
NATIONAL LETTERS

Date: 2017-09-22 14:01:39
To: My Senator
From: Denise Tyree
State: Washington DC
Email: [REDACTED]



My name is Denise Tyree and reside in Washington DC. I am a single mother with a son that was diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder along with ADHD, mixed receptive language disorder, and oral motor apraxia. Due to the lacking supporting service in DC schools, my son get services outside of school. One of the main therapeutic services that he receives is Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) which is beneficial for a child or adult that have a developmental disorder to receive. Receiving ABA consistently is important and will help a child like my son Devaun become a independent member of our society. Since receiving ABA, Devaun knows his name when you ask him, address, and telephone number, and even though you cannot understand what he is saying he can answer these questions to a stranger just in case he gets lost. Devaun still have a problem communicating and articulating words, which is why he is also getting speech therapy. Dev is also getting occupational therapy due to fine gross motor issue and sensory process disorder which is affecting him to care for himself during daily living skills such as brushing his teeth, putting on clothes and ect. I've also have a Home Health Aide that comes in and assist me with my son. Again, I am a single mother with no other backup support, not even from so-called -family is not being a support. Without HHA services, I will not be able to run errunds, go to class, and ect. It will be difficult to get around. All of these services comes from with the benefits of Medicaid and if Medicaid is cut, and my son is unaware of danger, then congress might as well push children like my son' out in a dangerous intersection to get hit by a moving vehicle, meaning, you are putting our children at risk. Please vote no to the Graham -Cassidy bill. The question is " What if you had a loved one that is on the Autism Spectrum with limited language and communication and you have no other resources to get services" ?

VOTE NO TO GRAHAM CASSIDY BILL

Date: 2017-09-22 13:59:08
To: My Senator
From: Denise Tyree
State: Washington DC
Email: [REDACTED]



My name is Denise Tyree and reside in Washington DC. I am a single mother with a son that was diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder along with ADHD, mixed receptive language disorder, and oral motor apraxia. Due to the lacking supporting service in DC schools, my son get services outside of school. One of the main therapeutic services that he receives is Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) which is beneficial for a child or adult that have a developmental disorder to receive. Receiving ABA consistently is important and will help a child like my son Devaun become a independent member of our society. Since receiving ABA, Devaun knows his name when you ask him, address, and telephone number, and even though you cannot understand what he is saying he can answer these questions to a stranger just in case he gets lost. Devaun still have a problem communicating and articulating words, which is why he is also getting speech therapy. Dev is also getting occupational therapy due to fine gross motor issue and sensory process disorder which is affecting him to care for himself during daily living skills such as brushing his teeth, putting on clothes and ect. I've also have a Home Health Aide that comes in and assist me with my son. Again, I am a single mother with no other backup support, not even from so-called -family is not being a support. Without HHA services, I will not be able to run errands, go to class, and ect. It will be difficult to get around. All of these services comes from with the benefits of Medicaid and if Medicaid is cut, and my son is unaware of danger, then congress might as well push children like my son' out in a dangerous intersection to get hit by a moving vehicle, meaning, you are putting our children at risk. Please vote no to the Graham -Cassidy bill. The question is " What if you had a loved one that is on the Autism Spectrum with limited language and communication and you have no other resources to get services" ?

VOTE NO TO GRAHAM CASSIDY BILL

Nicole Jorwic

From: Halima Jabulani [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 19, 2017 12:04 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Medicaid

My daughter, who has Autism, receives almost all of her medical care from Medicaid. The destruction of Medicaid would destroy my daughter. Medicaid must be preserved. Halima M. Jabulani.

Nicole Jorwic

From: Brenda Lawrence [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 18, 2017 12:59 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Medicaid

Please include these thoughts when you send any messages about Medicaid. My husband and I have two children who are disabled. We could not have made it had it not been for Medicaid. Please encourage the Senators and congressmen to revise this bill for the better of our disabled American. May God bless you, Brenda Lawrence

Nicole Jorwic

From: RoseMarie Aldred [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 18, 2017 9:01 AM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Medicaid cuts

My daughter is 33 years old and developmentally disabled. Medicaid is her lifeline to society. It's not just for medical, she gets a lot of services from Medicaid that actually allow her to live in the community and be a productive member of society. My daughter lives in an assisted living facility for adults with disabilities, giving her the opportunity to live in the community like a normal person. Without the funding she receives this would not be possible. In addition, she has job coaching services and residential habilitation, all funded via the Medical Waiver program, an extension of Medicaid. Because she has job coaching services, she is able to work 3 to 4 days a week, which also cuts down on what the government pays her in disability, that's a cost savings to the taxpayers.

