



Georgetown University
McCourt School *of* Public Policy
CENTER FOR CHILDREN
AND FAMILIES

How Medicaid Supports Parents in Crisis, Children in or Aging out of Foster Care, Relative Caregivers, and Adoptive Families

March 4, 2025

Our Speakers

Zach Laris

Boulder Horizons

Beth Patton

**generations
united**[®]

Because we're stronger together[®]

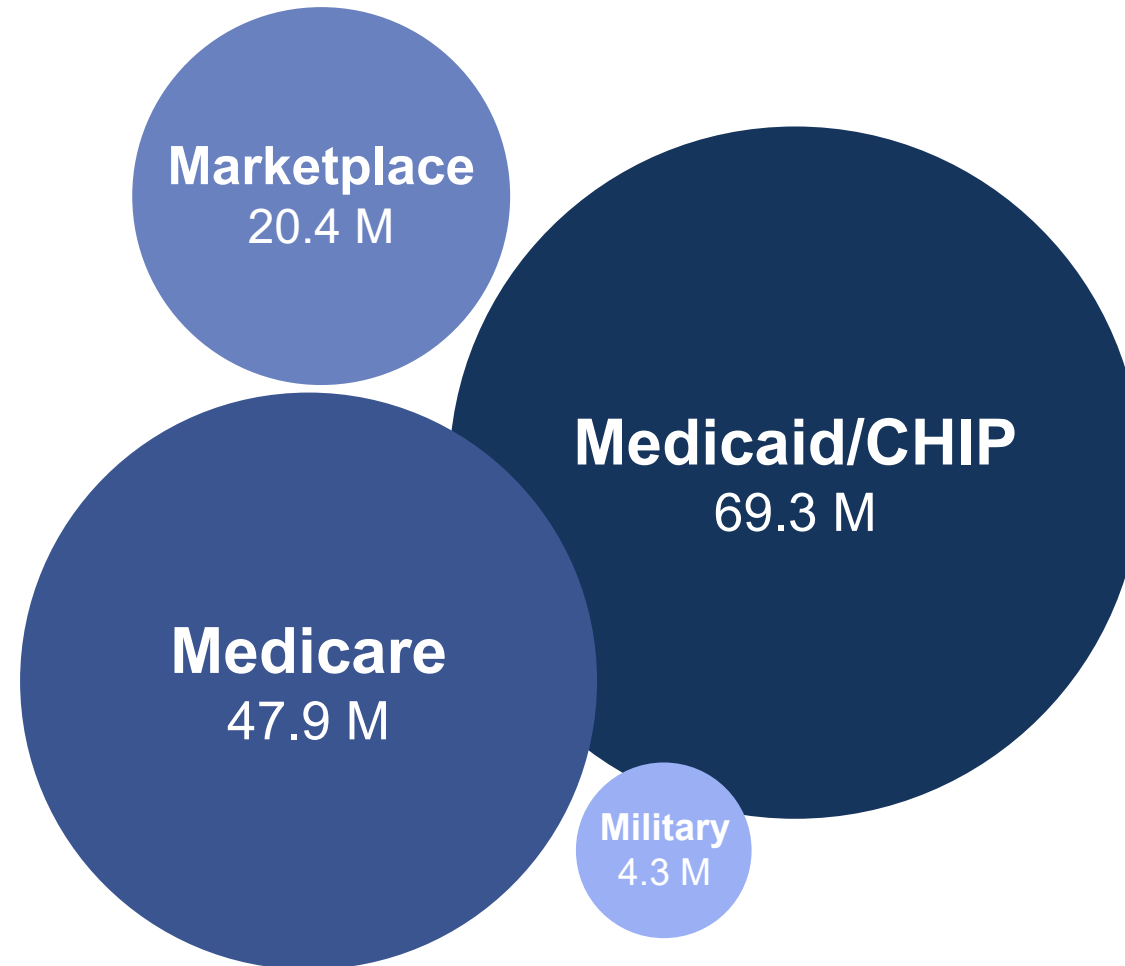
Christina Simmons

**CHILDREN'S
TRUST FUND
Alliance**[™]

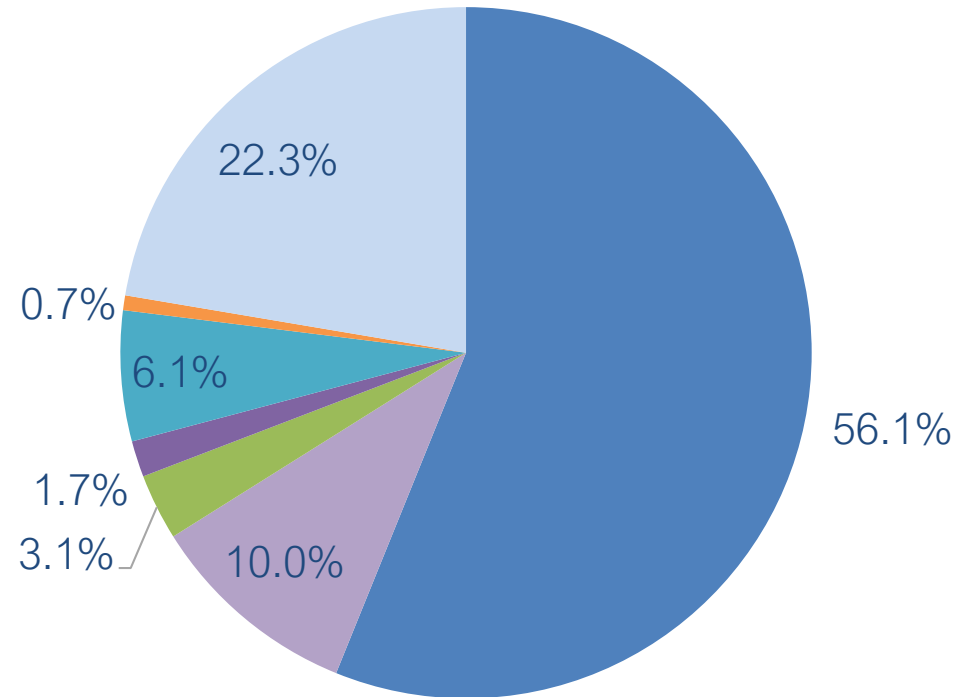
Zoe Jones-Walton

 **FosterClub**

Health Insurance Supported by Federal Funding, 2023



Medicaid Is Largest Source of Federal Funds for States



■ Medicaid ■ K-12 Education ■ Higher Education ■ Public Assistance ■ Transportation ■ Corrections ■ All Other

Medicaid's Many Roles

- Medicaid is the largest funder of long-term care services
- Medicaid is the largest funder of substance abuse treatment/mental health services
- Medicaid/CHIP covers nearly half of all children, including children in foster care and children with special health care needs
- Medicaid covers 40 to 50 percent of births
- Medicaid plays a key role in pandemics and natural disasters
- Medicaid's role is critical for rural areas

Medicaid is a Complex State-Federal Partnership

- 50 states/DC; Puerto Rico/US territories
- \$951 billion in federal funding in 2024
- Health insurance for 72 million Americans
- Tens of thousands of individual doctors and health care practitioners, hospitals, nursing facilities, other institutional providers
