they would not be able to get the medical care they needed without this assistance. Please leave Medicaid in place. It is the humane and moral thing to do.

Carol Collier, MOT, OTR/L

How you spend your days is how you spend your life.—Annie Dillard

Nicole Jorwic

From: Mary Hondl [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2017 10:06 AM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: WASHINGTON STATE

Dear U.S. Senators and Representatives,

PLEASE VOTE NO!!!

Our organization assists people with intellectual and developmental disabilities to train for, find and keep jobs in the community. Without Medicaid Waiver services, most of the 100+ people we serve in employment services would not be able to keep their jobs where they earn wages. Medicaid Waivers are essential to the health and well-being of people with i/dd, the elderly, and those needing help in our country. Please research and see the needs, not just the numbers—those huge numbers you see dwindle down to costing very little per person for basic inclusion into community life that many of us just take for granted. Please be inclusive and help the United States of America to be inclusive for all our citizens.

Sincere thanks for including all,

Mary Hondl
Production Manager
SKCAC Industries and Employment Services
[REDACTED]
Kent, Washington [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



Nicole Jorwic

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, July 16, 2017 10:39 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Medicaid Matters to Me in Washington State

Dear Senator,

Please vote no on the latest version of the Better Care Reconciliation Act. The latest revisions to the bill do **NOT** change the devastating cuts to the Medicaid program that over 10 million people with disabilities rely on to live and work in their communities.

Medicaid Personal Care assistance has made it possible for my son to continue to live at home while I work outside the home. I pay more in taxes than this program costs. I am an unpaid caregiver for my son for the rest of the time.

The Medicaid Personal Care program also allows many caregivers to be taxpayers as they are earning an income taking care of our developmentally challenged persons, who are not able to care for themselves or to be unsupervised.

These programs affect real people and it will be a real loss to both the developmentally challenged population and their caregivers if this program is affected.

Sincerely,
Donna McMillen
Washington State taxpayer

Nicole Jorwic

From: Uta Tipper [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, July 16, 2017 6:21 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Medicaid for Washington State

Senator Murray, Senator Cantwell,

Thank you for helping those of our population who depend on Medicaid.
We continue to need your help.

Our daughter is 53 years old. She's been medically dependent since birth, as well as developmentally delayed intellectually and physically.

Medicaid sustains her life! She needs daily help and support for her many medications, medical care, maintenance of physical care, which includes nutrition and hygiene.

Medicaid is truly sustaining her life and all the other 10 million people who depend on it.

Medicaid matters to us! It is desperately needed!

Thank you for listening,

Uta and Michael Tipper,

Federal Way, WA 98003

[REDACTED]

Nicole Jorwic

From: Colleen Edgeworth [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, July 16, 2017 2:12 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: WASHINGTON STATE - Medicare Matters to Me and My Family

Medicaid matters to me and my family... PLEASE DO NOT SUPPORT the Better Care Reconciliation Act. Please DO NOT allow the devastating cuts that are being proposed to take place.

As a single mother of a child with an Autism Spectrum diagnosis, as well as my own disability and health concerns, the current Medicaid insurance we have access to is vital to our family. My child is 19 years old and is finally able to receive services he's needed to help him transition into adulthood, attend college and - with continued support - be a productive, contributing member of our society. Without these supports, the odds are stacked against him. It's been difficult enough to find providers who will even accept Medicaid, and I know it will be impossible for me to financially pay for the services he requires without this insurance. My greatest fear? My son will fall through the cracks. He will become a dependent upon all social services in order to survive - and as you continue to gut those programs as well, you will have in essence tossed his life aside. Your propositions make people who do not have your "power", your connections, your money, feel as if they are lesser human beings. You DO NOT represent the people of this country when you make citizens of this country feel their lives don't matter. I fear my son will lose all hope without continued support and where that lack of hope leads him is my greatest fear...

