



Medicaid and Health Care Safety Net Work Group

Mission: To transform Medicaid and the safety net to improve the well-being of the recipients and ensure that it is accountable to the taxpayers.

Guiding Principles / Core Values:

- The purpose of a health care safety net is articulated in Medicaid's statutory charge: *"Furnish rehabilitation and other services to help such families and individuals attain or retain capability for independence or self-care."* 42 USC 1396
- Medicaid delivers poor results, failing both those who rely on the program and taxpayers.
- Personal empowerment is essential to achieving fulfillment and prosperity as well as the best program outcomes.
- Overall well-being encompasses much more than medical care and is, in large part, a function of family, friends, community, work, and faith or sense of purpose.
- Medicaid's current financial structure, with an open-ended federal reimbursement of state expenditures, leads to significant improper and inappropriate spending in the program that disproportionately benefits special interests rather than the intended recipients.

Strategic Action Items to Achieve Goals

Goal 1: Accountable and Efficient Program

- Ensure that eligible recipients receive the most efficient services in the right setting and at the right time.
- Use proper incentives to maximize actual value for patients from public spending.
- Develop appropriate standards to assess the program's outcomes.
- Realign incentives and reform financing so both the federal government and states are accountable for results and concerned about the value of the programs.

Goal 2: Improved Health and Well-being of Patients

- Give patients opportunities to choose holistic, individualized health care options.
- Empower recipients to improve health outcomes through proactive, healthy behavior, social and community engagement, and smart interactions with the health care system.

- Consider the overall impact of the variety of social welfare programs on recipients and their incentives to lead the most productive and meaningful lives.