

# STILL STRIVING FOR AN EXPANDED WORLD

A SAMPLING OF THREE MEDICAID NON-EXPANSION STATES



**Dan Rabbitt, MSW**

National Health Care for the Homeless Council

**Frances Isbell, MA**

CEO, Health Care for the Homeless, Houston

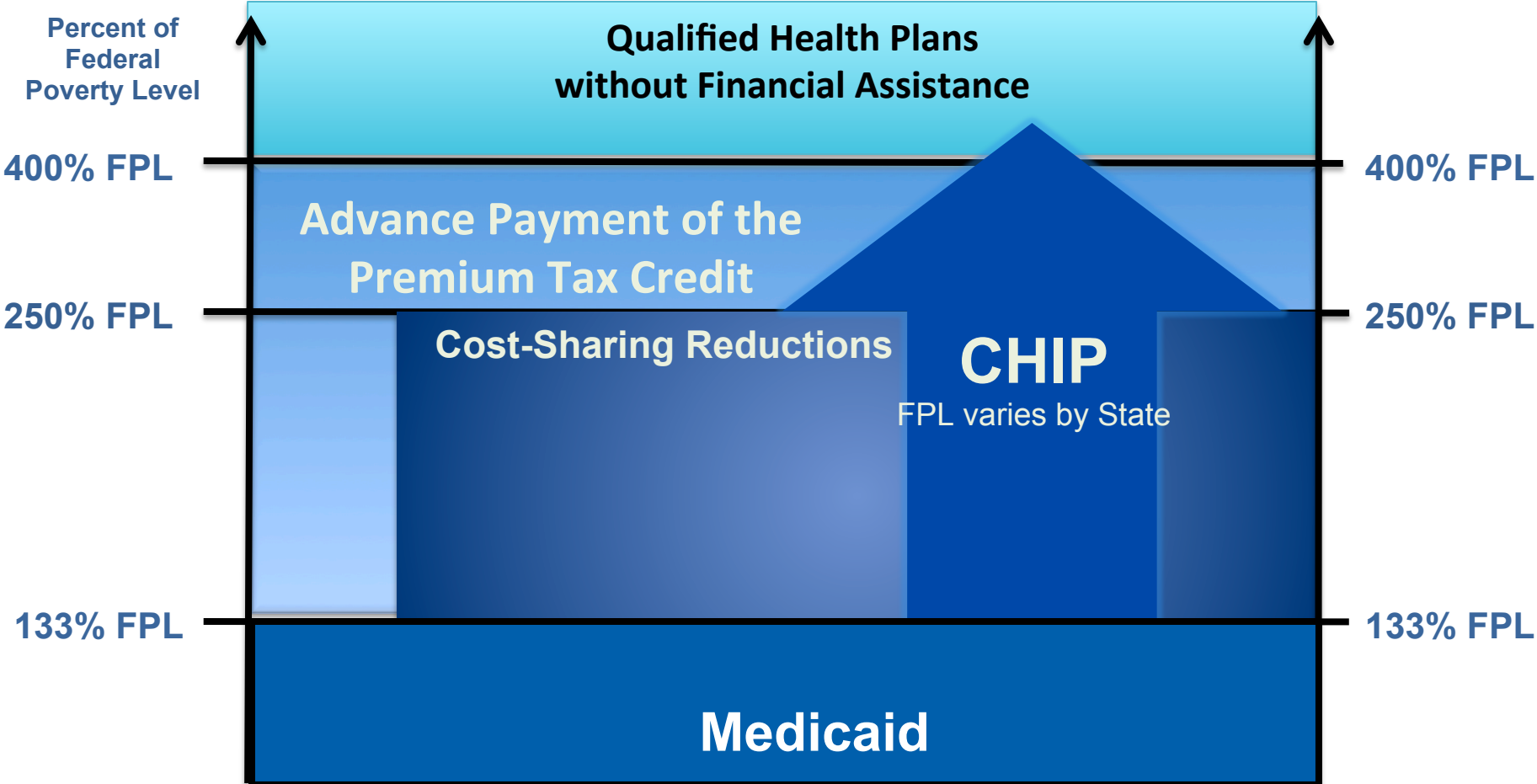
**Cathryn Marchman, JD, LCSW**

Legal, Policy, and Compliance Officer  
St. Joseph's Health System

**Jenn Hyvonen**

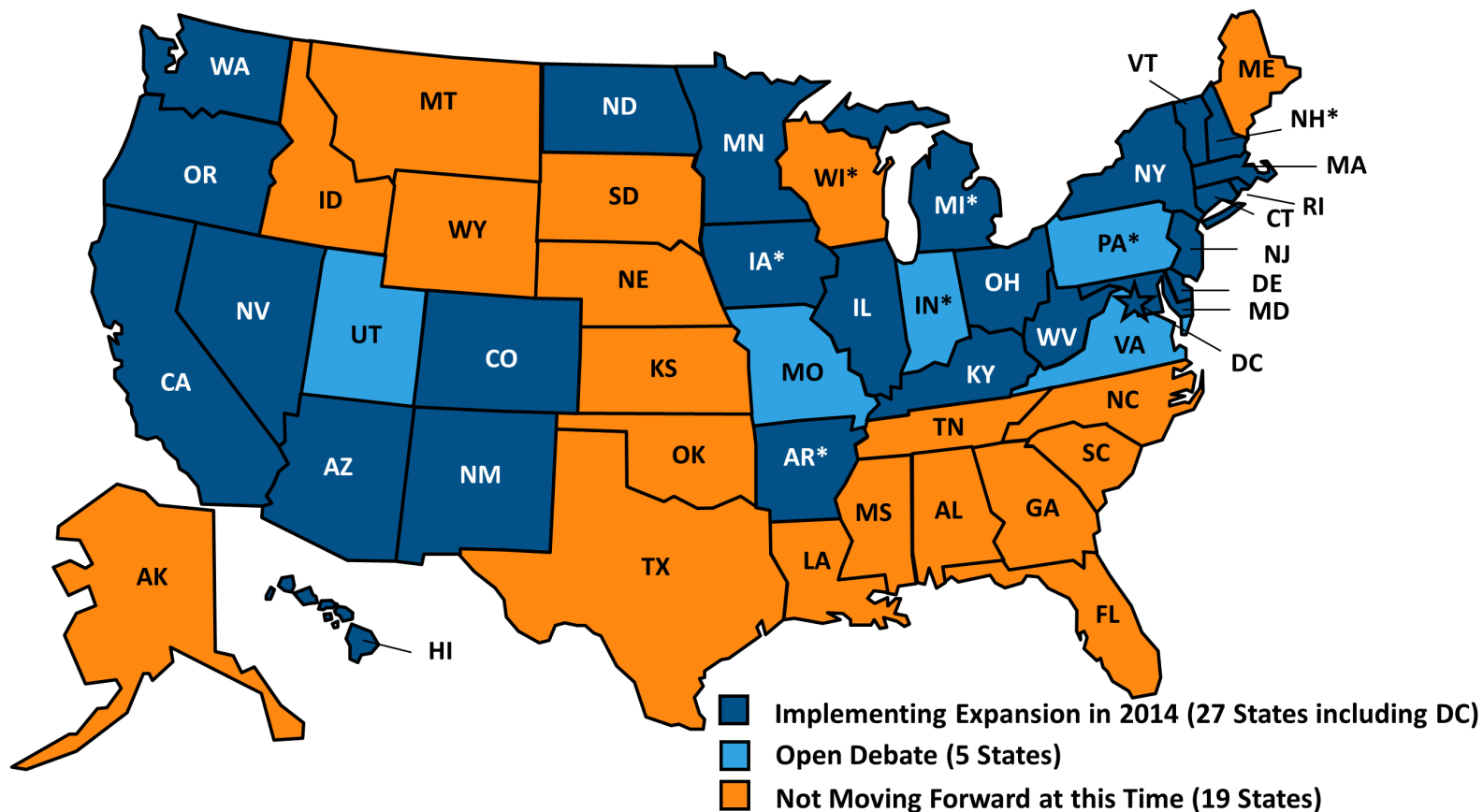
External Affairs Director  
Fourth Street Clinic