For myself, I have both Medicare and Medicaid (only in the last two months as I am working part-time now). I have struggled paying for the co-pays and deductibles that remain for me with just Medicare. I started working and my medical premium doubled when I added Medicaid, but I need the safety of that additional insurance. I am facing medical challenges and aging... without the security of Medicaid, my family faces a difficult financial future due to the cost of healthcare. It is not easy for me to come up with that monthly premium, but I know I will eventually need the insurance due to some health issues, so I'm paying for it now and maintaining it as it gives me hope that I will be able to have the medical care that I am going to require. Now, I fear you are going to strip that security away... I will be faced with NO insurance or a "cheap" insurance that covers nothing... or it will not cover pre-existing conditions... or it will not be impossible to pay for. When does this end? Housing continues to skyrocket. Food prices (to eat healthy) are high. Everything costs more. I earn more than minimum wage and, fortunately, have SSDI as well... but over 50% of my income goes towards housing now due to the rental increases where I live. Don't add to this unsustainable way of life by damaging the health care we have. Improve it, yes! But don't strip it or try to fool us that this is "better care"... What is wrong with all of you?!

I have been in shock reading report after report regarding the cuts you plan to make to Medicaid. I cannot believe that our elected officials are so bent on this... it doesn't take a rocket scientist to

see how devastating these cuts would be to millions of Americans and their families. My son is 19 and a registered voter. He does not feel our current politicians care at all about the future of people with disabilities or his generation. It is difficult to convince him to stay hopeful in spite of what he sees taking place here just in America... His generation should be angry. We owe them more than this.

Please, do not support this act. It is NOT "Better Care". Who do you think you are fooling? It shows no regard for the people of our country. Who you should be gutting / going after to reform is the insurance industry (I worked in the insurance field for years so I know what I'm talking about!) and the drug companies. THAT is where a true difference could be made. Stripping those of access to care will only further demise our families and our country. My family will be ~~devastated without the care we need. You have made us and many other families feel as if we~~ are not significant. Our lives don't matter. I am sick of this mentality in our country. I am ashamed to be an American anymore. By supporting this type of legislation, you are ensuring a greater divide within our country and the demise of our society. We all deserve better than this. You should be ashamed of yourselves!

Colleen Edgeworth

Bellingham, WA

Nicole Jorwic

From: Nina Seven [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, July 16, 2017 12:39 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Medicaid Washington State

My son is 26 years old and has severe autism and epilepsy. He is non verbal and lives in an assisted living home. We kept him home until last year, but my husband has MS, so the burden of caring for both of them became too much. Medicaid is a necessary and life saving program for so many people with disabilities. My son is unable to work and receive insurance through an employer.

~~Taking Medicaid away from our most vulnerable citizens is so morally wrong, I can't even put it into words.~~

Nicole Jorwic

From: cheryl cruz [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, July 16, 2017 1:02 AM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Medicaid Matters to Me Washington

My son's name is Lance and he has been receiving services from Developmental disabilities for more than 10 years. Medicaid allows him so much more than medical, dental, counseling and socialization programs. He has also been involved in supported employed and training. He has been employed most of his adult life. He gets the job coaching he needs to remain employed and able to participate in an assisted living program where he learns independence. He pays rent and monthly bills, buys groceries, goes to the mall and makes friends. ~~Because he lives in the city job opportunities are more abundant.~~

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Nicole Jorwic

From: Julie Stone [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, July 15, 2017 4:44 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Healthcare Medicaid

Senators:

The Healthcare plan proposed doesn't work for today's constituency or the future needs of America I am a 73 year old resident of Washington state. I dread the future because of the course Obamacare issues have taken with this administration. Even before the current administration's proposals there was a need for comprehensive overhaul. I'm reading in AARP that soon the U.S. will have more residents over 60 than under five years. It is unacceptable that Congress consider cuts to Medicaid support, the fallback for seniors. Soon I'll make due with very low retirement. The one thing I can't predict for myself is the need to cover undiagnosed medical costs. I take care of my health to feel well and maintain independence. I will not vote for candidates or their causes and supporters at any level which cause worries about healthcare so poorly planned. This current proposal is unsatisfactory and for my family of further extreme concern for a disabled young adult.

I identified myself as a resident of Washington but consider that on this topic I'm a resident of the U.S. and I address my message to all representatives especially Nevada, West Virginia, Alaska, Louisiana, Ohio, Arizona, North Dakota who have concerns about the current healthcare proposal. I am proud to be represented by Senator Murray who finds the situation deplorable and is willing to work for change. I'm siding with representatives from my former home states of Vermont and California also willing to work on what is a national and universal issue, and every state representative willing to do the same. I want you to make cuts elsewhere and to come up with a plan meeting future needs.

