



Washington State
Hospital Association



Preserving Access in Washington State

How Coverage Supports Communities

How to use this PowerPoint

This PowerPoint is being provided to WSHA members to help support local conversations about the importance of supporting the Medicaid expansion aspects of the Affordable Care Act.

Feel free to use or modify the content to tell your story. To localize the content, we suggest putting the content of these slides into your organization's template. You can also add slides that show the work your organization did to help enroll people, add quotes from care providers about how they've been able to improve services to the newly insured, etc.

If you have questions about these slides or any aspect of WSHA's work to preserve coverage, contact [Mary Kay](#) or [Chelene](#).

Situation Summary

- President-elect Trump and members of the Republican Congress have started to repeal-and-replace the 2010 the Affordable Care Act (“Obamacare”)
- If repeal happens before a feasible replacement, 22 million Americans could lose their health insurance
- The unraveling of that law without an alternative would hurt patients and destabilize hospitals and communities.

What's at Stake in Washington

More than 700,000 residents were able to get health insurance because of the 2010 health reform law.

- Expansion of Medicaid (AppleHealth): 600,000
- Subsidized commercial insurance: 120,000

Total: About 720,000

10% of Washington residents got health insurance as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

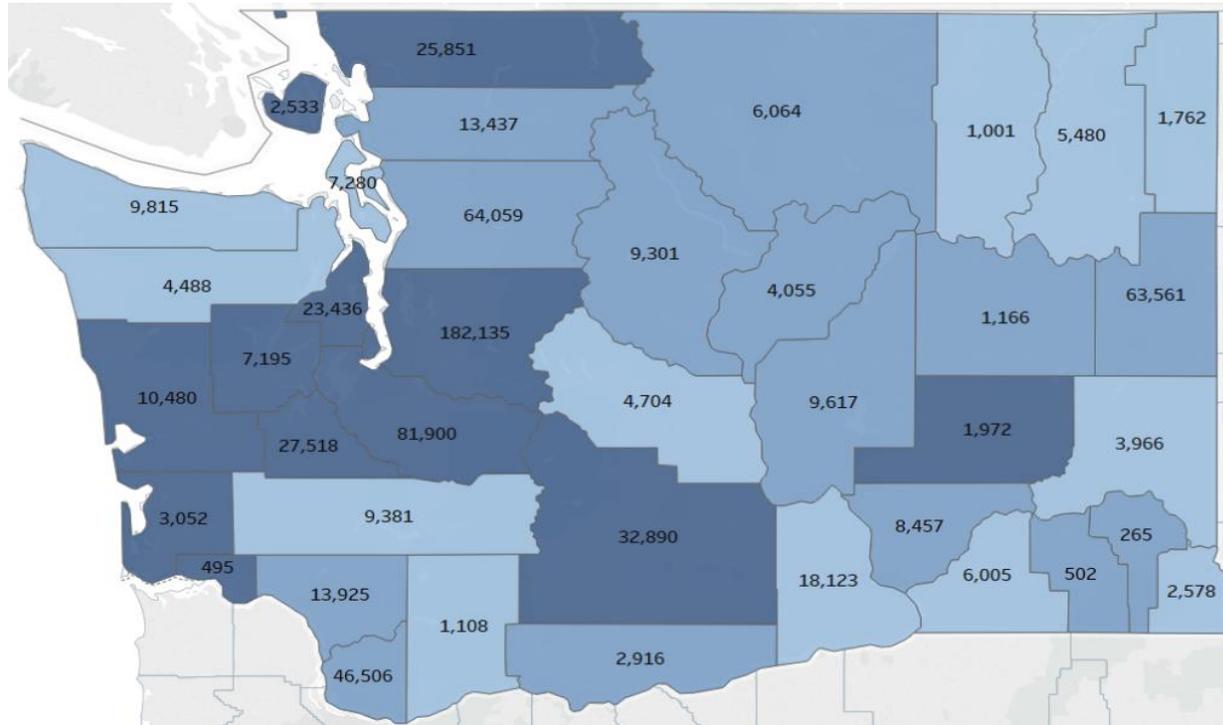


Who Benefited from Expansion?

The expansion of Medicaid helped individuals, families and communities across the state.

- Very low income individuals, some of whom have chronic medical conditions
- Working families who were priced out of the insurance market
- Some older Americans may never have recovered after the big recession and still struggle to find employment

Coverage Expansion by County



Medicaid expansion provided coverage for about 600,000 adults. An additional 120,000 people received federal subsidies to help pay their insurance premiums. The map shows the actual number of people who benefited by county, and the shading indicates the reduction in the uninsured rate.

Percent Change in the Uninsured Rate (Compared CY 2014 to CY 2012)

- < 30%
- Between 30-45%
- > 45%

Other aspects of the ACA

- Children stay on parents plans until 26
- No discrimination for preexisting conditions
- Quality improvements such as new reporting requirements
- Support for value-based purchasing
- Incentives to improve development and sharing of electronic medical records
- Hospital payment cuts

Why We Care

- People without health insurance don't have access to on-going health services and are sicker
- Improving the health of the population is harder when people are uninsured
- Hospitals provide care, regardless of someone's ability to pay. When patients don't have health insurance, the cost is shifted to other paying patients.
- Hospitals with a high number of un- or under-insured patients are less financially stable, which means the whole community suffers.
- If our state picks up the tab to keep people covered, it would cost the state billions of additional dollars.

The Approach

- The Washington State Hospital Association has a non-partisan, data-driven approach to this issue
- They are meeting with legislators on both sides of the aisle to discuss the importance of coverage
- The goals are to:
 - Preserve meaningful access to care for more than 700,000 Washingtonians who have gained coverage
 - Promote stability of the health care market
 - Support a replacement law before a repeal

What you can do!

Contract your U.S. Representative and Senator

- Call or email health legislative assistants



The screenshot shows the Washington State Hospital Association website. The header includes the logo, navigation links (Home, Contact), and a search bar. The main navigation menu lists: ABOUT WSHA, OUR MEMBERS, FOR PATIENTS, POLICY / ADVOCACY, QUALITY & SAFETY, and EVENTS & RESOURCES. The breadcrumb trail reads: Home / Policy / Advocacy / Resources / U.S. Congressional Delegation Contacts. The page title is "U.S. Congressional Delegation Contacts". The section is titled "Washington State's Contacts". The text states: "Everyone in Washington State is represented in Congress by three people: two statewide Senators, Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell, and one local Representative. If you don't know who your Representative is, go to <http://www.house.gov>." It then instructs: "Contact your member of Congress by phone or by email to his or her chief of staff and health care legislative aide. (You may address the email to the Senator or Representative but send it to the chief of staff and health care legislative aide.) All their phone numbers and emails are in the information below." A bulleted list follows:

- Senator Patty Murray
- Senator Maria Cantwell
- Representative Suzan DelBene
- Representative Rick Larsen
- Representative Jaime Herrera Beutler
- Representative Dan Newhouse
- Representative Cathy McMorris Rodgers

www.wsha.org/policy-advocacy/legislative/u-s-congressional-delegation-contacts/

For more information

www.wsha.org/keep-covered-washington/

Contact:

Chris Bandoli, SVP for Advocacy and Government Affairs

chrisb@wsa.org

206/216-2506

Chelene Whiteaker, Policy Director

chelenew@wsa.org

206/216-2545