

Advocacy Toolkit



CLOSE THE GAP

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October, 2015



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Advocacy Toolkit

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January, 2016



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An in-depth explanation of why the coverage gap exists in Idaho, who's affected, and how the Healthy Idaho Plan works.

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You can find an answer to almost every question you might get about the coverage gap and the Healthy Idaho Plan here. This is a great document to share with lawmakers and the media.

Healthy Idaho Plan: Summary of Potential Legislation

An outline of potential legislation based on the proposal of a Governor's Workgroup. Use this to prepare for meetings with lawmakers and to share with your legislator if they have questions about what legislation would include.

Responding to Concerns

This is a "for your eyes only" resource with the top concerns you might hear.

Supplemental Materials

- [Close the Gap's Response to the Governor's PCAP Proposal](#)
- [Close the Gap Information Card](#)
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- List of Close the Gap Network Members (available upon request)

How To Use This Toolkit

A Guide for Advocates of the Healthy Idaho Plan



September 2015

Congratulations!

You are at the beginning of an exciting process where you can help solve a major problem in Idaho's health care system. This toolkit is designed to help prepare you to advocate for the passage of the Healthy Idaho Plan, which would close Idaho's coverage gap and save our state millions of dollars. The Idaho Legislature has the opportunity to pass the Healthy Idaho Plan during the 2016 legislative session.

By reviewing the resources in this toolkit, and sharing some of the materials with lawmakers, the media and your community, you will play a major role in helping to drastically improve health care policy in Idaho—and healthy Idahoans make for a healthy Idaho.

The Problem

Approximately 78,000 Idahoans lack access to affordable health care because they make too much to qualify for traditional Medicaid and too little to get assistance to purchase a health care plan on the Your Health Idaho health care exchange. This "coverage gap" hurts us all. When those without insurance have to get emergency medical care, we all pay for that care through taxes that fund county indigent funds or the State's Catastrophic Health Care Fund. When families are saddled with medical bills that they can't pay because they lack insurance, they face medical bankruptcy that can devastate their financial stability.

The Solution

The Healthy Idaho Plan is a solution to this health care crisis in Idaho. It is a one-of-a-kind approach to closing the coverage gap that could save Idaho millions of dollars and save lives. But we can't do this without your help!

Your Role

Whether you are an Idahoan in the gap, a concerned citizen, an elected official, or you work for an organization that is aligned with this effort, this toolkit can help you become a knowledgeable and effective advocate for the Healthy Idaho Plan.

Inside you will find background reading about Medicaid in general, the coverage gap specifically, and what Medicaid expansion in Idaho would look like under the Healthy Idaho Plan.

