

# 99% of Children in Foster Care Depend on Medicaid. Here's How Funding Cuts Disrupt Their Access to Care.

Here in Florida and across the country, Medicaid is an essential support for children and families in the foster care system. Medicaid provides health insurance to nearly all children in foster care and those aging out of foster care. Medicaid's economic protections and access to services also help families in crisis get the help they need that can prevent children from unnecessary foster care placements.

As Congress considers billions of dollars in spending cuts to Medicaid, [a new brief](#) from Georgetown University's Center for Children and Families (CCF) illustrates Medicaid's vital role for children and families in foster care.

- **Medicaid is a vital source of coverage for children in foster care.** Nearly all of the children in foster care and those aging out of foster care count on Medicaid to get the health care they need to thrive.
- **Medicaid meets the unique health needs of children in foster care.** Medicaid's comprehensive health benefits mean children and youth in foster care can access the services they need to treat physical health issues and chronic conditions as well as behavioral and mental health care.
- **Medicaid helps support families in crisis.** Medicaid plays a vital role in partnering with child welfare programs so parents can access the services they need to heal and children can return home safely. Medicaid prevents unnecessary foster placements by providing treatment for parents with mental health or substance use disorders.
- **Medicaid helps family caregivers support their children.** Many children in foster care are placed with relatives, such as grandparents, who may have limited financial resources. Medicaid provides economic security and access to health care that promotes family stability and prevents unnecessary foster care.

**Medicaid is health insurance that connects children in foster care to services that help them grow, heal, and thrive. Cuts to Medicaid could have devastating consequences for Florida's foster children and their families. Call 866-426-2631 to tell your members of Congress: No cuts to Medicaid!**



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