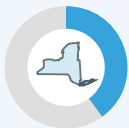**FAMILIESUSA**
THE VOICE FOR HEALTH CARE CONSUMERS

Medicaid Matters to New York's 11th Congressional District (NY-11)

New York State's Medicaid program is a lifeline on Staten Island and in Southern Brooklyn
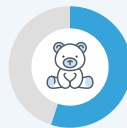
Medicaid provides health coverage for children, working families, veterans, vulnerable seniors, people with disabilities and many others in New York.[1]

Medicaid serves as the core financial backbone of Staten Island and Southern Brooklyn's health care system, paying for care and services at local clinics and hospitals and serving as a critical engine for the local economy.

In NY-11, Medicaid Serves:

A total of 304,100 people — **40% of all residents** in the district.[2]

A total of 89,200 children — **55% of all children** in the district.[3]

A total of **69,300 seniors** and **people with disabilities.**[4]

Millions of New Yorkers will lose health coverage and care if Congress cuts or caps Medicaid funding, forcing the state to offset budget holes by throwing people off coverage, cutting provider reimbursement, and/or eliminating essential health services.[5] Any cut to Medicaid is a direct attack on the health and financial security of people living on Staten Island and in Southern Brooklyn and runs counter to the will of the vast majority of voters from across political parties who want Congress to continue to guarantee coverage for low-income people through Medicaid.[6]

A total of **82% of adults** want Congress to maintain or increase Medicaid spending.[7]

A total of **67% of Republicans** want Congress to maintain or increase Medicaid spending.[8]

A total of **71% of voters** want Congress to continue to guarantee coverage for low-income people through Medicaid.[9]

Protecting Medicaid Means:

CHILDREN IN NY-11

Have access to newborn care, checkups, care for diabetes and asthma, and more.

Stay healthy and ready to learn, miss fewer school days, are more likely to graduate, and earn more as adults.[10]

FAMILIES IN NY-11

Have access to cancer screenings, mental health and substance use disorder treatment, and diabetes and blood pressure medications.

Have less risk of medical debt and eviction and can better afford to buy groceries or pay rent.[11]

SENIORS IN NY-11

Have access to nursing home care, transportation to medical appointments, and home health services.

Stay healthy and receive needed care in their homes and communities.

Medicaid keeps families on Staten Island and in Southern Brooklyn healthy and working

Many low-wage jobs either do not offer health coverage or offer coverage that is unaffordable. Medicaid provides health coverage for workers at these jobs so they can remain healthy and earn income for their families.

- **At least 73,176 low-wage workers** in NY-11 are covered by Medicaid.[12]
- Nationwide, **92% of adults** covered by Medicaid either work, care for a family member, have an illness or disability, or attend school.[13]

Cutting Medicaid would make our country's affordability crisis much worse for families in New York who already face significant health care costs.

Medicaid is the bedrock of the health system on Staten Island and in Brooklyn

Medicaid keeps hospitals in the district open. It pays for 30% of all hospital services provided at Richmond University Medical Center.[14] If Medicaid is cut, hospitals will treat more uninsured people, and the amount of uncompensated care will increase. Nearly 5% of the district's residents are already uninsured, and increased losses in patient revenue would put all Staten Island and Brooklyn hospitals at risk.[15]

Medicaid also plays important roles in providing access to behavioral health care and nursing home care. Medicaid is the largest payer for mental health care, substance use disorder treatment, and other community services to curb the opioid epidemic and care for people with mental illness.[16] **Medicaid also covers 5 in 8 nursing home residents in New York.**[17]

Medicaid stabilizes New York's state and local economies

Medicaid is the largest source of federal funding for New York, accounting for 59% of the federal funds received by the state.[18] Medicaid dollars ensure New York State can deliver essential health care without depleting resources reserved for other essential services, including public safety, transportation, housing and education.

Cutting Medicaid would make our country's affordability crisis much worse. Americans from all backgrounds just voted for economic security, imploring their representatives to lower costs on everyday needs, including health care. Cutting Medicaid would be a direct betrayal of constituents by making health care more unaffordable. **Families on Staten Island and in Southern Brooklyn — and all across New York City — already face significant health care costs:**

- **81% of people living in New York City** are worried about affording health care.
- **28% of people living in New York City** rationed or did not fill a prescription due to cost.
- **78% of people living in New York City** skipped needed care due to cost.[19]

Congress has the responsibility to stand with families in New York and across the country by protecting Medicaid and opposing any attempts to weaken this essential program.

Endnotes

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202-628-3030   info@familiesusa.org   FamiliesUSA.org | @FAMILIESUSA | @FAMILIESUSAYT