Should Florida Expand Medicaid?

Expanding Medicaid will improve the health of Floridians.

Improve the Health of Adults in Florida

No Florida family should go bankrupt or have to choose between paying rent or their health care expenses when an emergency strikes. There are 877,000 Floridians who would gain medical insurance with Medicaid expansion. Medicaid expansion improves access to primary care and medications, affordability of care, utilization of preventive services, care for chronic conditions, and self-reported quality of care and health.

Improve the Health of Children in Florida

Florida ranks 44th out of 50 states in child health. Low-income children are more likely to receive well-child care if their parents are enrolled in Medicaid. Florida will reap long-term benefits by improving the health of its children.

Improve the Health of Veterans in Florida

About 8% of veterans under 65 have no health insurance coverage, including no VA health benefits. More than a third of these uninsured veterans live below the federal poverty level and would be eligible for expanded health coverage.

Improve the Health of the Working Poor in Florida

The majority of people in the coverage gap are in poor working families—either they or a family member is employed but are still living below the poverty line.

Help Fight the Opioid Crisis in Florida

Medicaid expansion will bring badly needed dollars to help fight our opioid crisis. Opioids killed an average of 14 people a day in Florida during the first half of 2016. Florida's per capita funding for mental health services, which includes drug abuse treatment, ranks 49th in the nation. Expansion increases the amount covered by federal Medicaid dollars for both prescriptions and other spending to treat opioid use disorder and opioid overdose.

Expanding Medicaid will improve the economy of Florida.

Medicaid Expansion is Good for the Overall Economy of Florida

Every comprehensive review in expansion states found that expansion improved state budget balances. The infusion of billions of dollars in federal money boosts the economy and creates thousands of well-paying jobs in health care. States expanding Medicaid realized budget savings, revenue gains, and overall economic growth.

Expanding Medicaid Gives Us Back our Tax Dollars

Florida pays federal taxes that pay for Medicaid expansion in other states…but none of those monies have returned to Florida! Expanding Medicaid would return that money to Florida to improve our health care and our economy.