

Medicaid Unwinding Talking Points for Community Partners

- Medicaid is a program that helps people who cannot afford health insurance. More people became eligible for and enrolled in Medicaid during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Public Health Emergency (PHE) allowed people on Medicaid to continue receiving healthcare without having to renew or redetermine their eligibility. Provisions of the PHE also prohibited state Medicaid agencies from closing Medicaid eligibility. This is called the Medicaid Continuous Coverage Requirement.
- The Medicaid Continuous Coverage Requirement ended, which means that people on Medicaid need to renew their eligibility for healthcare coverage.
- This is called the Medicaid Unwinding, and it will happen in New Mexico starting from May 1, 2023.
- As many as 30,000 people might lose their Medicaid coverage each month during the first three months of the transition.
- HSD will send letters in a turquoise envelope to people telling them when they need to renew their eligibility for Medicaid coverage. Those who opted for electronic communications will receive a renewal notification via text or email.
- There are other options for people who lose their Medicaid coverage, such as getting insurance through their employer or beWellnm, New Mexico's Health Insurance Marketplace.
- BeWellnm will offer Medicaid Transition Premium Relief, a program under the Health Care Affordability Fund (HCAF). Individuals and families will qualify if:
 - they no longer qualify for Medicaid,
 - qualify for the federal premium tax credit through beWellnm, and
 - have income at or below 400% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL).This program covers the first month premium (after other credits are accepted and applied) when you enroll in a health plan through beWellnm, ensuring continuity of coverage.
- BeWellnm will provide information to people who are no longer eligible for Medicaid and help them enroll in coverage through the Marketplace.

- Use your Renew NM Partner Toolkit to distribute HSD-approved communications to Medicaid customers about how to renew:
 - Update your contact information on yes.state.nm.us or by calling 1-800-283-4465.
 - Check your mail for renewal notices from the New Mexico Human Services Department.
 - Complete your renewal application by signing in at yes.state.nm.us or by calling 1-800-283-4465.