# THE ACA'S ORIGINAL INTENT



# SUPREME COURT DECISION

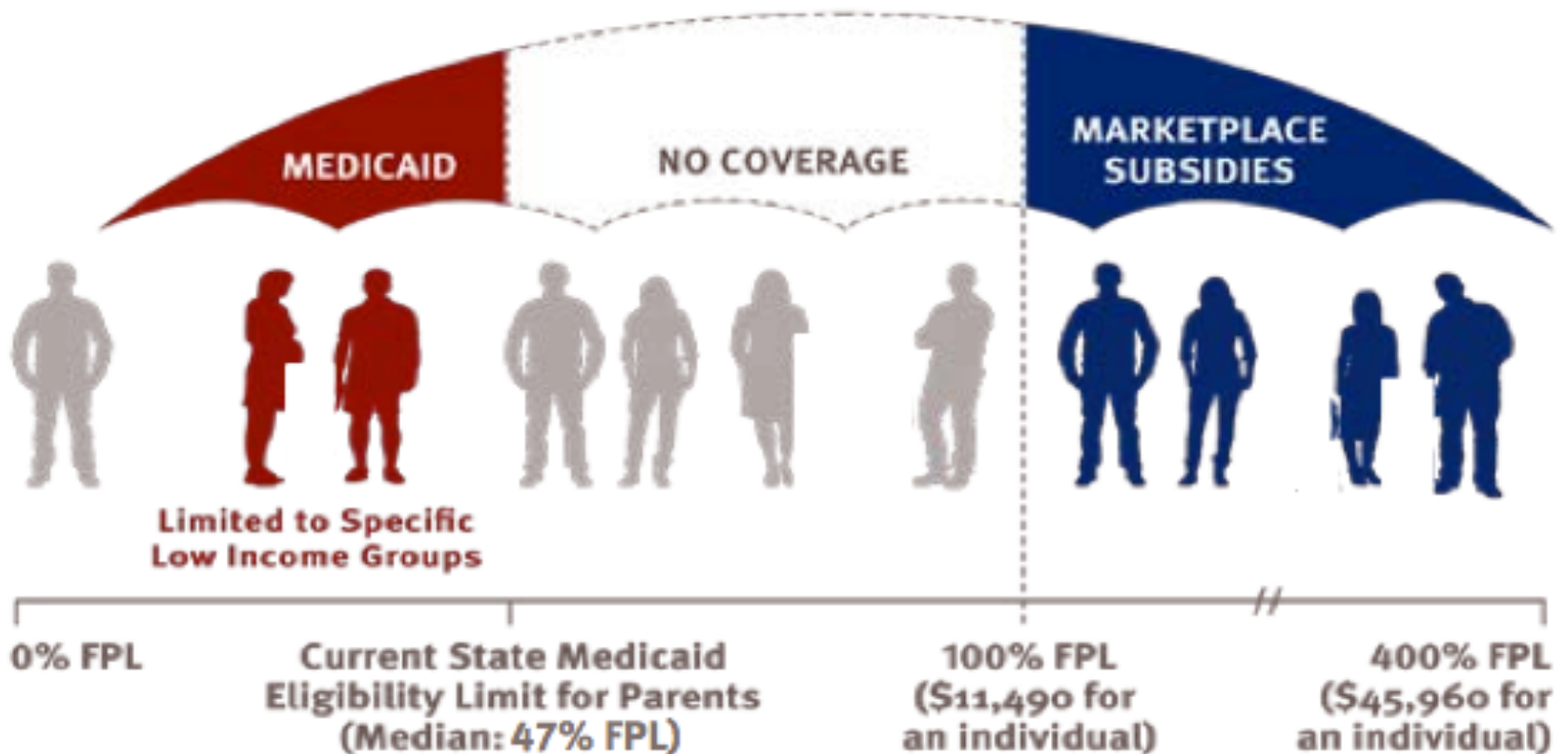
## Current Status of State Medicaid Expansion Decisions, 2014



NOTES: Data are as of March 26, 2014. \*AR and IA have approved waivers for Medicaid expansion. MI has an approved waiver for expansion and plans to implement in Apr. 2014. IN and PA have pending waivers for alternative Medicaid expansions. WI amended its Medicaid state plan and existing waiver to cover adults up to 100% FPL, but did not adopt the expansion. NH has passed legislation approving the Medicaid expansion in Mar. 2014; the legislation calls for the expansion to begin July 2014.

