

# **The Unwind of Medicaid Continuous Coverage: Where are we now?**

Alison Yager  
Executive Director



# Where Do We Stand?

## Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023

- De-coupled Public Health Emergency from continuous Medicaid coverage
- Continuous coverage protection ended March 31, 2023
- Redetermination letters began in March
- Disenrollments can begin this month
- State has 1 year for the redetermination process

# Gains & Losses

## Medicaid Coverage Gains

- 1.77 million additional enrollees in FL since March 2020
- Total of 5.7 million enrollees now in FL
- 2/3 of FL kids are now covered by Medicaid & HealthyKids

## Anticipated Losses

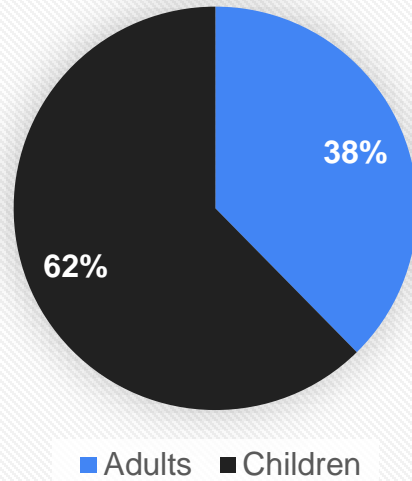
- 900,000 cases identified as likely ineligible
- Additional 850,000 cases with outdated address

## Groups Most Likely to Lose Coverage

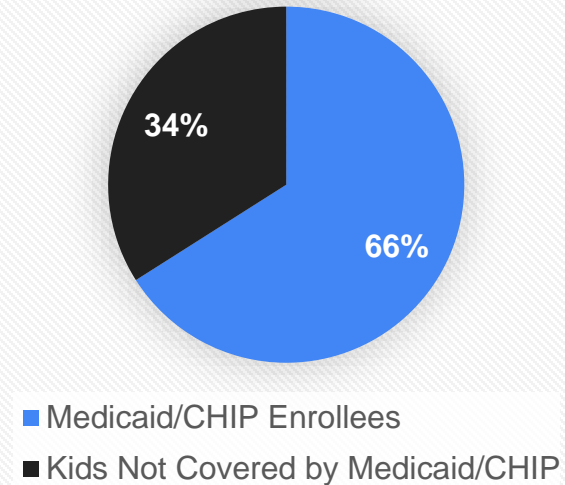
- Parents whose income increased
- Parents who no longer have a minor child
- Kids (HHS estimates 72% will remain eligible)
- 19-20 Year Olds
- Former foster care youth who turned 26 since March 2020
- Postpartum women > 12 months
- Elderly or Disabled who are now on Medicare

# The Impact on Children

Kids account for 62% of  
FL Medicaid & KidCare  
Enrollment



Two-thirds of FL Kids  
are Covered by  
Medicaid/KidCare



**Warning: U.S. HHS Projects that 72% of disenrolled kids will remain eligible.**

Source: Georgetown Center for Children and Families

# DCF Communication Strategy

## Direct Communication

- Client Call Center
- Postcards
- Yellow Stripe Renewal Notices

## Digital Communication

- Email/text messaging
- Social Media
- Call Center Virtual Assistant

## Partners

- Validating contact information
- How to assist
- Partner packets



Source: Florida Department of Children & Families, Jan. 2023

# Anticipated Challenges

- Unprecedented work for agencies
- Staff shortages
- Inexperienced/new staff
- Enrollees who have never gone thru redetermination
- Low *ex parte* renewal rate
- Extensive reliance on mail
- High rates of relocation/address changes

# What Happens to Newly Disenrolled?

If disenrollment was proper:

- Marketplace enrollment (special enrollment period through July 31, 2024 for those who lose Medicaid)
- KidCare/Healthy Kids
- Coverage Gap (FQHCs, public hospital, charity care)

If disenrollment was improper:

- Connect to legal services or Florida Health Justice Project to appeal!

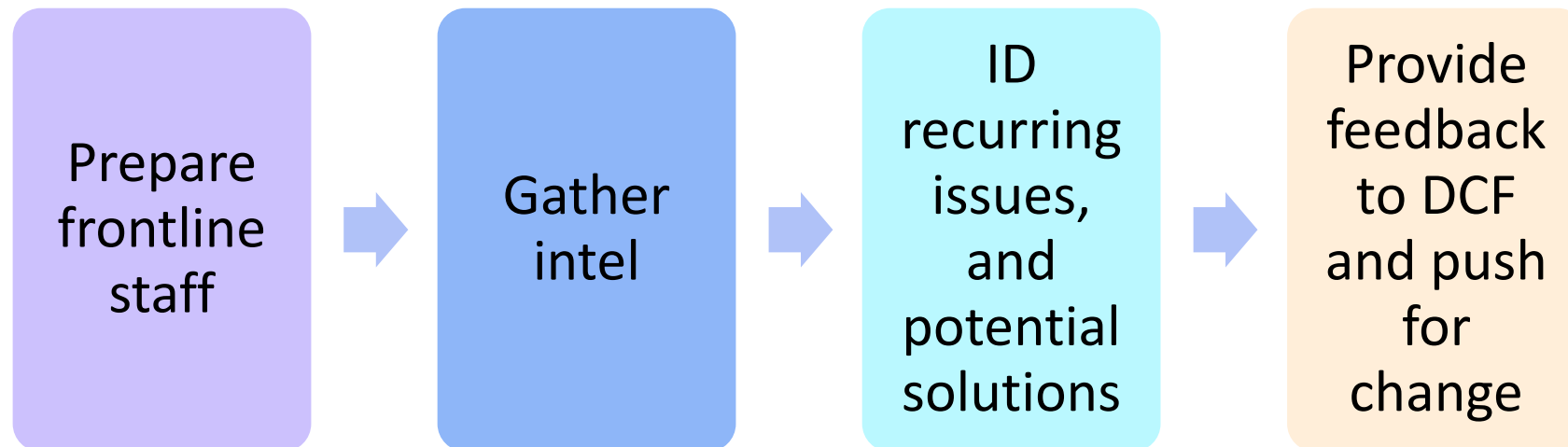


# Advocacy Opportunities

Over-arching Goal: Mitigating Coverage Loss

- Join our statewide listserve
- Education: let your patients, clients, networks know what's happening
  - o Social media, outreach events, trusted messengers
- Track outcomes
  - o Identify themes, recurring issues, potential solutions
  - o Feedback loop is critical for accountability
  - o Coordinate with statewide groups
- Have a plan to support newly disenrolled!
  - o Referrals to marketplace, FQHCs, public hospital
  - o Identify legal and social service resources

# Participate in Feedback Loop to Monitor the Unwinding



Source: Georgetown Center for Children and Families, Jan. 2023

## Feedback Loop: Trend Data to Collect

- Who?
  - Race, ethnicity
  - Age, eligibility category
- Where?
  - Rural/urban
  - County
- What?
  - Issue or barrier to retaining coverage
- How?
  - assistance provided to resolve the issue; best practice documentation; how quickly resolved?

# Messaging Guidance

- Changes are coming
- Update your contact information
- Watch your mail– look for the yellow envelope
- Act quickly
- Disenrolled consumers have (some) options
- Free help is available!

# Contact Us

<https://www.floridahealthjustice.org/public-health-emergency.html>

Alison Yager, Executive Director,  
[yager@floridahealthjustice.org](mailto:yager@floridahealthjustice.org)



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