

What Medicaid Means to Wisconsin's 4th Congressional District



**Survival
Coalition**

of Wisconsin Disability Organizations



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Medicaid Provides Funding for More than 20 Wisconsin Programs

IRIS

BadgerCare

Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program

Partnership *Katie Beckett*

School-based SeniorCare

services and supports ADRCs

PACE

Well Woman

HealthCheck (EPSDT) **Community**

SSI Managed Care **Support**

Birth-to-3 *Family Care*

Children's Long Term Support Program

Comprehensive Community Services

Community Recovery Services

Forward Health Card

Legacy Waivers (COP/CIP)

**M
A
P
P**

**Medicaid
Enrollment in
Wisconsin's 4th
Congressional
District:**

**Milwaukee:
311,643**

**Total Medicaid
Enrollment in
CD 4: 311,643**

Medicaid Enrollment in CD 4 includes:

874

874 children with significant disabilities in the Children's Long-Term Supports waiver program

5,087

5,087 people with disabilities who are working in the Medicaid Purchase Plan (MAPP)

17,149

17,149 people with disabilities and older adults in Family Care and IRIS

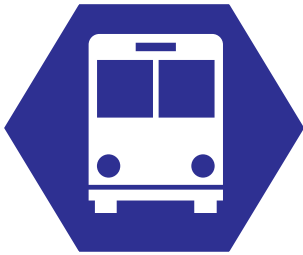
Total: 23,110

Executive Summary

Wisconsin's Medicaid program provides critical health and long-term care services to more than 1 million Wisconsinites. Nearly two-thirds of Wisconsin Medicaid participants are older adults, people with disabilities or children, many of whom have disabilities.

Wisconsin's investment in Medicaid is essential to the health and independence of people with disabilities. Adults with a disability are more likely to: be low-income, have less access to health care, report higher health risk factors and chronic conditions. Medicaid helps people with disabilities see primary care doctors, receive personal care services, go to the dentist, see therapists and obtain other needed medical services and equipment. Most people with disabilities cannot have all their needs met with private insurance.

Survival Coalition surveyed 1,500 Wisconsinites who use Medicaid and found:



60% use Medicaid transportation to access the community.



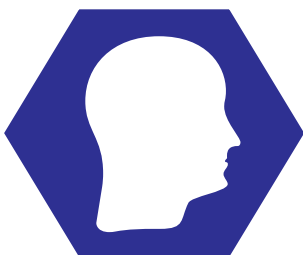
80% said without Medicaid they couldn't see their doctor, therapists or direct support providers.



33% use Medicaid for supports to be able to work.
48% said changes to Medicaid would mean they couldn't work.



43% said without Medicaid, they couldn't stay in their homes.



32% use Medicaid to access mental health services.



40% said without Medicaid they wouldn't have access to medical devices like a wheelchair or speech device

Stories from People Living in Wisconsin's 4th Congressional District

Survival Coalition received the following personal stories from people who use Medicaid and live in Wisconsin's 4th Congressional District. They illustrate the different types of critical supports provided by Medicaid and the impact these services have on people's ability to lead independent and healthy lives in the community.

BROWN DEER

Without respite I would not be able to provide 24/7 care for my 2 children with disabilities. My son would be forced to be segregated to group home living to avoid my burnout. Without my medications and mental health visits I would require hospitalization and be unable to care for my family.-- Genell

Blind for 6 years from diabetes, need help with meals, home care getting places. Am 42 years old.-- Suzanne

CUDAHY

It helps with all general life skills. from getting up in the morning to eating lunch, bathing, toileting, and everything in between. -Phillip

The services we receive allow our daughter to be included in the educational system and brighten the days of many around her. Her life has been saved on more than one occasion, and she is able to live a full and eventful daily life, participating in educational activities and adding to the vitality of her peers and teachers. Without these and other medical intervention, **SHE WOULD NOT BE ALIVE!!!** We are already struggling on so many levels...the stress of changes in our medical services is just too much to bear.-- Jennifer