Not everyone on Medicaid is just working the system.

Until anyone walks a day in a parent's or guardian's shoes that has a loved one with disabilities, you will never know what it's like and how difficult life is for everyone involved.

Furthermore, if the cuts to Medicaid stay in the new health care bill, then how will my adult daughter have access to good medical care, doesn't she deserve the same care as the rest of society?

My daughter is not a second class citizen, she didn't ask to be born with part of her brain missing for no unknown explanation.

I urge you to please not cut Medicaid for those who really need it, the vulnerable ones in our society.

I pray for all of you to make the right decision.

Sincerely,
RoseMarie Aldred

Nicole Jorwic

From: Andrea Casazza [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2017 10:34 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: MY FAMILY'S DESPERATE. PLEASE VOTE NO.

Dear Ms. Jorwic,

My name is Andrea, who is the mother to an incredible disabled 21-year-old young man with Asperger syndrome, anxiety and a cardiac condition. In addition to that, I am a wife of a veteran who has leukemia, had a stroke and went completely deaf. Our lifestyle and finances have changed tremendously.

We, the families of our disabled love ones, we're not in any great position to subsidize any amount changes to our children's medical aid or healthcare.

I am writing to you today to beg you to vote no to the changes for Medicaid, please.

Our love ones not only depend on us, they depend on the amount allotted to them to help them survive and get through life.

Please take this letter into consideration when voting. Please vote NO.

The lives of our disabled love ones matter and the changes to their lifestyles and healthcare are in your hands.

Sincerely,
Andrea Casazza

Nicole Jorwic

From: Patricia Bruley [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2017 10:25 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Medicaid

My disabled son is on ssi he works part time this money is never going to make him totally independent but it helps in so many ways please think about our special needs people do not make anymore cuts please reconsider. Thank you

--
Patty Bruley

Nicole Jorwic

From: Lori Furton [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2017 7:41 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Medicaid cuts

My name is Lori Furton, I have a 20 year old son who has autism. Medicaid helps my son to participate in activities both educational and social which he wouldn't be able to otherwise. He gets much needed assistance from community living support staff that takes him out into the community and works on life skills with him. Medicaid allows him to get psychiatric care and support coordination through Community Mental Health, it also pays for medications that he needs to function daily. Cutting the Medicaid budget would be devastating to individuals with disabilities who are already forced to live at or below poverty level. Please do not cut Medicaid funding.
Sent from my iPhone

Nicole Jorwic

From: David Withnell [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2017 6:37 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Letter writing campaign

My daughter is 14 years old and has an intellectual disability. Without Medicaid her future can only be described as dismal. Please do not eliminate Medicaid especially for those with disabilities.

Thank you.

David Withnell

Nicole Jorwic

From: Linda Deleon [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2017 6:13 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Medicare matters

Hello

I am a mother of a Special Needs Child. He is 18 years old now, but his abilities do not function at this level. I am a mother with health problems, so I needs to know he will have services available to help him when needed. Do not take mess with Medicare in any way. You hurt everyone when you do. Every person needs to be a part of society however they can. Sometimes that is with help.

Linda Deleon

Nicole Jorwic

From: V A Curry [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2017 5:20 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Keep Medicaid for my nephew

Vote NO on the Medicaid cuts. My family will be hurt by this.

Nicole Jorwic

From: Chris Santoro [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2017 4:17 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: PLease save Medicaid

My elderly brother, for whom I act as guardian, has enough money left to him by our mother in his Supplemental Needs Account to last him only another year or two, at most. After that, as a victim of autism and dementia, with difficult walking due to edema, incontinence and various other illnesses, his only care option will be a nursing home. I hope there will still be safety nets in our society for my brother and people like him.

Chris Santoro

Nicole Jorwic

From: Marilyn Caulkins [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2017 12:40 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: No on Trump Care

Sent from my Verizon Wireless 4G LTE DROID We rely on Medicare and Medicaid for our family. We have a 36 year old son with Down Syndrome who lives with us and cuts to medicaid would be devastating to us in order to keep him independent in the community. Please revise the ACA as promised as my premium is going to be \$806.00 and I rely on Social Security of \$1305.00 per month. My husband is also on social security as his only income . Respectfully Marilyn Caulkins

Nicole Jorwic

From: Dashawnda Smalley [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2017 11:14 AM
To: Nicole Jorwic

