

*Medicaid Block Grants



Impacts on Wisconsin and people with disabilities

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- * U.S. Senate passed a **Budget Resolution** on January 11th 2017:
 - * Instructions tell health related House and Senate committees to find \$1 billion in savings
 - * Many public policy observers tie the Budget Resolution's directive to find savings will likely result in Medicaid cuts.
- * **Medicaid Block Grant** proposal
 - * Concept has been proposed by Speaker Ryan in the past.
 - * Legislation anticipated Spring 2017

* **Congress: what's going on?**

- * Presidential nominee for Secretary of U.S. Health and Human Services Rep. Tom Price is a supporter of Medicaid Block Grants.
 - * In his **January 17th** confirmation hearing, stated Said his health reform plan would “probably” turn Medicaid over to the states in the form of **block grants**. Would not say that Medicare and Medicaid would not be cut.
- * On **January 21st**, a high level advisor to President Trump said the President’s Affordable Care Act (ACA) replacement plan will include a plan to change Medicaid to a Block Grant program to states.
 - * Media coverage:
<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/01/22/us/politics/donald-trump-health-plan-medicaid.html?mtrref=www.facebook.com&gwh=D6D984BA05E4A30C2C3C4016F21DCFB1&gwt=pay>

* **President: what’s going on?**

- * States are required to provide certain services under Federal Medicaid law
- * States can choose to provide additional optional services
- * Wisconsin provides almost all optional services
- * All services provided by Family Care and IRIS are optional Medicaid Services (HCBS waiver)
 - * The next two slides list services states must provide (Mandatory services) and optional services states can choose to provide.

*** How does Medicaid work now?**

Mandatory Medicaid Services

- Inpatient hospital services
- Outpatient hospital services
- Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment (EPSDT) (for kids)
- **Nursing facility services***
- Home health services
- Physician services
- Rural health clinic services
- Federally qualified health center services
- Laboratory and X-ray services
- Family planning services
- Nurse Midwife services
- Certified Pediatric and Family Nurse Practitioner Services
- Freestanding Birth Center services
- Transportation to medical care
- Tobacco cessation counseling for pregnant women
- Tobacco Cessation



Optional Medicaid Services

- Prescription drugs
- Clinic services
- Physical therapy
- Occupational therapy
- Speech, hearing and language disorder services
- Respiratory care services
- Other diagnostic, screening, preventive and rehab services
- Podiatry services
- Optometry services
- Dental services
- Dentures
- Prosthetics
- Eyeglasses
- Chiropractic services
- Private duty nursing services
- Personal care
- Hospice
- Case management
- Services for Individuals Age 65 + in an IMD
- Other services approved by the Secretary
- TB Related Services
- Inpatient psychiatric services for individuals under age 21
- Services in ICF/ID
- Home and Community-Based Waivers – 1915(c)*
- State Plan Home and Community Based Services -1915(i)*
- Self-Directed Personal Assistant Services -1915 (j)*
- Community First Choice Option - 1915 (k)*



- * The federal government pays ~60% of whatever it costs to provide services to people in a Medicaid program (like Family Care or IRIS). The state pays the remaining 40%.
- * Medicaid funding expands to cover more people if needed, and contracts if fewer people need services.
- * Currently if a person meets the eligibility requirements (generally poverty, age, and/or disability), he or she is entitled to the services available under the state Medicaid program.



* **How does Medicaid work now?**

- * Medicaid offers critical supports that are not available or accessible on the private market to:
 - * children,
 - * older adults,
 - * people with physical disabilities,
 - * people with intellectual/developmental disabilities,
 - * people with mental health conditions,
 - * and low-income working adults.
- * Children are the largest population of people in Wisconsin Medicaid programs (about 50%)
- * People with disabilities are in all of Wisconsin's Medicaid programs (not just long term care)

* (Medicaid) Populations

Family Care/Managed Long-Term Care	Children's Long Term Support Program
IRIS - Self-Directed Long-Term Care	Katie Beckett Program
CIP/COP (Long-Term Care Waivers)	Comprehensive Community Services
Family Care Partnership	Community Support Program
PACE	Community Recovery Services
Personal Care services (through Medicaid)	Targeted Case Management
Elderly Blind Disabled (EBD) Medicaid or Social Security(SSI) Medicaid	SeniorCare
Medical Assistance Purchase Plan (MAPP)	Wisconsin Chronic Disease program
Wisconsin Well Woman program	Family Planning Only Services program
BadgerCare	Services provided using a Wisconsin Forward Health card

Wisconsin Medicaid Programs

- * Block grants would give states a fixed amount of money to spend on Medicaid services and programs.
- * If costs exceed the amount from the federal government, states could use state money to cover extra costs.
- * Or states could make decisions to reduce Medicaid costs, so only block grant money pays for Medicaid programs.