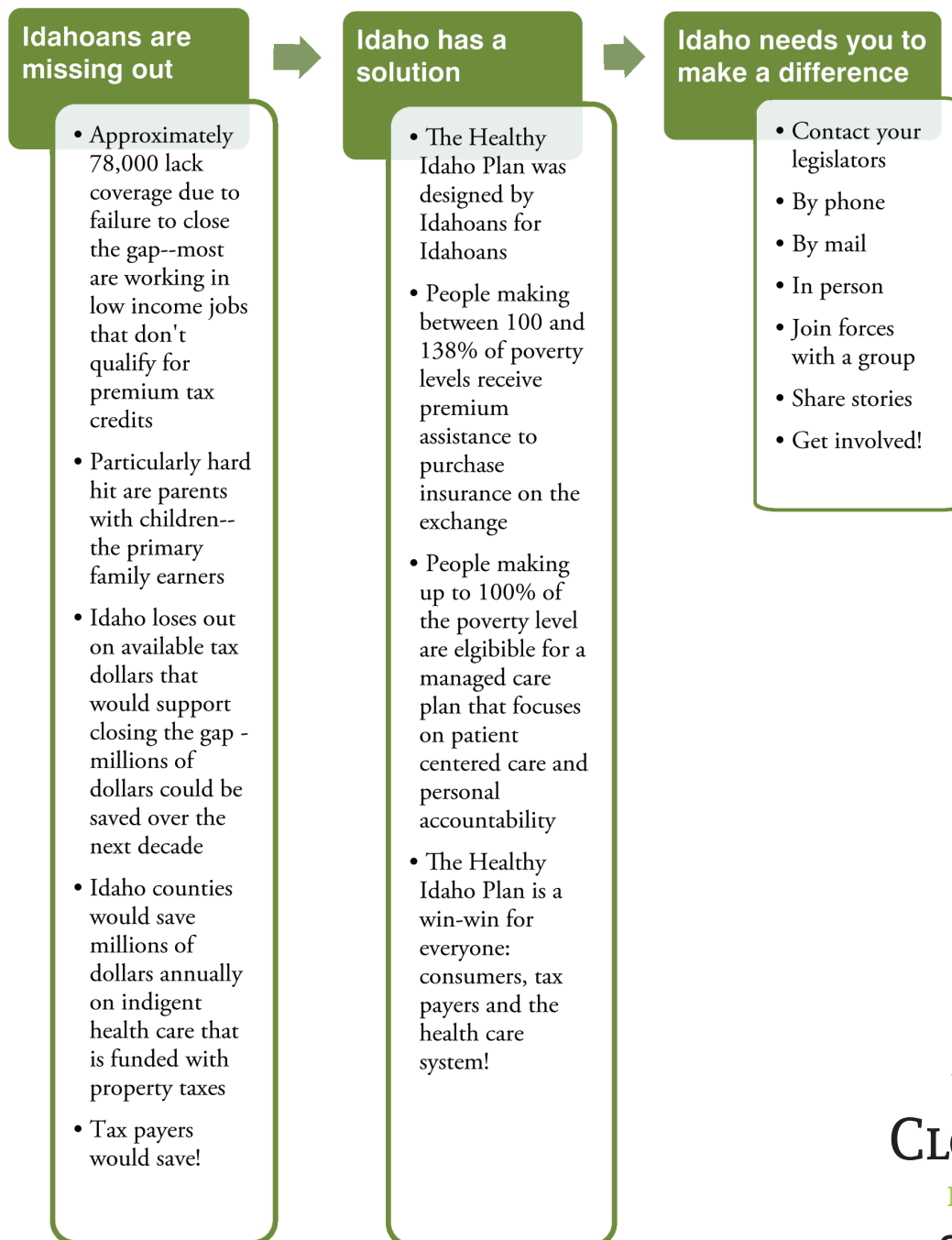
Next Steps You Can Take:

- Start by reading the entire toolkit.
- Refer to the Close the Gap Action Items to assess what actions you, your organization, or a coalition you would like to form could take to support this effort.
- Use the background materials to compose letters to the editor or op-eds to submit to papers in your community and throughout Idaho.
- Documents marked with an image of the Capitol are ideal to share with lawmakers. We even have a summary of potential legislation, which can be very useful in your meetings.



- Meetings with lawmakers could include legislators, but also could include county commissioners and mayors in your area.
- Ask for help and attend our trainings throughout the fall. You can find a list of trainings at closethegapidaho.org. We have online trainings available and are taking requests for trainings in local communities throughout the state.
- Contact Christine at ctiddens@ccidaho.org to give feedback and to share what you've done and what the response has been.
- Be savvy. Practice learning how to talk about this issue and what not to say. Be sure to keep any documents marked with a watermark for your internal use only.
- Share public materials on social media and post regularly about the coverage gap issue and the Healthy Idaho Plan. Our hashtags are #78000cantwait and #HealthyID. Help us spread the word about this important issue on Facebook and Twitter.

How You Can Help Solve the Problem



Factsheet: The Health Care Coverage Gap in Idaho



September 2015

What is the Coverage Gap?

Idaho's proud tradition of caring about families, friends, and neighbors is compromised when thousands of our fellow residents can't afford health care. Our policymakers have the power to fix this problem while saving state and local dollars.

While Medicaid provides coverage for many of the poorest Americans, and the new health care law provides tax credits to help many residents purchase policies, about 78,000 struggling Idahoans have been left out. They don't qualify for traditional Medicaid and earn too little to qualify for insurance on the Your Health Idaho insurance exchange. Thirty states, plus Washington D.C., have saved lives and money by closing the coverage gap, and Idaho should too. By passing the Healthy Idaho Plan, our state can help these 78,000 Idahoans receive the affordable health care they need.

The Healthy Idaho Plan Would Save Lives and Money

Extending coverage to these Idahoans would save the lives of between 76 and 179 men and women each year, and thousands more would avoid pain and suffering. Newly covered households would gain more financial security without the fear of incurring unaffordable medical bills.