SOURCES: States implementing in 2014 and not moving forward at this time are based on data from CMS [here](#). States noted as "Open Debate" are based on KCMU analysis of State of the State Addresses, recent public statements made by the Governor, issuance of waiver proposals or passage of a Medicaid expansion bill in at least one chamber of the legislature.

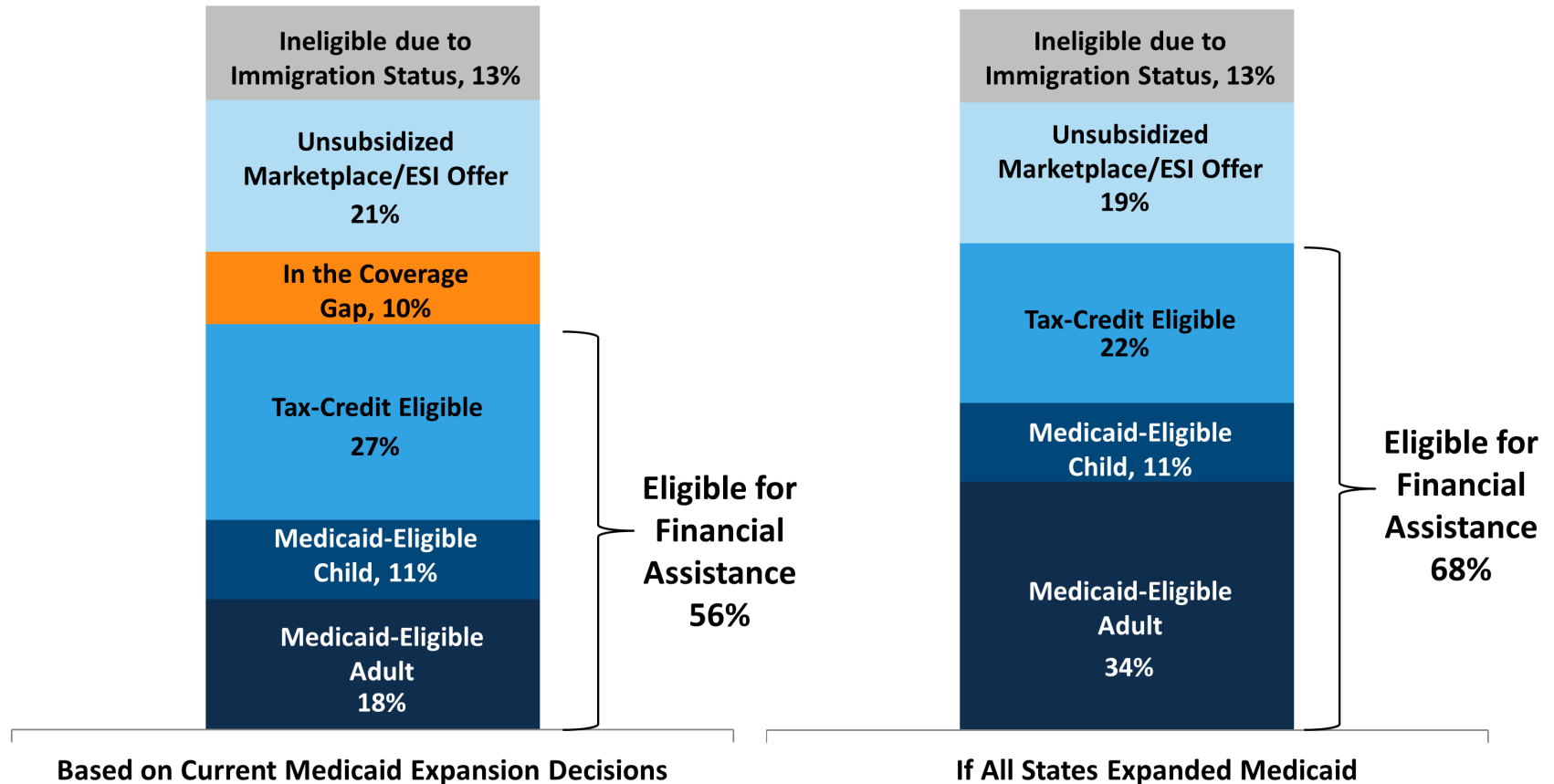
# COVERAGE GAP



# TWO TIERED HEALTH SYSTEM

Figure 3

## Eligibility for Coverage Among Currently Uninsured Nonelderly Individuals Currently and if All States Expanded Medicaid



