# NO MEDICAID CUTS

## The Republican Plan for Medicaid Will Harm Kids

#### **Medicaid Is A Lifeline for Children**

**Nearly <u>38 million kids</u> are enrolled in Medicaid** and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), covering around <u>2 in 5 children</u> in the United States. Kids account for nearly 50% of total program enrollment in Medicaid/CHIP. Medicaid also covers more than 40% of all births.

More than 1 in 3 kids in the median school district rely on Medicaid for access to comprehensive and preventive health services. Children enrolled in Medicaid miss fewer school days, are more likely to graduate from high school, grow up to be healthier, and earn higher wages in adulthood. Millions of kids receive school-based services, like mental health, through Medicaid.

**Medicaid covers** <u>2.3 million</u> **children with disabilities.** <u>Nearly half</u> of children with special health care needs, such as a physical or behavioral disability, are enrolled in Medicaid. Nearly <u>700,000 kids</u>, many with disabilities, rely on Medicaid for long-term services and support.

### Republican Cuts to Medicaid Put Children's Health and Coverage At-Risk

Every proposal on the Republican wish list of more than \$2 trillion in Medicaid cuts is bad news for kids and families—cuts of this magnitude would slash 1/3rd of federal Medicaid spending. These proposals include but are not limited to:

- Rolling Back Improvements that Help Kids Get Coverage and Keep It: Repealing or delaying
  the Medicaid Eligibility and Enrollment final rule would undo key protections for children enrolled in
  CHIP, allowing states to once again impose annual and lifetime benefit limits, lockout periods, and
  waiting periods for coverage.
- Cutting Coverage for Parents Through Work Reporting: Research shows parents losing
  Medicaid coverage puts health coverage and access at risk for the entire family. Republican
  proposals to impose work reporting requirements will result in millions of parents losing coverage—
  with kids also feeling the impact.
- Sabotaging States' Ability to Adequately Pay Providers:
   Republican proposals could represent a double-whammy for states'
   ability to ensure kids have access and health care providers are
   adequately paid. By shifting costs to states and limiting their ability
   to finance their own programs, often through provider taxes used in
   nearly all states, states will have to slash Medicaid reimbursement
   rates, including for children's hospitals and rural hospitals.
- Cutting Coverage and Services by Pushing Costs Onto States:
   Dramatically reducing federal Medicaid spending through proposals like per capita caps, shifting administrative costs to states, and cutting the federal share, including for Medicaid expansion, will force states to slash services, benefits, and eligibility, including for kids and parents.

#### **Bottom Line:**

Republican proposals to cut Medicaid will result in kids losing Medicaid coverage – and there is no acceptable coverage loss. No Medicaid cuts to kids to fund tax handouts to billionaires.