The Healthy Idaho Plan would also help build our economy and save local tax dollars. By taking advantage of health care dollars already set aside for Idaho, the state and counties will save millions of dollars they now spend on emergency care for people without health insurance. This will make our health care system more efficient and cost-effective. This investment would generate more than \$700 million in new economic activity and create nearly 15,000 new jobs in health care and other fields in the first year alone.

Who Falls into the Coverage Gap in Idaho?

By and large, individuals in the coverage gap are working, but they are doing so in industries that typically do not offer health coverage to their employees. This is why waiters,

Top 4 occupations for Idahoans who could get covered:

- Food service workers – 11,000
- Farming, Fishing, and Forestry – 7,000
- Construction – 7,000
- Office and Administrative support – 7,000

Benefits of Closing the Gap

- Saves 76-179 lives
- Saves millions of dollars in state and county funds
- Creates approximately 15,000 jobs
- Generates hundreds of millions of dollars in new economic activity each year throughout Idaho

cooks, and other food service workers are especially likely to fall into the coverage gap. Individuals who work in industries such as forestry, agriculture and construction, where work hours and income goes up and down, are also likely to be left out. Idaho also has the second-largest percentage of veterans who are uninsured. Around 40 percent of these veterans have untreated medical needs.

What are the financial benefits of closing the gap?

Idaho's state and county governments already spend large sums of taxpayer dollars to help pay for health care for individuals with insurmountable medical bills. People without insurance often delay care until they are treated at hospitals and emergency rooms, requiring costly care that could have been prevented with consistent but cheaper care from a primary care doctor.

Businesses also would benefit from closing the coverage gap. Expanding insurance will make for a healthier, more stable workforce.

Idaho's Choice

Idaho has a choice: We can pass the Healthy Idaho Plan to close the coverage gap and save lives and money, or continue to leave these struggling families behind.

By choosing the former, we can improve the health and well-being of Idahoans in a fiscally responsible way.

But if Idaho chooses the latter and declines the federal funds available, Idahoans will continue to pay for emergency care for the uninsured in the old, inefficient way -- through our property taxes, state taxes, and higher health care premiums (since the cost of caring for the uninsured is often passed on to the insured). This will cost the taxpayers of Idaho - both insured and uninsured - millions of dollars while doing nothing to prevent the pain and suffering of our neighbors.

Idahoans Ages 18-64 Who Fall into the Coverage Gap*

County	Number	Margin of Error	Percentage	Margin of Error
Ada County	13,474	+/-1642	5.5%	+/-0.6%
Bannock County	2,894	+/-592	5.8%	+/-1.2%
Bingham County	1,684	+/-405	6.7%	+/-1.5%
Blaine County	727	+/-266	5.4%	+/-1.9%
Bonner County	2,233	+/-542	9.1%	+/-2.1%
Bonneville County	3,491	+/-740	5.8%	+/-1.2%
Canyon County	10,248	+/-1309	9.4%	+/-1.1%
Cassia County	943	+/-316	7.5%	+/-2.4%
Elmore County	1,228	+/-532	8.8%	+/-3.7%
Jefferson County	801	+/-260	5.6%	+/-1.7%
Jerome County	1,540	+/-399	11.9%	+/-2.9%
Kootenai County	6,098	+/-851	7.2%	+/-1.1%
Latah County	1,239	+/-378	5.2%	+/-1.5%
Madison County	1,230	+/-357	5.0%	+/-1.4%
Minidoka County	1,194	+/-404	10.6%	+/-3.5%
Nez Perce County	711	+/-229	3.0%	+/-1.1%
Payette County	1,636	+/-554	13.1%	+/-4.2%
Twin Falls County	4,053	+/-727	9.1%	+/-1.6%

Source: American Community Survey 2010-2012 Three-Year Averages (Table B27016), uninsured adults below the poverty level. Counties with available data are shown.



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Close the Gap Action Items:

Join the Cause and Take Action Today!



September 2015

Thousands of Idahoans have signed up for health coverage through Your Health Idaho, the new health insurance exchange. However, 78,000 Idahoans were left out because they do not qualify for traditional Medicaid but earn too little to qualify for assistance through the health exchange. We call this the “coverage gap.”

Closing the coverage gap would improve the wellbeing and economic security of Idahoans. It would also bring substantial savings to Idaho taxpayers because it would allow us to eliminate other costly spending.

We hope you will join our efforts and take action today. In this toolkit you will find ways to participate in this collective effort so we can together build a healthy, compassionate Idaho.

