Medicaid provides health coverage that helps low-income seniors, children, and people with disabilities get needed health care. It gives parents and other adults economic security through health coverage that protects them from medical debt and allows them to stay healthy and engaged in their community. It is jointly run by the federal and state governments.

Medicaid Helps Montana's Kids, Seniors, People with Disabilities, and Families

Medicaid helps 4,200 of Montana’s babies get a healthy start in life each year.

179,700
Montanans get quality health coverage through Medicaid.
Most are children, seniors, or people with disabilities.

104,700 of Montana’s children get health care through Medicaid.
That’s 4 of 9 kids in our state who can see a doctor when they are sick, and get the vaccinations and screenings they need to stay healthy, thanks to Medicaid.

17,800 of Montana’s seniors get health care through Medicaid, including nursing home care and services that help them live at home.

That’s 10% of seniors in our state.

Medicaid provides 33,900 people with disabilities in Montana access to critical care that helps them live independently.

That’s 26% of people with disabilities in our state.

Medicaid improves health

Medicaid beneficiaries are more likely than the uninsured to access preventive care, such as mammograms for women and vaccinations for kids.

They also are more likely to have a regular office or clinic where they can get primary care.

Expanding Medicaid coverage for low-income adults reduced mortality by 6 percent on average, a key study found.

Medicaid provides vital support to seniors and people with disabilities

Medicaid allows millions of seniors and people with disabilities to get the support and care they need to live at home, as well as nursing home care for those who need it. In fact, Medicaid pays for half of all long-term services and supports provided across the country.

[1] Includes people with physical conditions (such as traumatic brain injuries), intellectual or developmental disabilities (such as cerebral palsy), and serious behavioral disorders or mental illness (such as schizophrenia). Nearly two-thirds of beneficiaries who qualify due to disability do not receive Supplemental Security Income.
Fewer Kids Go Without Health Insurance Thanks to Medicaid... …And Coverage Is Now Improving for Adults Because Montana Expanded Medicaid.

Medicaid, along with the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP), has significantly reduced the ranks of uninsured children. In Montana, just 6.4% of children are uninsured, compared to 12.8% of non-elderly adults.

Since 2013, the uninsured rate for adults here has fallen by 46%.

Medicaid Has Long-Term Benefits for Kids

Children who are eligible for Medicaid health coverage:

- do better in school,
- miss fewer school days due to illness or injury,
- are more likely to finish high school, attend college, and graduate from college,
- have fewer emergency-room visits and hospitalizations as adults, and
- earn more as adults.

Medicaid Improves Financial Security

People with Medicaid coverage are less likely than people without insurance to go into medical debt or to leave other bills unpaid to cover their medical expenses.

Medicaid Expansion Supports Workers

In 2017, only 37% of private-sector employers in Montana offered health benefits to their employees.

Many workers who don’t get coverage through their jobs rely on Medicaid coverage for themselves and their families.

58,100 Montanans gained coverage through Montana’s Medicaid expansion.

Many work in jobs that pay low or moderate wages but are crucial for the state’s economy.

For example:

- Retail sector (including grocery and department stores) 7,100
- Restaurants and hospitality 6,800

For more information about Medicaid visit: https://www.cbpp.org/topics/medicaid-and-chip