- Hundreds of managed care organizations

Congressional Tools

- Budget Reconciliation
 - Only requires simple majority
 - Budgetary impact provisions only
 - Certain tax, spending, and debt limit legislation
 - Social Security exempt
 - Is not subject to filibuster
- Regular Order Legislation
 - 60 votes in Senate
 - Slim majority in Senate would likely negate this option

Inventory of Potential Cuts in House Budget Reductions over 10 Years

- Medicaid per capita caps - \$900B
- Equalize FMAP for expansion population - \$561B
- Lower Medicaid matching rate floor - \$387B
- Limit Medicaid provider taxes - \$175B
- Repeal eligibility & enrollment Rule - \$164B
- Repeal access rule - \$121B
- Establish mandatory work requirements - \$100B
- Block grant GME - \$75B
- Standardize Medicaid admin rate - \$69B
- Limit eligibility based on citizenship status - \$35B
- Reverse family glitch fix - \$35B
- Repeal nursing home minimum staff final rule - \$22B

Where Things Stand

- House budget resolution passed along party lines (1 exception)
- Goal = \$1.5-\$2T in spending cuts
- Instructs E&C committee to make \$880B in health cuts
- 1 spending and tax cut bill endorsed by President Trump
- Senate prefers 2 bills, delaying spending cuts
- Senate budget resolution passed with instructions to find *AT LEAST* \$1B in cuts
- What's next?
 - Joint Budget Resolution
 - Must fund the government past 3/14 (requires majority vote)