* Medicaid Block grant proposal

- * **Do** restrict the amount of funding provided to states for Medicaid.
 - * Analysis of previous Medicaid Block grant proposals estimate a 35-40% reduction in Federal Medicaid funding to states
- * **Do** pass decisions on whether to provide extra funding or cut Medicaid to states.
- * **Do not** guarantee states will receive enough funds to cover people currently in Medicaid, or meet changing needs of a population
- * **Do not** give states more flexibility. States have incredible flexibility already by using Medicaid waivers.
- * **Do not** adjust or account for rising health care or prescription costs or changing needs of the state population
- * **Do not** account for downturns in the economy or disease outbreaks

* **Block Grants do and do not...**

- * **To reduce Medicaid spending, states could:**
 - * Limit or eliminate some services or supports
 - * Establish wait lists for programs or services
 - * Establish “tiered” benefits for certain populations
 - * Restrict who is eligible for Medicaid
 - * eliminate coverage for whole populations or subpopulations
 - * Add requirements, like cost-sharing, for participants
 - * Eliminate entitlement to Medicaid
 - * Use prior authorization or other methods to reduce or restrict access to services
 - * Cut reimbursement rates for care providers
 - * Or other mechanisms to reduce Medicaid costs

*** What could Medicaid Block Grants mean for states and PWD?**

- * Governor Walker: Jan 9th letter to U.S. House Majority Leader requested Medicaid Block Grants to states.
- * Wisconsin DHS Medicaid Director Michael Heifitz presented on the high costs of covering the Elderly, Blind, and Disabled (EBD) Medicaid populations, and how the state might do a Medicaid Block Grant, per capita payments, or a hybrid that does not treat everyone the same. <http://www.wiseye.org/Video-Archive/Event-Detail/evhdid/11188#sthash.rZlI7tAn.dpuf> (starts minute 69:30)
- * Wisconsin Health News, panel including Assembly Health Committee Chair Rep. Joe Sanfelippo discussed the future of the Affordable Care Act and Medicaid: <http://www.wiseye.org/Video-Archive/Event-Detail/evhdid/11200#sthash.6hGBfqdl.dpuf>

* Wisconsin leaders on Medicaid Block Grants



* Action Steps you can take now



Survival Coalition

of Wisconsin Disability Organizations

P.O. Box 7222, Madison, Wisconsin 53707

- * Take Survival Coalition's "Am I impacted by changes to Medicaid?" Coalition's Survey at:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XVCZFXK>
- * Share the link to the survey and ask everyone you know to take it as well.
- * Make sure you indicate what actions you will volunteer to do at the end of the survey.

*** Take the Survey**



Questions for Wisconsin Policymakers: How will Medicaid Block Grants impact me?

Policymakers in Washington and Wisconsin are discussing changing Medicaid to a block grant program. This will change the way Wisconsin delivers many Medicaid services to people with disabilities, older adults, families, and children. Medicaid block grants are intended to reduce federal Medicaid spending and reduce future growth in Medicaid budgets. It is important for Wisconsin residents with disabilities and older adults to ask their policymakers questions about proposed Medicaid changes. People are worried about how Medicaid block grants might impact their lives and whether it means their supports could be cut.

Please select the questions that are most relevant to your life or organization and ask them of your U.S. Senators, Congressional Representative, and state legislators.

Some Facts to Share with Policymakers

- One in five Wisconsinites who have disabilities, are older adults, are children, or are low-income working adults rely on Medicaid for health care and other essential supports.
- Medicaid programs in Wisconsin (like BadgerCare, SeniorCare, MAPP, Family Care, IRIS, children's waivers) help people with disabilities and older adults with basic health care and therapies, and often with daily living supports and personal cares like getting out of bed, going to the bathroom, respite, help with meals, transportation, and employment supports.
- Medicaid has allowed thousands of Wisconsin residents with disabilities and older adults to stay in their homes and avoid costly institutional care at significant savings to taxpayers.