How You Can Help

1. Ask Your Legislators and Governor Otter to Close the Coverage Gap

Visit www.legislature.idaho.gov to send an email to your senator and two representatives. Here's how:

The screenshot shows the Idaho State Legislature website. On the left is a navigation menu with links: Senate, House, Who's My Legislator? (highlighted with a red arrow), Contacting Legislators, Committees, Legislative Council, Legislative Services, Budget Information, Legislative Audits, Office of Performance Evaluations, Redistricting Commission. The main content area shows 'Who's My Legislator?' with links to Interactive District Map, PDF District Map, Contact County Clerk, and Search by Address. Below this is a 'Legislative Contact Form' with a 'Send Email To: Senator' section. It includes a note: 'Complete the form below with YOUR contact information, then click Submit'. There are input fields for NAME and ADDRESS, both marked with a red asterisk to indicate they are required.

Call and leave a message for Governor Otter at (208) 334-2100 or send an email to Governor@gov.idaho.gov.

Or email legislative leadership:

Senate Pro Tempore: Brent Hill,
bhill@senate.idaho.gov

Speaker of the House: Scott Bedke,
sbedke@house.idaho.gov

- When you call or email the governor or member of the legislature, be sure to:
- Leave your name and address
- Say why you support closing the coverage gap, such as it saves lives, creates jobs, reduces health care costs, etc.
- Let them know if you or someone you know is in the coverage gap

2. Share Your Story if You are Living in the Coverage Gap

Are you one of the 78,000 Idahoans who fall into the coverage gap? If so, call 1-844-HELP78K to share your story (1-877-435-7785)

When you call, you will be prompted to leave your name, number, and the city or town where you live in Idaho. Your information will not be shared without your direct consent. A staff member from Close the Gap Idaho will call you back within one-week. Stories may be shared with lawmakers and the media—but only with your approval.

3. Show Your Support on Social Media

Follow “Close the Gap Idaho” on Facebook and @CloseTheGapID on Twitter to receive and share the latest updates.



Use #78000cantwait and #HealthyID to join the conversation.



4. Stay Updated on Close the Gap Activities and Alerts

Stay up to date on the coverage gap by joining our email list: <http://closethegapidaho.org/join/>

5. Meet with Your Elected Officials to Ask for Their Support

In-person meetings with your local elected officials (legislators, county commissioners and Governor Otter) are the best way to gain support for closing the coverage gap, especially if you meet in their home district. Be sure to prepare ahead of time for the meeting, and let us know if we can help by contacting Christine at ctiddens@ccidaho.org.

6. Send an Op-Ed or Letter to the Editor to Your Local Newspaper

We have great resources to help you draft an op-ed or a letter to the editor, including contact lists for newspapers throughout Idaho.

7. Write a Letter to the Legislature and Governor Otter and Ask Members of Your Network to Sign It

We have resources to help you draft the letter and then to send it to individual lawmakers.