Strong Medicaid for Strong Families

Child Welfare: Trauma & Relationships

- Prevent abuse and neglect.
- Support families, prevent foster care.
- Provide foster care.
- Promote permanency.
- Transition into adulthood



Medicaid Strengthens Families Across All

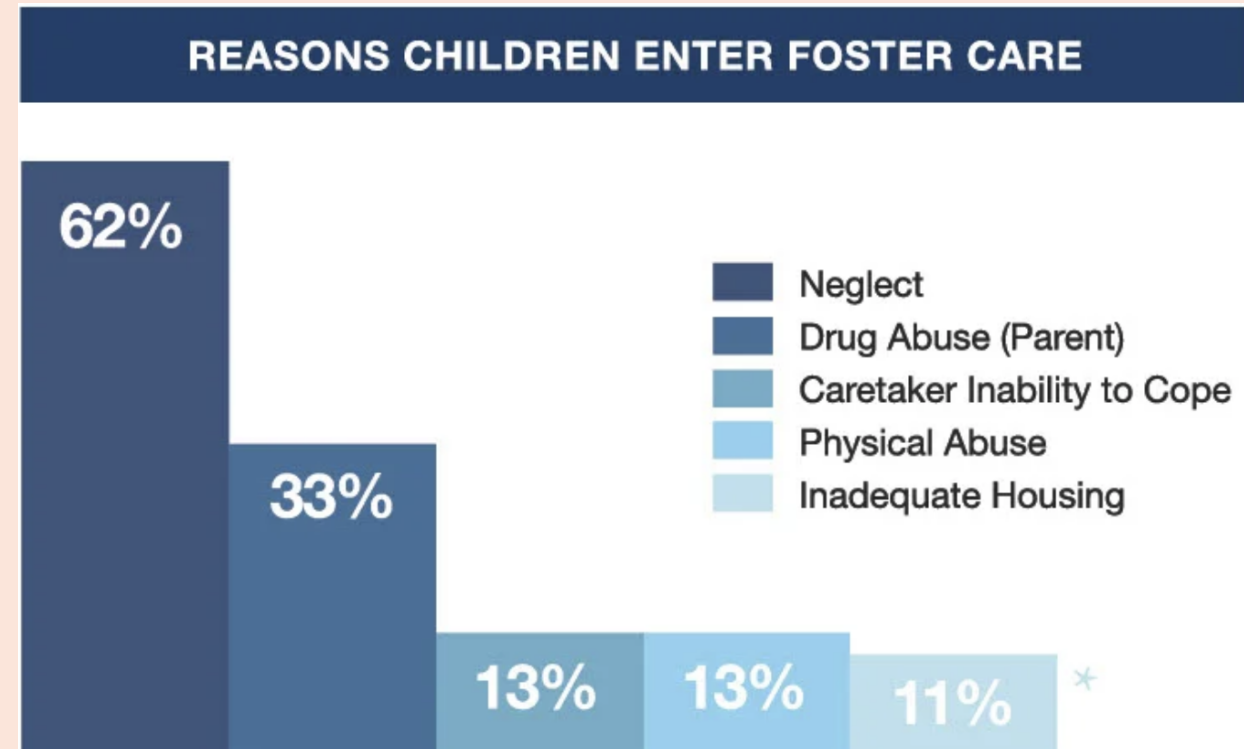
Medicaid Strengthens Child Welfare

- Safety
 - ↑ coverage, ↓ abuse & neglect
- Permanency
 - Coverage keeps connection
- Wellbeing
 - Access to healing



Medicaid for Healthy Parents

- SUD drives foster care entries
 - **63,585** (1/3) entered care
- Nearly ½ of kids in care go home
- Medicaid= access and stability



Medicaid for Stable Kin and Adoptive Families

- Kinship= gold standard, **~1/3**
- Adoption almost **30%- 53,665**
- Special needs adoptions get Medicaid coverage
- For both, economic stability



Medicaid for Thriving Children and Youth

- Unique health needs & trauma
 - **80%**- Sig. mental health need
 - **1/3**- Chronic condition
- Medicaid & EPSDT cover:
 - **99%** of kids in care
 - **~18,000** youth aging to 26
 - Key MH services like TFC



Resources to Come...

Over to Christina for Parent Perspective