Please do not cut Medicaid funding. It will devastate the country, in more ways than one. For this is not the solution, it is part of the problem. I can't believe the place we call America is being subjected to such rubbish as this. If this is what it takes to make America great, please stop, because America is suffering a bad fate. This cannot be good for our destitute of this country. This is simply disrespectful and a slap in the face for we have to fight for our freedom and the right to have affordability in medical care. The government is being run like some type of business, instead of for the people by the people. This says a lot about America. But cause a lot of the soldiers' families who fight these wars depend on Medicaid... And other state aid. This further impacts America if this continues... All this just to keep money in the wealthy man's pocket... Is very evil.. To take so much from people who have so little to look toward to., and the very thing they depend on...What if the tables turned tonight and the shoe was on the other foot..And the lawmakers have to deal with this sorry excuse of a bill, or you watch your family members die cause they can not afford to live. This money for medical funding was put in place to help America be great again. If the people are sick and can't afford to get well...what will America do...the country is run on the backs of the people...not congress..Please stop this Congressional mistake....This is suicide to America...Remember the golden rule.....taught in grade school.. Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.....America is not greedy.... Nor needy....please don't run the office in greed....do it for the need... For the country is going in a downward spiral.. Out of control.. Let's end this type of abuse. Stop the war on medical care... Americans should have this right

Nicole Jorwic

From: Linda Porter [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2017 10:21 AM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Medicaid Matters

My [grand]son, whom I adopted after he was removed from his biological parents by the child welfare system, has many challenges due to a neurological disorder similar to traumatic brain injury or Asperger's syndrome. His poor social skills, lack of judgment, executive functioning deficits, and problems with self-regulation and anger management all create tension for him in every channel of his life.

He falls between the cracks in all systems designed to help him. This means we rely on my meager salary to pay for services that are not covered by Medicaid. I am facing retirement challenges as a result and will likely need to work well into my 70's at a time in his life when he needs more services and supervision, not less.

I am aware my teen would have had to have extensive foster care services had I not raised him. It would have cost the State over \$4,000/month due to his behavior problems. I love him but there are days when I question how much I can handle. Medicaid makes it more bearable, providing mental and medical services, and medication that helps him function better.

Please do what you can to make health care coverage more affordable for my son and for me.

Linda J. Porter

Nicole Jorwic

From: Dena Condron [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2017 10:05 AM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Medicaid Matters

I have been working with children and adults with disabilities my entire life. Without Medicaid, many of these people would not be able to develop skills, live or work independently or, in some cases, survive at all. As a professional, I am concerned not only about the lives of the people I support but also the economic impact of the loss of services on providers such as hospitals, clinics and residential programs. Please do not allow this disastrous budget to become law.

Sincerely,

Dena Condron

Nicole Jorwic

From: Lawrence Lam [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2017 8:51 AM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Stop the Republicans' insane repeal/replace nonsense

Hi,

We have a 28 y.o. son with Autism who lives with us, and we're dependent on assistance from Medicaid. We're trying to get him to develop his independent living skills as well as improve his employability, and forget about it if his Medicaid funding goes away. He'll just end up a ward of the State, like thousands upon thousands of people like him. Guaranteed, that will cost society a lot more- bad public policy. With Medicaid, he's got a great chance!

It's better to fix Obamacare than to toss the baby out with the bathwater. It's just stupid insane politics in DC, and it's got to stop. And Trump's base is just as crazy as he is for sticking with him, the guy should be tried for treason, along with his crooked and criminal family of enablers. Having our lives endangered or worse, ruined by our Russian adversaries is something I never thought would happen.

I hope sanity is restored to the US and healthcare put on a better bipartisan track.

Larry Lam

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Nicole Jorwic

From: Fern Garner [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, July 16, 2017 4:52 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Save Medicaid

To the politicians who hold our lives in their hands, do not cut Medicaid, as this will cause great suffering to disabled citizens who currently live and work in the community, curtailing their ability to do so in the future.

Nicole Jorwic

From: Ricki Sabia [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, July 16, 2017 12:27 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Statement on Medicaid

This is from my son Steve Sabia (Rockville MD). He gave permission for you to use it.

My name is Steve Sabia. I am 25 years old. I have Down syndrome. I live in an apartment with my friend Eli. We both have people helping us. They are paid by Medicaid. They help us cook, clean, grocery shop and do laundry. They also take us places. We can't drive. People also help us with jobs. They are paid by Medicaid too. I want to be the best I can be. Please save my independence. Don't cut or cap Medicaid.