GLENDALE

These services help my child be independent at school and stay healthy enough to attend school and be at home. One of our biggest concerns is if our daughter has a cancer relapse, we will be unable to pay for treatment. My husband recently had a couple of strokes and is currently unable to work. After giving up my career to care for a child with an intellectual disability, I have taken work in another field with a substantial pay cut just to make ends meet. –Orvis

I receive supportive home care services through IRIS that help make it possible for me to live in the community with my daughter and her family.– Evelyn

My daughter's medication alone a month is over 1,200.00. No one can afford that plus I have to stay home and be available to her. I don't get paid to do that! She is my world and I already give up so much with just my husband being able to work full time. –Shelia

A large amount of the students I teach art to utilize the iris program.– Kurt



MILWAUKEE

Without the support of being able to have medical mileage reimbursement, my son would not be able to make his many appointments. I am able to hire a family member to pick him up from school or home and transport him to his appointments and bring him back home. If I didn't have this service, I would have to take off of work each time (sometimes 3 times a week) and would no longer be able to have a job just to support the therapies he needs to learn to be more independent. Without respite, I would not be able to go to school one night a week to improve my ability to get a better paying job and to have time so I can actually spend time with my other child alone as she often feels forgotten and neglected. The long term care waiver has allowed my son to receive a wheelchair which allows us access to more places as his inability to walk long distances have kept us from being able to shop in a grocery store, go to events and be an active family together. Having Katie Beckett allows my son to receive multiple services that I would not be able to afford otherwise. Without the supports for mental health and physical/occupational therapy he would not be learning how to be more independent and learning how to be a contributing member of society as he would not have skills to build upon that can eventually translate into the working world and his own personal self care.—Lori

Adult family home for 4 people with chronic conditions and multiple, complex diagnoses. They would be homeless and/or dead without near constant intervention and care.—Ellen

The recipient of Medicaid services is my brother. It is important to me to know that he is taken care of in ways that protect the dignity of his life.—Name not provided

My adult son receives IRIS funding which allows him to be an active participant in the community and have a part time job. He also receives SSI, and his forward card (in addition to Medicare) cover his medical expenses. He lives with me and his father (both in out 60's - 70's). We know the day will come when he will need to live elsewhere, and someone else will assist with all of the care we provide right now. –Miriam

My father relies on mental health treatment through Medicaid and the county we live in. My job also involves working with Medicaid members on a daily basis. These services help my loved ones and patients live healthier lives. They are vital services that allow them to stay healthy so that they can be productive members of society.—Erin

I receive epidural injections as needed so that I can function. –DZ

They enable them to be as independent as possible and add the quality of their life.—Grace

I support my mother in ensuring she remains independent. Prior to his recent death, I supported my brother and his family in the same manner. The support I provide is broad, from emotional to seeking services to providing financial support when needed. Loss of even the smallest benefit would mean my mother could no longer afford to live independently. Currently, over 30% of her monthly income supports her medical needs. I cannot afford to pay for her added medical coverage.—Donna

I have arthritis in my knees and shoulders. I have a hard time getting dressed, combing my hair and cooking meals. My daughter helps me everyday with things, I was once able to do for myself. I really need my services. I go for surgery on my shoulder next month. Having help is critical for me right now I am 60 what will happen and who is able to help.— Dorothy

My young adult child needs supervision in order to stay safe & healthy. I need for him to go to a day program while I am at work. Day programs and all of the other supports we use help him to learn to behave appropriately, how to function independently, how to better communicate, how to be healthy and fit, and teach job skills... all for the goal of one day being independent and having a job. – Christina

My 20 year old autistic son is able to work due to job coaching and transportation support.—M.