8. Pass a Board or Council Resolution in Support of Closing the Gap

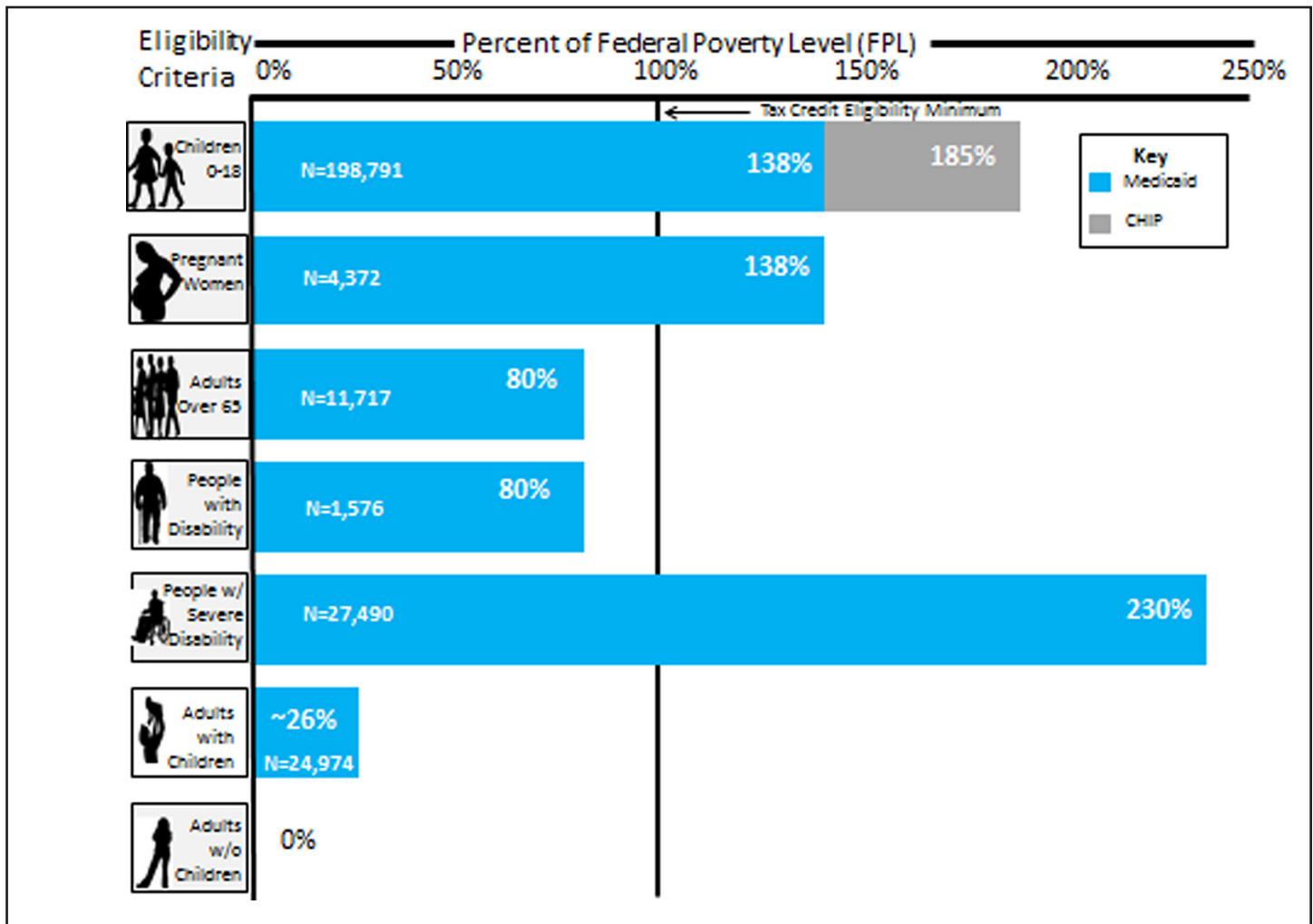
Another creative way to stress the importance of closing the gap is to ask your board or city council to pass a resolution. We can help with your campaign to do so.



Medicaid 101

How Traditional Medicaid Works

September 2015



When was Medicaid Established?

Medicaid was established in 1965 as a state/federal partnership to provide quality, affordable health care coverage for children, parents, seniors, certain residents with disabilities, and people with very low incomes.

Who administers Medicaid in Idaho?

The State of Idaho administers Medicaid through the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare. The state is responsible for safeguarding taxpayer dollars and ensuring that eligible Idahoans receive quality health care.

Who qualifies for Medicaid?

Ninety-percent of Medicaid enrollees in Idaho are low-income children, seniors, or people with disabilities. Two-percent are low-income pregnant women. The remaining 8 percent are parents with extremely low incomes who have children living in their homes (for example, an adult with one child must earn less than \$289 per month). See the illustration above.

Those eligible for Medicaid include low-income Idahoans who are: children under age 19; parents or other related adults with children under age 19 (only if their income is below 26 percent of the federal poverty

level); pregnant women; women diagnosed with breast or cervical cancer or pre-cancer; people with severe disabilities who have income below \$734/month; and people who qualify for nursing home care with somewhat higher income. Each of these groups has a different qualifying threshold to receive Medicaid.

To qualify for Medicaid in Idaho, an individual can apply in person at one of the Department's offices, online (idalink.idaho.gov), or over the phone. To receive services, all information provided must be verified with documentation from the family or through federal or state computer interfaces for all new applications, on all annual renewals, and whenever a household or income change is reported by the family. In addition to being financially eligible to receive Medicaid, individuals must meet the following criteria:

- Be a citizen or legal immigrant
- Be a resident of the state of Idaho
- Resources must not exceed the program resource limits.

How is Medicaid funded?

