Reaching Out to American Indian and Alaska Native People about Medicaid & CHIP Renewals

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) wants to make sure Tribal citizens continue to have health care coverage whether that's through Medicaid, Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), Medicare, **HealthCare.gov** (through the Affordable Care Act), or employer-sponsored coverage. This is an all hands-on-deck moment, and we need your help as a trusted voice to help share information on Medicaid and CHIP Renewals. You can use this resource to help share important messages about what steps parents, families and individuals should take to ensure they remain covered.

Why do Tribal citizens with Medicaid and CHIP coverage have to renew their coverage now?

For the past three years, people with Medicaid and CHIP were not required to renew their coverage because of the COVID-19 pandemic. States have now resumed the yearly process of Medicaid and CHIP eligibility renewals and are contacting people to determine if they are still eligible.

Between now and the middle of 2024, everyone with Medicaid or CHIP coverage will need to renew their coverage. It should be noted that every state has a different **renewal timeline**.

If an individual is no longer eligible for Medicaid or CHIP, they can transition to another form of health insurance coverage, such as finding coverage on **HealthCare.gov**, Medicare, or employer-sponsored insurance coverage.

What can YOU do to help Tribal citizens with Medicaid and CHIP coverage right now?

About 15 million people are predicted to lose Medicaid and CHIP coverage over the next year.

Tribal citizens enrolled in Medicaid and CHIP need to take action now or else they could lose their health insurance coverage. Partners like you can help make sure that Tribal citizens enrolled in Medicaid and CHIP complete these steps:

1. **UPDATE** your contact information with **your state Medicaid or CHIP agency**.
2. **RESPOND** to the Medicaid/CHIP renewal form when it arrives to keep your coverage.
3. **PARENTS** should respond even if you don't think you're eligible – your kids could still be eligible!
4. **CONSIDER OTHER COVERAGE OPTIONS:** If you are no longer eligible for Medicaid or CHIP, check if you can get coverage through your employer, through the Affordable Care Act Marketplace at **HealthCare.gov**, or through Medicare.

What resources are available to share with Tribal citizens enrolled in Medicaid and CHIP?

CMS has a variety of resources to help raise awareness about renewing Medicaid and CHIP and other coverage options if you are no longer eligible for Medicaid or CHIP, including:

- Tribal **Fillable** Flyer
- Tribal **Fillable**/**Non-fillable** Post Cards for Kids and Families
- Tribal Social Media Images (**getting ready for renewals**, **losing Medicaid/CHIP coverage**, and **fraud awareness**)
- **Partner Tip Sheet**
- **HealthCare.gov Postcard**
- **Health Care Options Factsheet**
- Link to State's **Renewal Timeline**

The full list of resources can be found on the **Medicaid and CHIP Renewals Outreach and Educational Resources** section of **Medicaid.gov/Unwinding**. Resources can be downloaded or printed and shared broadly.

What strategies can I use to spread the word in my community?

- Partner with enrollment assisters at Indian health care providers, community leaders, Head Start programs, schools, cultural centers, and other community-based organizations in your area to share culturally and linguistically appropriate materials and social media messages and host events.
- Share messages in your community's native language on radio, tribal newspapers, community boards, postal bulletins, and social media.
- Hand out flyers or other print materials that are simple and clear and include pictures or graphics.
- Share information at tribal events and community activities, such as health fairs, powwows, cultural events, and school events.

Remind tribal citizens to protect themselves from fraud. A state Medicaid office will never threaten you with legal action or ask for payment for you to keep or qualify for Medicaid or CHIP coverage. Avoid scams and contact your local Indian Health Provider for more on how to spot or report fraud.