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Photo: Allyn DiVito, Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital, St. Petersburg, Florida

# MEDICAID IS VITAL TO KIDS

## 44%

of Medicaid enrollees are children.

Source: Medicaid and CHIP Eligibility and Enrollment Performance Indicator Data

## 35 Million

of almost 78 million kids in the U.S. count on Medicaid at some point during the year.

Source: Statistical Enrollment Data System (SEDS)

## > 6 Million

children with special health care needs rely on Medicaid and CHIP.

Source: KFF analysis of 2019 National Survey of Children's Health

## Nearly 4 Million

kids in military-related families rely on Medicaid.

Source: America's Military Readiness and the Essential Role of Medicaid Report

## Medicaid helps our kids lead better lives—it's a smart investment in the nation's future

Medicaid is vital—it covers kids in every state, from every background. It provides affordable coverage to children in working, lower-income families and to kids with special health care needs. This federal-state partnership is the largest source of children's health care coverage in the U.S.

## Medicaid was designed with kids in mind

Medicaid provides children access to a comprehensive set of services through the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment (EPSDT) benefit. This benefit ensures Medicaid covers the preventive services all kids need—things like immunizations, well-child checkups, and vision and dental services. Medicaid is the nation's largest payer for behavioral health services. It also covers medically necessary care, so children can see a pediatric specialist or get the therapy they need.

## Medicaid steps up for kids when they need it most

Most of our nation's sickest children get coverage through Medicaid. For kids born with or who develop serious medical conditions, Medicaid provides coverage or fills coverage gaps for services not covered by private insurance. No one plans for kids to get sick, but thankfully Medicaid is a safety net for all our children. Source: MACPAC response to SFC BH letter November 2021

## Medicaid helps our kids reach their full potential

Medicaid helps kids grow into healthy and productive adults. Compared to uninsured children, those covered by Medicaid are more likely to have better health outcomes as adults, with higher school attendance and academic achievement. This leads to greater resiliency and success in careers and life.

Source: Medicaid Works for Children | center on Budget and Policy Priorities (cbpp.org)

## Kids with Medicaid rely on children's hospitals

Children's hospitals are at the core of the health care delivery system for children, bringing together teams of specialists to provide care not available in any other setting. Since they serve children from many states, children's hospitals must coordinate with multiple state Medicaid programs.