Questions we hear from older adults, people with disabilities, and their families in Wisconsin.

How Will Medicaid Block Grants Impact Me

- Will block grants change whether I am eligible for Family Care/IRIS/personal care/children's waiver supports/MAPP/BadgerCare/CCS/CSP or other Medicaid programs?
- Will the long-term care services (Family Care, IRIS, waivers) I need be cut?
- Will I still have the same medical benefits I have today or will they be cut or even eliminated?
- Will I still have the same mental health and substance use disorder benefits I have today or will they be cut or eliminated?
- My care plan is what I need to be independent. Will my plan be cut even if my needs don't change?
- Will I still be able to choose and keep my doctors? Will my doctor still take Medicaid patients?
- Will I still get supports in my home, or will I be forced into an institution or nursing facility?
- Will my mom, who is currently receiving services in her own home, have her services reduced or eliminated, requiring me to leave my job to become a full-time caregiver?
- Wisconsin has made huge progress in ending wait lists that left people unsafe and affected their health. Will Wisconsin go back to waiting lists for Medicaid programs with lots of people unable to get needed help for years?
- Will children who are waiting for long-term supports in Wisconsin now have to wait even longer? Will the number of children on the waiting list increase?

www.wilongtermcarecoalition.org

- * Will I lose the services that help keep me in my home?
- * If there's not enough money, will I have to be on a waiting list to get into programs like Family Care or IRIS?
- * Will I lose services I need like personal care, prescription drugs, and employment services?
- * Will I be forced into an institution if I can't get the services I need to live in the community?
- * Will I lose entitlement to Medicaid and lose access to all health care services?
- * More questions about Medicaid Block Grants from the Long Term Care Coalition are available here:
http://media.wix.com/ugd/2aa64e_d4129a890e5a4a9a9f7556f2a33e974c.pdf

* **Questions to ask elected officials**

- * Call both of your U.S. Senators (Tammy Baldwin and Ron Johnson) with your questions & concerns about Medicaid Block Grants*
- * Call your U.S. Representative (see map, next slide or use the Find My Legislators button at <https://legis.wisconsin.gov/>)*
- * Request an in-district meeting with your U.S. Senators and U.S. Representative*
- * Attend your Congressional member's Town Hall Meetings to discuss how important Medicaid services are in your life.*