Medicaid is funded collaboratively by the state and federal government. In Idaho, approximately 70 percent of funding comes from the federal government and approximately 30 percent comes from the state.

How much control does Idaho have over Medicaid in our state?

Idaho is able to take its own approach to administering Medicaid through a unique State Plan and Waivers. Idaho's State Plan is a contract between the state and the federal government's Center for Medicaid Services (CMS). The Plan was re-written in 2006-2007, and the revisions made at this time simplified the program design; eliminated the need for some waivers, which allow Idaho to test new ways to deliver care; and aligned Medicaid benefits with patient health needs.

Does Idaho have a cost-effective Medicaid program?

Yes. Every \$1 of State General Fund invested in Medicaid purchases over \$4 of health care because the federal government matches the state's investment in this program. Of that spending, 97 percent goes directly to health care services for Medicaid participants, with just 3 percent going to administrative costs at the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare.

How would the Healthy Idaho Plan change Medicaid in Idaho?

The Supreme Court decided in 2012 that expanding Medicaid to provide coverage to more low-income people, as part of health care reform, would be a decision left to each state. In response, the Governor's Medicaid Redesign Workgroup proposed the Healthy Idaho Plan as an alternative to traditional Medicaid expansion. The Healthy Idaho Plan will provide coverage for the approximately 78,000 Idahoans who do not qualify for traditional Medicaid, but make too little to qualify for premium assistance to purchase coverage on the state health care exchange.

The Healthy Idaho Plan would allow adults whose income is below 100 percent of the federal poverty level to enroll in a care management program founded on the medical home, which is a patient-centered approach to providing medical care. Those individuals between 100-138 percent of federal poverty would be eligible for premium assistance to purchase private coverage on the exchange.

The federal funds from our tax dollars will cover 100 percent of the cost through 2016. After 2016, funding will gradually be reduced to 90 percent, but is guaranteed to remain at that level from 2020 on. As of August 2015, 30 states, plus Washington D.C., have closed their coverage gap.



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The Healthy Idaho Plan

Five Facts



September 2015

1. The Healthy Idaho Plan Saves Idaho Tax Dollars

The Healthy Idaho Plan would directly save Idaho millions in state and local funds for years to come because other state-funded programs could be eliminated. Additionally, the economic boost would generate new revenues.

The state will likely reap additional savings that are difficult to estimate, including reduced costs for corrections, law enforcement, emergency response, and courts, since these systems are often the only response available for untreated mental and behavior health problems.

2. The Healthy Idaho Plan Means Property Tax Relief for Idaho

The Healthy Idaho Plan will essentially eliminate the need for our county-administered indigent care programs. County tax savings coupled with new property tax revenues from the economic boost total hundreds of millions of dollars. This will result in significant property tax reductions for Idaho residents and businesses.

3. The Healthy Idaho Plan Eliminates Tax Penalties

Under the Affordable Care Act, some employers can face fines if their employees access tax credits on the health insurance exchange. These penalties take effect in 2015. There are no such penalties if employees are able to access coverage through the Healthy Idaho Plan.

Jackson-Hewitt estimates that Idaho employers will face \$12 to \$18 million in avoidable penalties for residents between 100% to 138% of the federal poverty level in 2015.

4. The Healthy Idaho Plan Eliminates the Penalty for Families

Currently, parents face a penalty compared to childless Idahoans at the same wage. A single, childless worker earning minimum wage qualifies for help purchasing coverage in the health insurance exchange. If that same worker is the breadwinner for a family, the family's income will fall below the poverty level and the parents will find themselves in the coverage gap. The Healthy Idaho Plan provides an affordable health care option for parents in the coverage gap.

5. The Healthy Idaho Plan Encourages Work

Idaho parents are only eligible for Medicaid at extremely low income levels (26% of the federal poverty level, or \$6,305 for a family of four). Idaho parents in the coverage gap earn too much to qualify for Medicaid and too little to qualify for assistance in the health exchange. If these Idahoans become injured or have an illness requiring care, their only way to get affordable coverage is to quit working. With the Healthy Idaho Plan, a mother or father who needs health care can get coverage while continuing to work.



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The Healthy Idaho Plan

Frequently Asked Questions



September 2015

What is the Healthy Idaho Plan?

