



## Preserving the ACA and Medicaid: Phone Call Talking Points - January 2017

People who experience homelessness are among the most medically vulnerable in the country. The new Administration has vowed to repeal the Affordable Care Act and Medicaid Expansion. This means the loss of health care for too many people trying to escape homelessness. Tell Congress not to repeal Medicaid expansion, and to not repeal the ACA without an immediate replacement that ensures people experiencing homelessness have access to coverage and care.

## Phone Scripts

### PHONE SCRIPT FOR PEOPLE IN EXPANSION STATES

- Hi my name is NAME, I am calling from AGENCY in CITY, STATE.
- I would like to leave a message for the health care staffer. My message is that for people who are trying to escape homelessness, the most important part of the ACA is Medicaid expansion, which providing good medical care to people whose incomes are too low to afford any kind of insurance payment.
- In my community, INCLUDE ANY DATA, TRENDS, OR STORIES THAT EXEMPLIFY HOW THE ACA HAS HELPED.
- Please tell SENATOR OR REPRESENTATIVE **not** to repeal the ACA and Medicaid expansion.
- Please express my thanks to SENATOR OR REPRESENTATIVE for their consideration and work.

### PHONE SCRIPT FOR PEOPLE IN NON-EXPANSION STATES

- Hi my name is NAME, I am calling from AGENCY in CITY, STATE.
- I would like to leave a message for the health care staffer. My message is that for people who are trying to escape homelessness, the most important part of the ACA is Medicaid expansion, which providing good medical care to people whose incomes are too low to afford any kind of insurance payment.
- In my community we need to be able to expand Medicaid under the ACA. INCLUDE ANY DATA, TRENDS, OR STORIES THAT SHOW HOW MEDICAID EXPANSION IS NEEDED.
- Please tell SENATOR OR REPRESENTATIVE **not** to repeal the ACA and Medicaid expansion.
- Please express my thanks to SENATOR OR REPRESENTATIVE for their consideration and work.

## In-Depth Talking Points

### WHAT WE ARE ASKING FOR

We are asking Congress not to repeal Medicaid expansion. For people trying to escape homelessness, the most important part of the ACA is Medicaid expansion, which is providing them with essential care.

### WHY THEY SHOULD LISTEN

1. **People who experience homelessness are the most vulnerable.** They are among the most medically vulnerable in the country; are often the most costly “super-utilizers” of our health care system; and have the hardest time accessing coverage.

2. **The ACA and Medicaid expansion are working!**
  - a. Medicaid expansion as part of the ACA helps people who are homeless get coverage and access to care and get back on their feet. It makes it easier for people with disabling conditions to apply for coverage and easier for people struggling with homelessness to be eligible for coverage.
  - b. Medicaid expansion has reduced high traffic in emergency and inpatient settings and is reducing the significant cost burden of these “super-utilizers” on our health care system.
3. **Through Medicaid, communities have made incredible progress** in addressing the health needs of this population, and increased state funding has provided a much needed funding source for homeless services in supportive housing.