Ricki Sabia, J.D.
Senior Education Policy Advisor
National Down Syndrome Congress
[REDACTED]

Nicole Jorwic

From: anorine f. Anderson [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, July 15, 2017 9:55 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Hi, Medicaid matters!!

My daughter is a disabled, 41 yr. Old. She has Cerebral palsy, Epilepsy, deaf, and cognitive delays. Medicaid helps her in her every day life!! She lives with us, her parent's, and CAREGIVERS, and on the IRIS program. She also, attends, day services, 3 days a week. She has only a small Social security check, that takes care of her room and board, and personal supplies. Everything from medical, transportation, daily living,, etc., is paid from Medicaid, Medicare. This is a wrong CHOICE for WE the PEOPLE!!! It affects disabled, elderly, veterans!! Make the RIGHT CHOICE, vote NO to the Medicaid cuts!! Thank you!! Sincerely, worried caregiver, mother, Ann

Nicole Jorwic

From: Bryan Blakely [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, July 15, 2017 6:23 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: My brother's life . . .

. . . depends on Medicaid, please don't kill him.

Sent from my iPhone

Nicole Jorwic

From: Joan Young [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, July 15, 2017 4:27 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: My name is Joan young. I am 75. How can I die in peace? Mytson needs 24 hour care

Sent from my iPhone

Nicole Jorwic

From: Cris Marchionne [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, July 15, 2017 12:31 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Nevada West Virginia Alaska Louisiana Ohio Arizona North Dakota Kansas New York

Hello

I am disabled and I live in New York. I have family and friends in Nevada, West Virginia, Alaska, Louisiana, Ohio, Arizona, North Dakota and Kansas who are disabled. Many receive long term supports and services through Medicaid using the Home and Community Based Services Waiver. With the proposed Better Care Reconciliation Act there are deep cuts to Medicaid, almost a trillion dollars and this will negatively impact the quality of life for me and my family/friends. Many receive supports from Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) or Personal Care Attendants (PCAs) to ensure all of our daily living needs such as getting dressed, supporting us in the classroom or at work (our jobs) and participating in many activities in our communities, the cities we live in. Without these supports we could not live at home or go to our jobs, schools or participate in ordinary things, including voting. Many of us rely on DSPs/PCAs to keep us involved and included in our community, with our friends and family as they want us including in their lives and we deserve the right support to keep us involved and included. Without this support, from real people, we would be excluded and receive Worse Care, not better care. Our lives depend on the support we receive from DSPs/PCAs in order for us to have a life, have liberty and the pursuit of happiness. If the BCRA is passed it will only result in institutionalization, we will be forced to move into nursing homes or large facilities as many politicians believe this is more affordable and more importantly many politicians do not realize that disabled people want a life and can have a life with the appropriate supports. We deserve to have the chance to work, go to school, a baseball game, vote, shop for clothing and food or drive a car...millions of us need direct support in order to have the opportunity to do these things. I urge the US Senate to speak to disabled people, especially disabled people who have made so much progress with supports through Medicaid and the Home and Community Based Services waiver. Talk to us, get to know us and listen to our life-experiences so you can learn/know we are valuable, we contribute to our communities, our families and the economy. Right now you are scaring us with this bill and how you view disabled people. Please know that Medicaid is a good resource for medical care, however it is viable and irreplaceable source for disabled people to live, just like abled-bodied people. Please hear our voices. Please listen to our experiences, knowledge and view us as valuable citizens.



cRis marchioNNe
executive director

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Staten Island, NY [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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Nicole Jorwic

From: NANCY Pendley [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, July 15, 2017 1:44 AM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Medicaid

I am writing because I am the Grandmother/ custodian of my 16 year old Grandson..he has learning disabilities, ADHD, autism, as well as having several medical issues...Medicaid pays for his Speech classes, Reading classes, Occupational therapy and many other treatments he needs..he has asthma, a sunken chest and scoliosis of the spine..As much as I love him, I am on retirement pay and could not give him the proper care he needs if he did not receive Medicaid. . as much as I would love to say, "No problem, he is doing well and we don't need you ", that isn't the truth..I worked for 30 years in the mental health field and I know the importance of this program.. the government provides for everything else..we need to take care of the ones who can't fight for themselves. ..

Nicole Jorwic

From: Jane [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 14, 2017 8:55 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Save Medicaid

My daughter receives Medicaid benefits which allows her to have a good quality of life. The services she receives with Medicaid allows her to volunteer in her community with dignity and grace. The non profit agency which provides services cannot exist without Medicaid to compensate to provide these services. DO NOT TOUCH Medicaid. I remember Trump saying explicitly Medicaid would not be touched.