The Healthy Idaho Plan is a one-of-a-kind, home-grown solution to the coverage gap. The plan is based on the recommendation of Governor Otter's Workgroup. With this public/private, or "hybrid" plan, Idahoans earning 100-138 percent of the federal poverty level – for example, a family of four that earns up to \$32,913 per year – will get help purchasing private coverage. Idahoans below 100 percent of the federal poverty level – for example, a family of four making \$23,850 per year – will access coverage through state-run care management. The initial costs are covered by federal funds and are heavily subsidized after that, ultimately saving Idaho millions of dollars.

How many Idahoans don't have affordable access to health insurance despite Idaho's new health care exchange and current Medicaid?

Approximately 78,000 Idahoans in 2014 fell into "the coverage gap" because they do not qualify for traditional Medicaid but earn too much to qualify for tax credits to purchase private health insurance. Many of these Idahoans work in jobs where hours and wages fluctuate and their employers do not offer coverage.

How does the Healthy Idaho Plan save money for Idaho?

The Healthy Idaho Plan would save Idahoans millions of dollars for years to come. The state will likely reap additional savings that are difficult to estimate, including reduced costs for corrections, law enforcement, emergency response, and the courts, since these systems are often the only response available for untreated mental and behavioral health problems. The economic boost will also generate new tax revenues that are above and beyond the calculated savings.

How are parents unfairly penalized in the current system?

A single, childless worker earning minimum wage qualifies for help to purchase coverage in the exchange. But if that worker is a parent and the sole-earner for the family, the family doesn't receive any help. This penalizes single parents for having a job and makes them choose between working and receiving health care through traditional Medicaid.

How will The Healthy Idaho Plan affect Idaho's economy?

The Healthy Idaho Plan would create approximately 15,000 new jobs in its first year and not just in health care. The spillover effects of the new economic activity will provide a boost for a variety of local businesses. In fact, Idaho will see hundreds of millions of dollars in new economic activity each year as a result of bringing our tax dollars back to our state.

Who decides whether to put in place the Healthy Idaho Plan?

The Idaho Legislature must approve the Health Idaho Plan to close the health care coverage gap. It is urgent that the legislature acts to pass the Healthy Idaho Plan in 2016 in order to save lives and money.

How does the Healthy Idaho Plan help working Idahoans?

Most Idaho parents can only qualify for Medicaid at extremely low income levels. This means many Idahoans have to choose between working and qualifying for affordable health care. Most Idahoans in the coverage gap are employed and they want to continue working. With the Healthy Idaho Plan, these Idahoans can keep their jobs and have access to affordable health care.

How does the Healthy Idaho Plan help people who already have health insurance?

The Healthy Idaho Plan provides peace of mind for everyone. Anyone can experience a sudden job loss or other drop in income. The Healthy Idaho Plan ensures that Idahoans won't have to go without affordable health care if their life circumstances change. Additionally, when more Idahoans are covered, it will mean lower health care costs for residents and businesses because a large pool of uninsured Idahoans means costs get shifted, increasing health care costs and health insurance premiums for all.

How do we currently assist Idahoans without sufficient insurance?

Idahoans facing insurmountable medical bills may be able to access their county's indigent care fund and the state's Catastrophic Health Insurance Fund. That means our state and local tax dollars fund health care for the uninsured in the form of property taxes and state taxes. Additionally, unpaid medical bills are often passed on to insured patients when health care facilities have to raise prices to cover expenses. This system only responds to crises and provides no preventive care or medication.

How does the Healthy Idaho Plan help Idahoans living with mental illness?

In the last year, 75,000 Idahoans experienced a severe mental illness. Some 41,000 Idahoans live with serious mental illness, but Medicaid currently covers only 9,000 of them. With the Healthy Idaho Plan, Idahoans would have access to essential community-based mental health services to keep them healthy and productive.

Is Medicaid efficient?

Idaho's Medicaid program is incredibly efficient and cost-effective. Every \$1 of State General Fund invested in Medicaid purchases over \$4 of health care because of the federal match. Of that spending, 97 percent goes directly to health care services for Medicaid participants, with just 3 percent going to administrative costs within the Department of Health and Welfare.

Are there strings attached to the federal funding for the Healthy Idaho Plan?

The Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services must approve Idaho's plan to close the coverage gap, but the Healthy Idaho Plan already meets the standards provided by CMS and no other strings are attached to federal funding.

Would the Healthy Idaho Plan save lives?

Conservative estimates indicate that expanding access to health insurance in Idaho could save between 76 and 179 lives a year. That estimate is based on national research, applied to Idaho coverage gap numbers, which show a real correlation between lack of access to health care and preventable deaths.

