

## **Medicaid Expansion? Tell me More!**

Medicaid Expansion would provide health insurance to approximately 165,000 Kansans who are currently going without it. It's for individuals and families who are earning too much to qualify for medicaid (known as KanCare in Kansas) but not enough to afford the cost of health insurance. It's for people who work minimum wage and low-income jobs or part-time jobs (think Mom's who are balancing work and child care) - or for those whose companies don't offer health insurance.

## **What are the key points for support?**

Currently 38 states have expanded their Medicaid program, including all states surrounding Kansas. States who have expanded Medicaid have found it.....

~ Mitigates health disparities between white and minority communities resulting in healthier Mothers and babies and more timely treatments for people of color.

~ Supports community health systems, particularly for rural communities where small hospitals are suffering financially.

~ Promotes access to cost-effective primary and preventive care services (without insurance many wait until there's a health care crisis and then end up in the ER)

~ The Federal Government pays 90% of the cost of expansion so it would bring millions of federal tax dollars back to Kansas that is now going to 38 other states. Estimates are the Expansion would create approximately 13,000 new jobs.

## **What can I do?**

Currently House and Senate leadership is opposed to Medicaid Expansion so it's unlikely to get a committee hearing or to proceed through the legislative process this session. BUT, there's always a chance a bill could be brought directly to the floor as an amendment to another bill, so building support is important. If your representative knows you support Medicaid Expansion and will be watching their action on this legislation, it could make a difference!

Contact your state Representative and Senator to let them know you support Medicaid Expansion. Ask him/her if they support it and will vote for it if/when it comes to a vote. Find your state representative here: [kslegislature.org](http://kslegislature.org) ("find your legislator", left side)

Jesus made it clear that being his disciple meant more than practicing bottom line economics and political loyalty. By turning a blind eye to those who need our compassion, we turn a blind eye to Jesus who we meet in the hungry, thirsty, sick, or those in prison. (Matthew 25)

**For more information:**

<https://kansasreflector.com/2021/02/13/why-kansas-needs-to-join-the-38-states-that-have-expanded-medicaid/>

[ExpandKanCare.com](https://ExpandKanCare.com)