Sincerely,
Julie Stone
Bainbridge Island, Washington
[REDACTED]



Virus-free. [REDACTED]

Nicole Jorwic

From: Ruth Bacha [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, July 15, 2017 2:56 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Medicaid Matters to Me - Washington State

Our family relies heavily on Medicaid for keeping ourselves afloat. Here is our family's situation, and the ways in which Medicaid is an essential lifeline to us.

Of the six people who live in my house, I am the only one without a disability.

- My husband and my daughter who lives with us has autism as well as multiple life-threatening food allergies. She has Medicaid and Medicare
 - She and requires constant supervision to remain safe, yet she also only receives 3 ½ hours per day of Medicaid Personal Care Attendant hours. I also receive 11 hours per WEEK of respite care on her behalf, which greatly helps me keep my sanity.
 - She also has a job, but is only able to work 2 ½ hours per WEEK at that job, because that is all the Medicaid-based job coaching services will pay for. If she loses her job coach, she will lose her job (and no longer be a tax-paying citizen).
 - She also attends twice a week a mental health therapy group, funded by her Medicaid, which is very helpful in teaching her behaviors that will help her to continue to be able to live in a home-based environment (rather than an institution).
 - Her medication costs are over \$1,000 per month, and the Medicare co-pays are fully paid for by Medicaid.
- A non-family member with Down's Syndrome lives with us, and by her staying with us we are keeping her out of an institution (both her parents are deceased). She, too, has Medicaid Personal Care Attendant hours, Respite hours, and job coaching services. If she lost these services, she would lose her job, as well as place huge amounts of stress on our family. In addition, she receives 1:1 counselling (funded by Medicaid) to help her with social skills as well as grief processing from the loss of her parents. She also receives extra help (through Medicaid) with her prescription drug costs (about \$200 per month).
- The other three people who live with me do not have Medicaid, but are on fixed incomes and are limited in their ability to contribute to caregiving services for the household. If Medicaid is cut for the two people described above, the rest of the family members would have trouble "picking up the slack." Their needs are as follows...
 - My sister-in-law, for whom I am a guardian, has a seizure disorder, developmental delay, and psychosis not otherwise specified. She has frequent outbursts of anger, which sometimes turn violent, in addition to complex health needs due to her being sixty years of age.
 - My elderly mother, who lives with us, has chronic pain from a back fusion as plus complex medical needs.

- My husband is on disability, and is unreliable in his ability to help me with the needs of the household. Further, I must frequently assist him with various aspects of his own personal care. (As a side note, the Obamacare help my husband receives for his Medicare prescription drug costs greatly helps with his medication costs that exceed \$1,000 per month - half of his fixed income!)

I probably don't need to remind you of how much home care is saving taxpayer millions of dollars each year compared to housing all those clients in nursing homes! It seems to me that we're not asking for much in return... to keep the level of Medicaid assistance we currently have. Over the course of the last ten years, both Medicaid residents living with me have already received about a 40% reduction in Medicaid Personal Care hours. Please don't take any more away from us... we are barely treading "above water" as it is!

-Ruth Bacha

Nicole Jorwic

From: Jo Zumhof [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, July 15, 2017 10:58 AM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Washington state

I would first like to introduce myself I am a mother a wife a sister, a grandmother, a disabled preschool special education teacher. At the age of 54 I successfully completed my masters degree in special education and early childhood. About 25 years ago I fell through a 2x4 on my outdoor deck my husband had to crowbar me out I had no visual problems except compression to the leg. I soon was to find out that I had regional sympathetic dystrophy. The only pain that can be compared to As a pain equal to stage 4 cancer. The stages of pain are everything from electrical to burning. I was able to ~~have the fortune of having a light case of RSD until my third year of teaching. I am in need of opiate pain management~~ where I see a pain dr for help. I have a team of doctors managing my case. Today I write from a physical rehab in desmoines Washington after my 12 day hospital stay. I was hospitalized from complications of RSD VEnus stasis and cellulitis with sepsis. Please vote for good health care for all. It is not a choice for me. I am on Medicare disability as is my husband we try to manage but it can. E hard at times we are both sick. Thank you

Sent from my iPhone

Nicole Jorwic

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, July 15, 2017 10:57 AM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Medicaid matters WA State

Dear Senators:

As a family living in Washington state, Medicaid matters to us. Having a daughter with an intellectual disability, Medicaid not only provides health care but long term supports and services. As a young adult now, she relies on Medicaid to help her successfully be included in her community. These supports are critical. Also, as she is an individual living with type 1 diabetes and any changes to the ACA are very concerning. She has the right to have a full, healthy and meaningful life. Please do not support any changes which would impact her and other families in Washington. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Betsy McAlister
Redmond, WA

Nicole Jorwic

From: teri mckeehan [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 14, 2017 6:58 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: How Medicaid affect me in Washington State

I am a parent that cares for my 30-year old daughter with severe autism in our home, saving our state hundreds of thousands of dollars in her care. My daughter is non-verbal and cannot make her needs known and is unaware of her own safety. She will outlive me and need 24-hour supervision and care for years to come. No state can afford to lose the federal partnership in Medicaid, and will be forced to slash programs cutting the life-line for access to community services and healthcare, cutting support out from under families caring for their loved ones with disabilities and jeopardizing the very lives of those with disabilities. Cutting taxes on the rich and corporate taxes that help fund healthcare and trying to make up that loss on the backs of America's most vulnerable citizens is unconscionable and immoral. NO CUTS TO MEDICAID FOR FUND TAX CUTS FOR THE RICH.

Nicole Jorwic

From: Molly McCoy [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 14, 2017 6:00 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Washington state no cuts to Medicaid!

I am a single, working mom (full time) with a typical 13 year old daughter & an 11 year old son who has a genetic disorder called Angelmans Syndrome. This syndrome was a random mutation, it does not run in our family & is not due to poor health or bad health choices. I am young & healthy, I have a Bachelors of science degree, I have always worked and supported myself & my family. I have a good job that pays well, even with all that going for me, I would not be able to continue working & contributing to the economy without Medicaid for my son. I work in healthcare, having a son with special needs makes me a better person & a better healthcare provider. My son is the light of my life & he brings joy & love to everyone he meets. He is a valuable member of society & has improved many lives just by being his amazing self.

We receive Medicare support to cover expensive seizure medications & medical care. We also have Medicare covered caregivers that come into our home & help take care of my little guy so that I can work & take care of other people in need. My son gets support to keep living a meaningful life & prepare him for community integration in adulthood (which saves tons of money & improves our whole community). Additionally, our family & community benefits from Medicaid support because I am able to serve my clients and keep the rest of my family off public assistance by supporting them with my salary.

If we didn't have Medicaid benefits now, my son would suffer, which is bad enough, but consider that I would also have to quit my job to stay home to care for him. This would cause me to need more public assistance to house & feed my son, myself & my daughter. If we don't have Medicaid in the future, no matter how much money I could possibly make, I would not be able to pay for him to live in an institution or have full time care. My son will soon be bigger than me, he's already stronger. Without Medicaid supported caregivers I will be injured (it's not if but when). With Medicaid supported caregivers, I can stay healthy & safe & my son does not need to live in an incredibly expensive institution. Medicaid does NOT drain public resources, it enables people to contribute to their communities & the US as a whole! My story is the norm NOT the exception! Those of us that use Medicaid support do so with gratitude & humility & the VAST majority of us want to contribute & be productive. DO NOT CUT MEDICAID! We can't afford NOT to have it! If you have any questions or want to understand how we effectively utilize Medicaid to be better citizens, please do not hesitate to call or email me.

Molly McCoy
[REDACTED]

Seattle, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Nicole Jorwic

From: Debbie Meyers [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 14, 2017 4:28 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Washington State

Dear U.S. Senators and Representatives,

Our organization assists people with intellectual and developmental disabilities to train for, find and keep jobs in the community. Without Medicaid Waiver services, most of the 100+ people we serve in employment services would not be able to keep their jobs where they earn wages. Medicaid Waivers are essential to the health and well-being of people with i/dd, the elderly, and those needing help in our country. Please research and see the needs, not just the numbers—those huge numbers you see dwindle down to very little per person for basic inclusion into community life that many of us just take for granted.

Please be inclusive and help the United States of America to be inclusive for all our citizens.

Sincere thanks for including all,

Debbie Meyers
Executive Director
SKCAC Industries and
Employment Services

[REDACTED]
Kent, WA [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



Ready to Work for You!