**Total = 47.6 Million Nonelderly Uninsured**

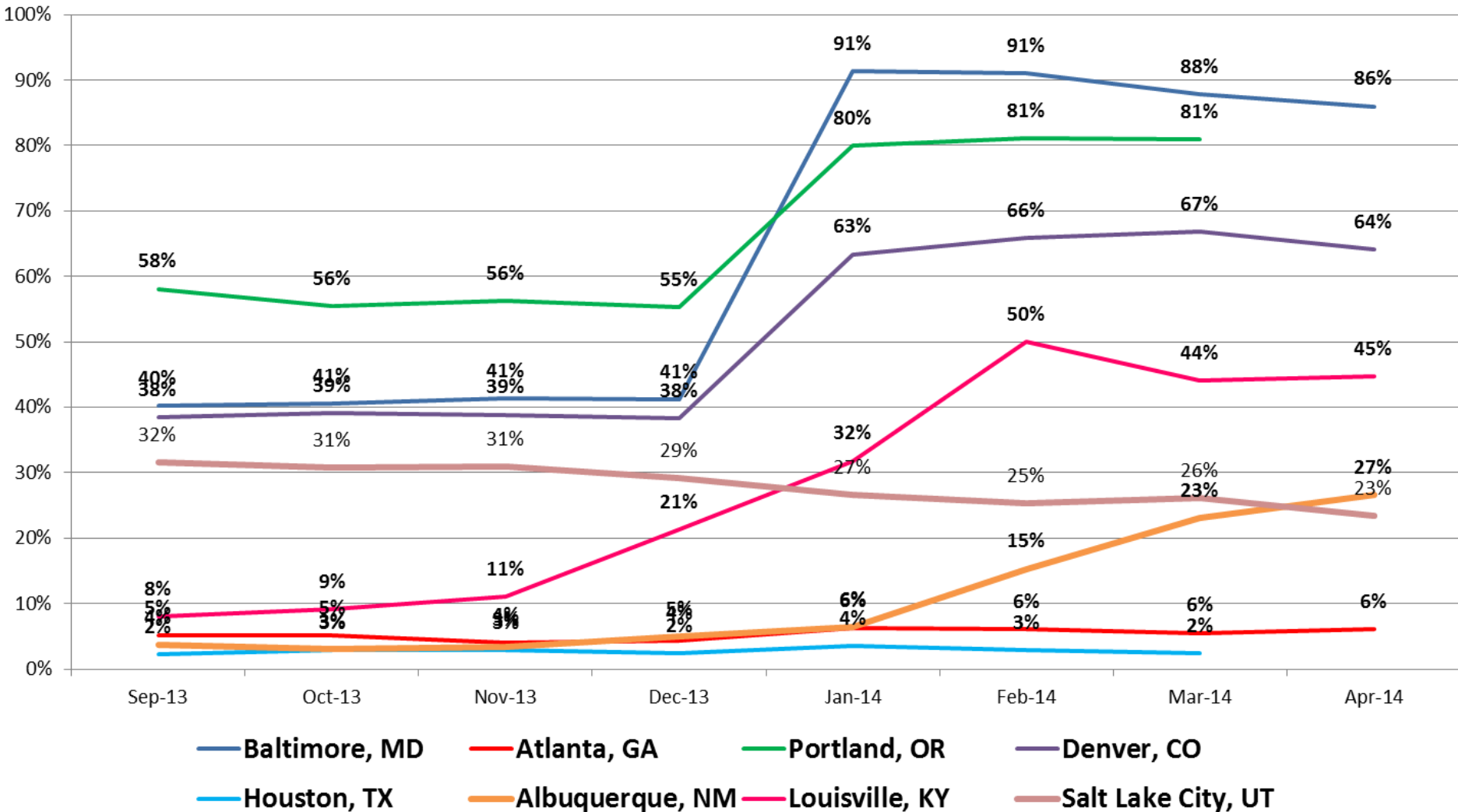
Notes: Those ineligible for financial assistance include people with an affordable offer of ESI, individuals eligible to purchase unsubsidized Marketplace coverage, and individuals ineligible for coverage due to immigration status.

SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation analysis based on 2014 Medicaid eligibility levels and 2012-2013 Current Population Survey.

# HCH GAINS IN INSURANCE

NATIONAL  
HEALTH CARE  
for the  
HOMELESS  
COUNCIL

## Health Care for the Homeless Projects Percent of Visits with Clients Who Have Health Insurance: January 2013 to April 2014



# MEDICAID EXPANSION 'DEBATE'

## FOR EXPANSION

- Feds pay 100% for first three years
- Will reduce other state costs
- Will reduce uncompensated care costs
- Will generate economic activity and jobs
- Will eliminate 'coverage gap'

## AGAINST EXPANSION

- Too costly, will crowd out other state investments
- Federal match cannot be counted on
- Medicaid is a broken system, even worse than being uninsured
- Opposition to public programs and federal gov't

# MEDICAID EXPANSION ‘DEBATE’

*“The economic case for Medicaid expansion for state officials is extremely strong” –Kaiser Family Foundation*

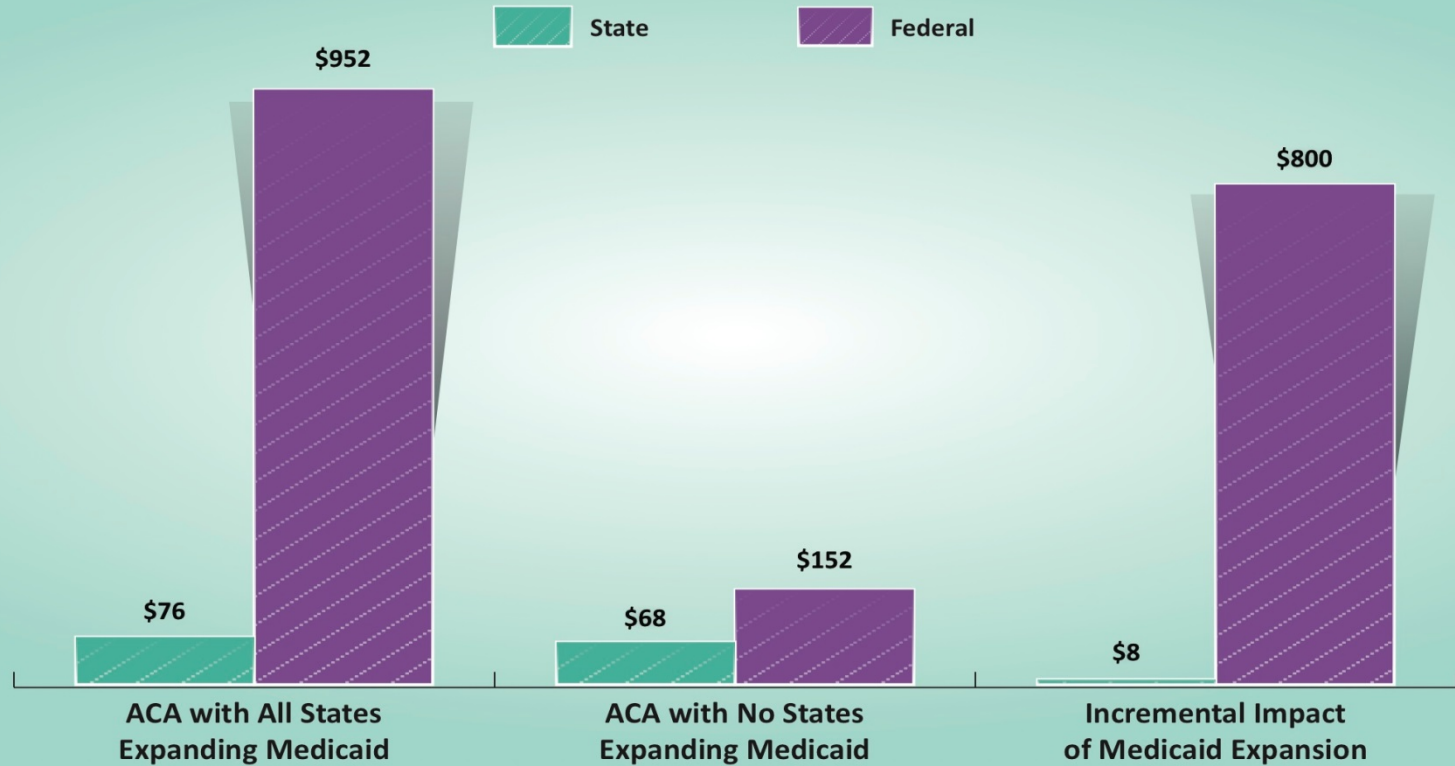
2013-2023 (if all states expanded):