Sent from my iPhone

Nicole Jorwic

From: Jim Szabo [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 14, 2017 8:54 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Proposed Medicaid Cuts

I have a special needs 22 year old daughter who lives in a group home in Maple Shade and goes to day program This is essential for her physical,emotional and mental health and wellbeing.

I work full time and do not have the resources to provide what she receives at the group home and day program. It would be devastating to put her in an institution.

New Jersey
Thank you
James Szabo

Nicole Jorwic

From: Thomas Tomsky [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 14, 2017 8:29 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: My Daughter

I am writing to you to please vote NO on the Medicaid cuts that would adversely effect people like our profoundly disabled daughter Alesa's care and quality of life.

~~We remain in close contact with each of those individuals directly providing her with 24 hours a day service allowing her to survive.~~

My Wife, Alesa our daughter, and I have struggled since her birth to comfort and uphold her medical, emotional, and quality of life needs, not to mention the deep sense of loss and pain that haunts our relationship ever since the day she was born.

Thank You for your vote that maintains daily health and comfort to others as parents and legal guardians, and on her behalf.

Sincerely,

Thomas W. Tomsky

Sent from my iPhone

Sent from my iPhone

Nicole Jorwic

From: Nancy Ruecker [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 14, 2017 4:48 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Medicaid funding

Hello, My name is Nancy Ruecker and I have a mentally handicapped 39 year old son who has autism. He has the body of a man but mind of a very young child. He has always lived at home with our family. He is in a wonderful day program from 9 to 3 each day. It is a joy for him to have a place to go most days to be with others his age. It is a relief for me to have free time to get many things accomplished and just have some free time to relax and enjoy. Ryan and I would ~~both be devastated not to have this program. He learns how to get along with others and works on skills that involve~~ group participation in his program. I assume he will live with me as long as I am capable so I really do cherish my down time. Without it I probably would become distraught and depressed. I know that the government wants to curtail overspending but I beg you to consider the parents of adults and children with disabilities. Thank you for your consideration. Most Sincerely, Nancy Ruecker

Nicole Jorwic

From: Tabitha Weaver [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 14, 2017 4:35 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Medicaid Recipient

Our Adult Son was born with a Moderate/Severe IDD. He has been receiving Medicaid and SSI since 2013 and is in the Medicaid Waiver Program HCS. Our Son isn't able to take care of himself or get a job where he can work on his own without close supervision. He depends on Medicaid so he can live at home, receive medical care and medications he takes daily. If the Medicaid Funds are drastically cut it would affect his HCS Services and it would be difficult for him to afford his medications and Dr visits. Some of his medications cost over \$300.

It's not right that the Senators feel these Cuts are necessary and want to hurt our most Vulnerable Residents. They need to spend time with Groups of Disabled Adults and see for themselves what their lives are like.

Tabitha Weaver

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

Nicole Jorwic

From: Mike Richard [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 14, 2017 2:55 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Please don't cut Medicaid

Dear President Trump and Senators,

Medicaid is important for individuals with disabilities like me.

~~Please do not cut Medicaid.~~

Sincerely,

Michael Richard

Nicole Jorwic

From: Laura Alasadi [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 14, 2017 2:31 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: medicaid

I am on medicaid and i need it because I have serious Health Issues that I need to take medicine for the rest of my life. I am also going to Network Clubhouse which I volunteer in the kitchen and also the donation room. I help with putting donations away. I also help the members with anything they need. I am also on the DWMHA Board for the CV. I also see a Doctor at southwest solutions for not able to sleep and panic attacks along with depression and anxiety.

~~Please keep our medicaid dollars where they been. A lot of need this. I am also asking for other that cant speak for themselves too.~~ Laura Alasadi

Nicole Jorwic

From: jim granse [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 14, 2017 12:40 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Medicaid,

I have a daughter wit Cerebral Palsy & she need Medicaid for her better health & living so please help to save Medicaid.
Thank you Jim Granse.

Nicole Jorwic

From: Betty Bahadori [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 14, 2017 12:51 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Cyrus is on a Medicaid Waiver

Medicaid matters to me, because my son, Cyrus, is 30 years old and has severe Autism. A medicaid waiver funds his 24 hour a day staff. Unable to communicate, use the toilet or shower independently, navigate the community independently in a safe manner, use the stove, and do so many daily tasks without assistance, this funding literally keeps Cyrus alive and well.