I cope fairly well with the level of services I and my parents 7 other loved ones receive right now but I am concerned about what changes may be coming & how those changes might affect me & my loved ones.— John

These services help keep my physical, and socially healthy ! I'm cared for in my home with my family that love me and my family can supervise my care. –Regina

Provide support in setting goals for achieving career goals.— Sandra



Medicaid covers more than 1 Million Wisconsinites. About two-thirds of enrollees are kids, older adults and people with disabilities.

She receives therapy for anxieties, depression and autism.—Terri

My son and daughter-in-law and their 1 year old baby live with me. My son has been on a Methadone treatment program for opiodo addiction for the last 2 years. He is being successfully treated. Working as a landscaper. His wife is an immigrant from Mexico who has been in the States for 3 years, has a green card and is on the road to citizenship. He works as a landscaper. He and his son have health insurance through Badger Care with a copay. His wife has insurance through the Marketplace. If it weren't for the availability to have health insurance through Badger Care, it would be difficult for them to afford health insurance. I am 65 and working full time. Unable to financially retire at this point. – Nancy



She could not live without her medical care as she has multiple life threatening chronic medical conditions. She cannot fully work in the community due to her cognitive disabilities. In short, she has Down syndrome, hypothyroidism, Crohn's disease, auto immune hepatitis, hidradenitis suppurativa, heart disease, esophageal reflux, and severe orthodontic issues.—Nancy

Because of these services my family member is able to live in his own home not in a nursing home.— Mary

I have 2 different family members with different physical disabilities-one recovering from a stroke and the other suffering from renal failure complicated by a rare blood disorder. The one recovering from a stroke requires home health care to avoid returning to a rehab or long term health care facility. He is running out of personal funds for so much of the equipment and services that are not covered by Medicare and would need to rely on Medicaid to help cover medical costs to allow him to remain at home. The other family member with renal failure is on dialysis and in need of a kidney transplant. He has been uninsured on and off throughout his adult life because of unemployment and being a single man with no children he loses his Medicaid coverage at times when his expenses do not exceed a certain dollar amount; however, it is because of Medicaid that he was able to have bypass surgery with a heart valve replacement that saved his life and made him strong enough to be considered for a kidney transplant. He was not able to afford the medications prescribed before having Medicaid, which is why he ended up having a heart attack; but now he is able to afford his medications and receive dialysis as he awaits a transplant because of Medicaid. –Heidi

My daughter who is Deaf, has cerebral palsy, and sustained injuries causing ongoing pain and mobility issues when hit by a bus, is able to live independently in an apartment more than 100 miles from home because of these supports. One small example, she had a dental problem in her new town. I was able to locate a dentist that accepts Medicaid via the state's website. She contacted the dentist through a video relay service (VRS) (not a Medicaid program - just explaining), and made her appointment. I was able to easily find a medical van service in her area. She called and arranged the ride, which was at no expense to her. After the appointment, they also transported her to the pharmacy to fill her prescription. She has a tooth infection and will need two more appointments for an exam after the infection clears and a root canal. Without these services from Medicaid, I would have had to take off work for three days (one for each appointment) to drive to her, take her to her appointment, and drive home. More importantly, my 27 year-old daughter would not have been able to arrange and go to her appointments independently. Instead, she would have had to rely on her mother.—Dani

My family member does not currently receive services but will need them in the near future.—Bill

This service help me stay at home with my family, see them grow everyday, enjoy their love and happiness.—Xee

Our son is 15 years old and has Down syndrome. We depend on Children's Long term waiver in order for him to attend recreational camps and gain social skills we are not able to provide. In addition, we have a respite provider for him in order for him to stay safe when we are not able to be with him. We also benefit from respite as we do not have family that can be with him. Respite also provides my husband and I with the much needed quality time together to be better parents. – Theresa

The above services are absolutely essential to my brother's wellbeing and safety to live independently which is also the most economic way for him to live.—Jean

I need to see a doctor on a regular yearly basis to keep things in check and hopefully prevent something bad from happening. Because of paralysis I have to always be on guard to prevent things like blood clots or pressure sores. –Julie

Helps my daughter navigate adult life in the community and in trying to be gainfully employed.— Nicola

My father and mother in law would both be permanently institutionalize with supports. My son would go without necessary services. I would need to leave my employment. –Name not provided.

