# MEDICAID PUTTING HAWAII CHILDREN ON A PATH TO SUCCESS

Medicaid and QUEST (CHIP) provide health insurance for Hawaii children; bring federal dollars into the state; and help children grow into healthy, productive adults.

### PROVIDING HEALTH INSURANCE FOR HAWAII CHILDREN AND FAMILIES



Children make up 42% of Hawaii residents covered by Medicaid and QUEST.

This equals 140,392 Hawaii children, including:

**100%** of children in foster care

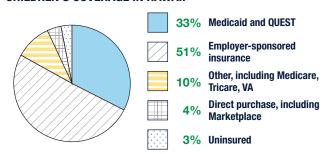
**67%** of children who live in or near poverty

24% of children born to moms covered by Medicaid

35% of children with disabilities or special health care needs such as diabetes and asthma

**36%** of infants, toddlers, and preschoolers

### WHERE MEDICAID FITS IN: **CHILDREN'S COVERAGE IN HAWAII**



### HELPING CHILDREN SUCCEED IN SCHOOL AND LIFE

**CHILDREN** WITH **MEDICAID** 







**DO BETTER** IN SCHOOL



**GRADUATE AND** ATTEND COLLEGE



**BECOME HEALTHIER ADULTS** 



**HIGHER WAGES** 



**PAY MORE IN TAXES** 

### **ENSURING HEALTHY DEVELOPMENT FROM THE START**

**Medicaid quarantees** access to care for children through its **Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic** and Treatment benefit, known as **EPSDT**.

EPSDT is one of the best ways Medicaid helps vulnerable children stay healthy and on track with their peers. It:

**Identifies problems early** 

Checks children's health at periodic intervals

Provides development, vision, and hearing screenings to detect problems

Performs diagnostic tests to identify risks

**Provides treatment for any problems found** 





### **INVESTING IN HAWAII'S ECONOMY AND FAMILIES**

Medicaid is an economic driver, bringing state tax dollars back home:



# Every \$1 Hawaii invests in Medicaid brings back \$1.17 in federal funds



### **Medicaid strengthens families:**

- When parents are covered, they are healthier and better able to care for their children.
- Data show that children are more likely to get and keep health insurance when their parents are covered.
- · When parents and children are covered, the whole family is more financially secure.

## AFTER YEARS OF PROGRESS, WE'RE LOSING GROUND

- In 2017, the number of uninsured children increased for the first time in a decade.
  276,000 more U.S. children became uninsured, and progress in covering Hawaii children stalled.
- In 2018, the number of children enrolled in Medicaid and CHIP fell by about 840,000 nationwide including 4,084 in Hawaii.



These data show that children's health coverage is headed in the wrong direction— an alarming trend that cannot be ignored.

### WE MUST PROTECT CHILDREN'S COVERAGE

### **KEEP MEDICAID STRONG**

Medicaid faces serious threats in states where enrollment barriers such as work reporting requirements, budget cuts, and moves to block grant or cap Medicaid funding are being proposed. Actions like these prevent Medicaid from doing its job of providing health insurance. We must prevent harmful changes that add costly administrative burden for states while also taking away people's health coverage.



#### **KEEP CHILDREN COVERED**

States have made historic gains in covering children. But, with coverage rates stalling or headed in the wrong direction, we must double down on efforts to reach and enroll eligible children, focus on system improvements to keep them covered, and ensure that parents have health insurance, so they can keep themselves and their families healthy.

