



**Medicaid is
not just a program.
It's a promise.**

NOAH Staff Talking Points

STARTING THE CONVERSATION

We're collecting thoughts from our patients about the proposed budget cuts to AHCCCS/Medicaid and mailing them to our Arizona representatives in Washington DC. Would you like to fill out one of our postcards?

ANSWERING QUESTIONS

What is Medicaid?

- Medicaid is health insurance for people who need help.
- It helps kids, seniors, people with disabilities, and families who work hard but still can't afford health care.
- In Arizona, it's called AHCCCS (say it like "access").

What are the proposed cuts to Medicaid?

- The federal government is considering \$880 billion in cuts to Medicaid over the next 10 years.
- Specific details won't be decided until the budget amounts are passed but Arizona is expected to lose \$1.8 billion in funding from the federal government.
- State lawmakers will then decide how to make up for that funding by either cutting programs or raising taxes.

Why is NOAH asking us to participate in writing postcards?

- Lawmakers need to hear from regular people, not just lobbyists or politicians.
- Half of our patients are covered by Medicaid (about 20,000 patients).
- Cuts will impact NOAH's ability to provide accessible healthcare for all.
- Everyone will be affected by cuts, not just people who use Medicaid:
 - Job loss, crowded emergency rooms and urgent care, increased healthcare costs for commercially insured patients.

What should I write?

- You can scan the code on the sign with your phone for a bunch of sample statements or I can give you a printed copy.



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Why do you need my name and zip code?

Each member of congress represents a district or piece of Arizona. We want to make sure we send your postcard to the representative who is responsible to speak for the area where you live.

Including your name helps prove that these postcards are written by real people.

Can I take the postcard home?

Yes, of course. You can take it home and mail it yourself or bring it back here and we will mail it for you.

Can I have extra postcards for my friends and family to send?

Yes. Take as many as you need.

What else can I do to help?

Call or send a letter to your elected representatives. We have a toolkit on our website with lots of resources including contact information for lawmakers, a telephone script, and more. www.noahhelps.org/contacting-your-elected-officials

COLLECTING POSTCARDS

Thank you for sharing your thoughts about why Medicaid funding is important to you. We will address your postcard to the assigned representative for your district and send it in the mail.