Would funding the Healthy Idaho Plan impact the federal deficit?

No, the impact of the Healthy Idaho Plan on the federal deficit would be minute. The dollars needed equal 1/1000th of the United States budget deficit. If the federal deficit is represented by a thousand spilled marbles, picking up one marble is not going to make an impact.

How many states have closed the coverage gap?

Thirty states, plus Washington, DC have closed their coverage gap as of August 2015. Idaho lawmakers will have another opportunity to close the coverage gap by passing the Healthy Idaho Plan in early 2016.

What does Idaho lose if we wait to close the coverage gap?

If Idaho does not close the coverage gap, we will send \$1.2 billion in taxpayer money over the next eight years to states that have chosen to take advantage of the available federal dollars. Idaho will also forego a cost-saving solution to several problems: unequal access to affordable health coverage, needless medical bankruptcies, and untreated illness for Idahoans.



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The Healthy Idaho Plan

Summary of Potential Legislation



September 2015

The Healthy Idaho Plan extends health care coverage to 78,000 Idaho adults, 86 percent of whom are in working households. These Idahoans earn too little to qualify for premium assistance from Your Health Idaho, the Idaho insurance exchange, but do not qualify for traditional Medicaid coverage.

The Healthy Idaho Plan leverages best practices from other states while incorporating Idaho values to develop a unique Idaho plan. The plan includes maximum patient accountability coupled with patient-centered medical homes to keep people healthy and avoid costly emergency room visits and hospital stays. Instead of paying health care providers for every visit as the current system does, the Healthy Idaho Plan is based on how well providers do in keeping patients healthier. The Healthy Idaho Plan incorporates a hybrid model of health care coverage that utilizes both care management and private insurance to achieve its goals.

The Healthy Idaho Plan's Key Components

- Federal funds pay a minimum of 90 percent of Healthy Idaho Plan claims' costs.
- Adults at 100-138 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL), for example a family of four that earns up to \$32,913 per year, would receive private health care coverage through Idaho's health insurance exchange. They would receive help paying their premiums so they can afford to purchase private health insurance. Private insurance carriers will contract with the Department of Health and Welfare to offer silver-level exchange plans that meet government standards.
- People deemed "medically fragile" will be able to enroll in the state-run plan along with other residents below 100 percent of the Federal Poverty Level. They will not be eligible for private coverage.

- Participation by insurers is completely voluntary, with no penalties if they choose not to participate.
- Idahoans with incomes below the poverty line will be enrolled in a new care management model that will focus on improving health. A patient-centered medical home will be the foundation of their care, providing care efficiently and effectively. The Patient-Centered Medical Home (PCMH) model encourages personal involvement and responsibility for health, including engagement in prevention and disease management strategies that improve health and decrease overall costs.

Benefits of the Healthy Idaho Plan

- Saves Idaho taxpayers millions of dollars over the next several years.
- Defines coverage options for 103,000 Idahoans:
 - The **78,000 Idahoans** who fall in the coverage gap and are below 100 percent Federal Poverty Level will have access to health care coverage via care management. They previously had no coverage option.
 - There are **25,000 Idahoans** between 100 and 138 percent Federal Poverty Level who are currently eligible for tax credits to purchase private insurance. Under traditional Medicaid expansion, this group would have to enroll in Medicaid. Under the Healthy Idaho Plan, these Idahoans will still receive assistance purchasing private coverage.
- Eliminates the need for other state-funded medical assistance programs for struggling people, saving tax dollars and resources at the county and state levels.
- Supports a private insurance model and Idaho's state-based insurance exchange.

- Redesigning Idaho's Medicaid program supports the transformation of Idaho's larger health care system by focusing on prevention, primary care and paying for outcomes rather than volume of care.

Answers to Other Key Questions about the Healthy Idaho Plan

If passed, how soon would the Healthy Idaho Plan take effect?

If approved in 2016, the legislation would immediately begin the process of getting federal approval of the plan. Health care for newly eligible Idahoans would begin on January 1, 2017.

How can we make sure Idaho is protected from changes to the federal program?

The legislation directs the Governor to stop implementation if the federal government does not provide funding as promised.

Who will be eligible to receive health care under the Healthy Idaho Plan?

Adults 19-65 years of age who meet income eligibility criteria and are ineligible for other coverage options.



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