My family members rely on BadgerCare Plus for health care both physical and mental. –Name not provided

The service I receive allows my children to grow, thrive and remain healthy. –Montique
It allows me and my other family members to work and keep our mom at home.— Latieta
Improves mobility and avoids missed or cancelled doctors appointments.—Ruth

**Wisconsin
schools receive \$60
million per year in
Medicaid funding for
school-based services
like speech therapy.**



Case Management assists with living in a group home. My ward does not earn much on SSDI, so she needs assistance with prescriptions and doctor visits. She also receives job coaching for employment.—Deb

Financially we would not be able to provide what our son needs. With Katie Beckett, he thrives and is doing really well.— Kristi

I am single disabled mother of a child with Autism. We use many Medicaid funded programs in order to keep our family together and healthy. Without the services we would not be able to survive. We would not be able to afford our medical care, medications, and most of all stay in our home together. —Krysti

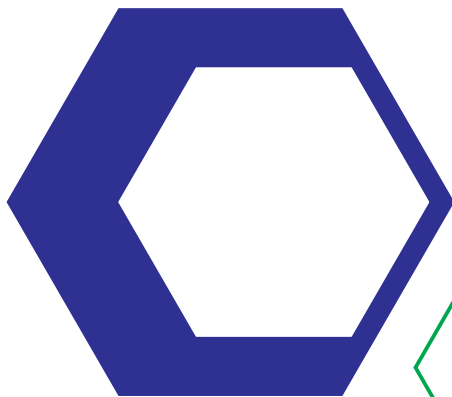
Medicaid brings about \$5 billion to Wisconsin which supports hospitals, providers, and jobs through 20 Medicaid-funded programs as well as program participants.

SHOREWOOD

The Iris program greatly impacts my brother's life. It is what provides him with a basic level of quality of life. Without it he would no longer be able to live with my family, receive the care he needs, and function in a life and a climate that is already incredibly hard for both him and my family. The loss of IRIS would be incredibly devastating to all of us.—Carly

ST FRANCIS

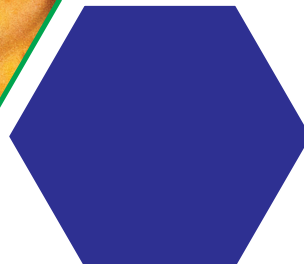
Without my son's PCW, my husband or I would have to provide total cares which would be difficult for me due to my health problems, leaving it all to my husband who would then have to stop working outside the home. We could not financially survive. Since my son is unable to work, he attends many community activities with his PCW instead of sitting at home every day.—Gail



The mental health therapy that I receive weekly permits me to keep working as a Certified Peer Specialist in a Housing First Program. I have been under a therapist and psychiatrist's care for 30 years because of a mental health disability caused by depression and PTSD. Because I have medicaid and medicare, it has allowed me to go from disability to working a part-time job because of the supports of therapy and medication. – Mary Lou

WAUWATOSA

My mother is on Title 19 and stays in an assisted living facility. Her meals, medicines and 24/7 health & safety are taken care of by the facility.—Name not provided.



Wisconsin's
Medicaid long-term
care programs **make it
possible for more than
6,000 children with
disabilities and more
than 60,000 seniors and
adults with disabilities
to live in the community**
instead of institutions.



Wisconsin is **set to
become one of the
first states in the
nation to end long-
term care waiting lists**
for both kids and adults
with disabilities.





The Survival Coalition of Wisconsin Disability Organizations is a cross-disability coalition of more than 40 state and local organizations and groups. For more than 20 years, Survival has been focused on changing and improving policies and practices that support people with disabilities of all ages to be full participants in community life.

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