



Monitor Implementation of the Medicaid Waiver

So Families Can Access
the Care They Need

A parents' health—and health insurance status—affects the health and well-being of other family members, especially their children. When parents are insured, they are more likely to be healthy so they can care for and provide for their child. Children rely on their parents to sign them up for health insurance and take them to the doctor. The single best predictor of a child's health insurance coverage is their parents' health insurance coverage, and health insurance is a vital component of access to health care.

While the 1115 Medicaid Waiver protects children and pregnant women from the potential direct negative impacts of premiums and reduced benefit packages, many parents will be significantly impacted by this proposal and face barriers to maintain coverage. Because parent health is critical to the well-being of children, parents and children on Medicaid must be able to maintain affordable health insurance and access the health care they need.

Many Kentucky families who will be affected by this Waiver face challenges, such as homelessness, and may be transient in where they live. Because of that, even the basic components of applying for Medicaid coverage or receiving updates about that coverage can pose a challenge for these families. Parents may be subject to harmful coverage lockouts even if they are duly attempting to meet their obligations.

If parents are going to improve health outcomes for themselves and their children, the Medicaid program must be simple for families to understand, participate in, and utilize:

- Offer adequate timelines for parents and other adults to report changes that may affect their eligibility.
- Ensure there are a variety of ways for recipients to report changes that may affect their eligibility, and offer help in person, by phone, and online to help parents understand how to meet their obligations.
- Ensure that the work and community engagement requirements do not unintentionally limit caregivers' access to coverage.

Blueprint for Kentucky's Children Solution:

Monitor implementation of the Medicaid waiver to protect against unintended barriers and ensure families can continue to access the care they need.



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