Nicole Jorwic

From: Ed and Pam [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 14, 2017 2:34 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: from Washington State

Our beloved son is 29 years old and lives with severe autism. He functions much like a two year old in a very large grown man's body. We depend on Medicaid to help keep him safe and to ensure that he does not suffer from pain. Medicaid is not for anything fancy; just the bare minimum to treat humans with a dose of dignity. Pam Otton, mom and legal guardian of Geoffrey Mark Otton

Nicole Jorwic

From: Jim Larson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 14, 2017 12:37 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Washington

When our organization mailed out an informational flyer (see below) to parents and advocated for people with intellectual/developmental disabilities many called in and didn't realize the extent of the services offered to their son or daughter that they utilized to ensure that their son or daughter could live, inclusively in their community. Congress cannot even entertain the notion to cut back on ~~Medicaid without considering the negative effect on millions of individuals who need support to live~~ normal productive lives in our country.

Also with the "Better Care Reconciliation Act of 2017" the notion of eliminating pre-existing conditions, higher premium for seniors (read people with disabilities) is atrocious.

The bill:

- Still contains provisions to deconstruct, cap, and cut \$770B in Medicaid funding
- Still allows for waivers to eliminate the essential health care benefits;
- Still allows for waivers to disregard the prohibition to discriminate against pre-existing conditions;
- Still eliminates the incentive to provide home and community-based services.

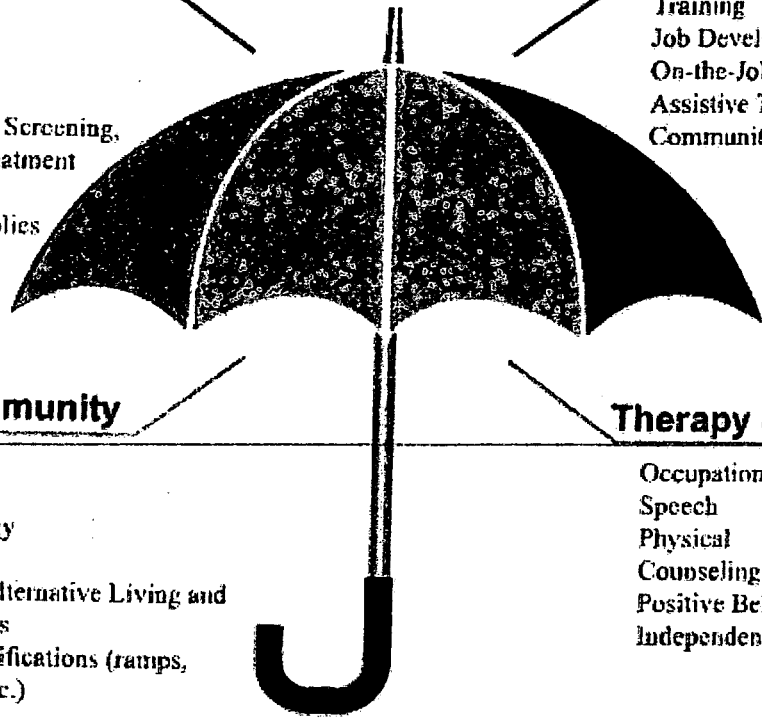
The promise made to improve just isn't true...The future would be very bleak for those individuals with disabilities who I know and care so much about. Why must we go backward. We should be making policy decisions that don't destroy but to encourage living and working independently in the community.

Health Care

- Medical
- Dental
- Mental Health
- Therapies
- Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT)
- Equipment & Supplies

Employment & Day

- Training
- Job Development & Placement
- On-the-Job Support
- Assistive Technology
- Community Access



Home & Community

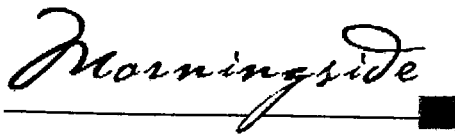
- Personal Care
- Respite
- Assistive Technology
- Skilled Nursing
- Supported Living/Alternative Living and Adult Family Homes
- Environmental Modifications (ramps, shower bars, lifts, etc.)
- Peer Mentoring
- Community Engagement

Therapy & Habilitation

- Occupational
- Speech
- Physical
- Counseling
- Positive Behavior Support
- Independent Living Skills

Thank you for voting no on this bill.

Jim Larson



Jim Larson | President/CEO
Morningside - Corporate

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Everybody Works – Everybody Wins