***Take Action:
Contact U.S. Senators & U.S.
Representative**

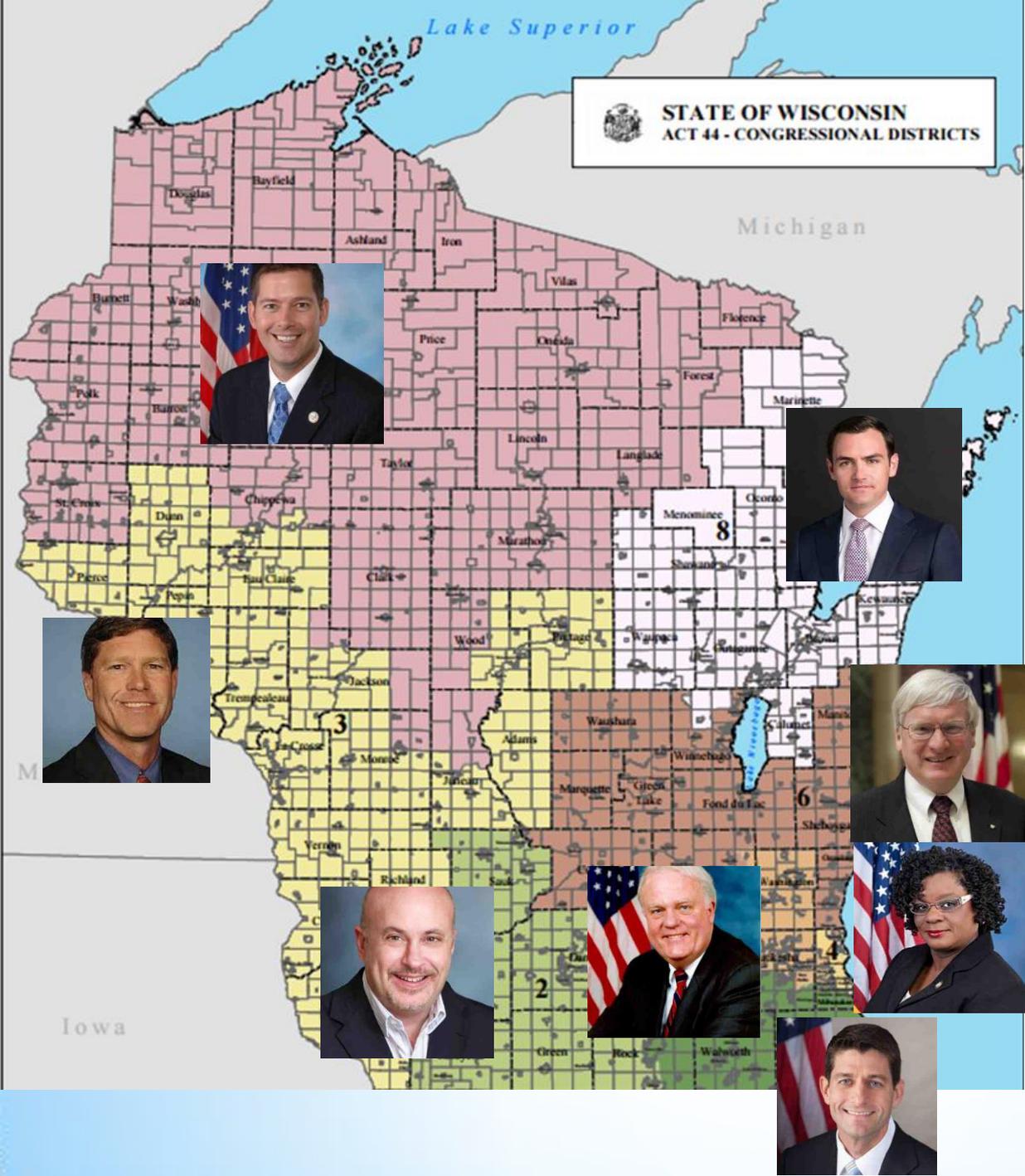
Wisconsin's U.S. Senators



Sen. Tammy Baldwin
DC Office: (202) 224-5653



Sen. Ron Johnson
DC Office: (202) 224-5323



- * Event dates/times/locations (and contact information) often listed on Member's websites or in their constituent newsletters :
- * U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin (<https://www.baldwin.senate.gov/>)
- * U.S. Senator Ron Johnson (<http://www.ronjohnson.senate.gov/public/>)
- * Speaker Paul Ryan (<https://paulryan.house.gov/>)
- * U.S. Rep Jim Sensenbrenner (<https://sensenbrenner.house.gov/>)
- * U.S. Rep Gwen Moore (<https://gwenmoore.house.gov/>)
- * U.S. Rep Ron Kind (<https://kind.house.gov/>)
- * U.S. Rep Mark Pocan (<https://pocan.house.gov/>)
- * U.S. Rep Sean Duffy (<https://duffy.house.gov/>)
- * U.S. Rep Glenn Grothman (<https://grothman.house.gov/>)
- * U.S. Rep Mike Gallagher (<https://gallagher.house.gov/>)

* Congressional Town Hall Meetings



Job Description: Wisconsin's Best Disability Advocate

Wisconsin is looking for...

- people with disabilities
- family members
- and advocates

...who want their communities to be better places for people with disabilities.

Required Skills



- Ability to talk about disability issues – not just your own experiences.

- Willingness to develop relationships with policymakers.



- Ability to put politics aside and educate policymakers about disability issues.



Job Duties:

- Introduce yourself to your two state legislators (Find My Legislators: <http://legis.wisconsin.gov/>)



- Reach out to other people with disabilities – or to a disability organization to help you understand issues that are important to all people with disabilities.

- Ask your legislator where their favorite coffee shop is! Meet up!



- Educate yourself about what is in the state budget (in February) that impacts people with disabilities (Go to www.survivalcoalitionwi.org)

- * Plan on meeting with your two state (state Senator and Representative) elected officials when they take office in January.
- * Find your legislators at <http://legis.wisconsin.gov>
- * Discuss your questions & concerns about Medicaid Block Grants, and to discuss how important Medicaid is in your life.
- * Request an in-district meeting