- **\$800 billion in Federal spending**
- **\$8 billion in state costs**
- \$18 billion in state savings on uncompensated care
- \$314 billion increase in hospital revenue
- Reductions in state-only mental health costs, inpatient care for prisoners, indigent care, etc.
- Increases in state tax revenue



# INCREMENTAL COSTS

New State and Federal Medicaid Expenditures in Billions, 2013-2022

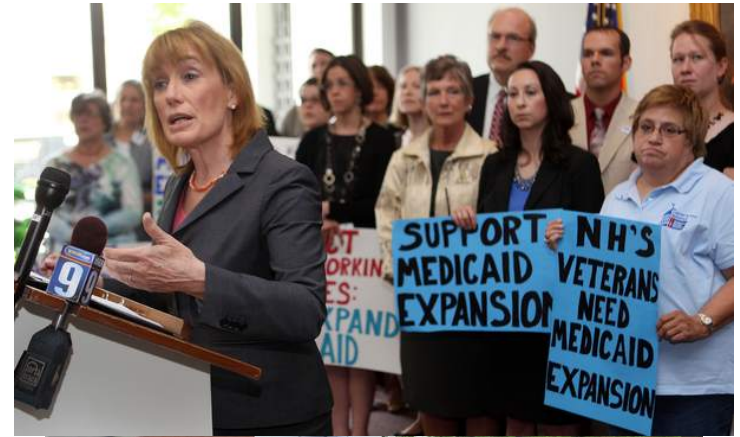


# POLITICAL OPPOSITION

- Despite economic arguments, significant opposition remains
- HCH consumers in non-expansion states could be disappointed
- HCH projects must continue to provide care
- Improved Medicaid enrollment practices (**for all states**) may help

# ADVOCACY MATTERS

- States can opt-in at any time
- New Hampshire just did in April
- Pennsylvania, Indiana, and even Utah might be next



# A NOTE ON MEDICAID WAIVERS

- Waivers are the likely way forward
- Some themes:
  - Reliance on private insurance through premium assistance
  - Emphasis on healthy behaviors and personal responsibility
  - Waiving of Medicaid benefit and cost-sharing protections
- Can be a viable way forward, but watch out for barriers for those without homes
- **Make sure to provide comments!**

# Mercy Care

Where Mercy Is Our Foundation

## Medicaid Expansion Georgia – “Missed Opportunity”

**OUR MISSION** Mercy Care honors the heritage and advances the ministry of the Sisters of Mercy by providing excellent health care to poor and marginalized persons, and through advocacy for healthy communities.

**OUR VISION** We will be a trusted partner in creating an environment where poor and marginalized people receive compassionate, excellent healthcare leading to improved quality of life and hope.



# Patients by the Numbers



**12,796 clinic patients**  
**24,575 medical visits**  
**8,359 dental visits**  
**5,229 behavioral health visits**  
**786 vision**  
**7,972 enabling service encounters**

**68%**

Homeless

**83%**

At or below federal poverty line

**91%**

Uninsured

**28%**

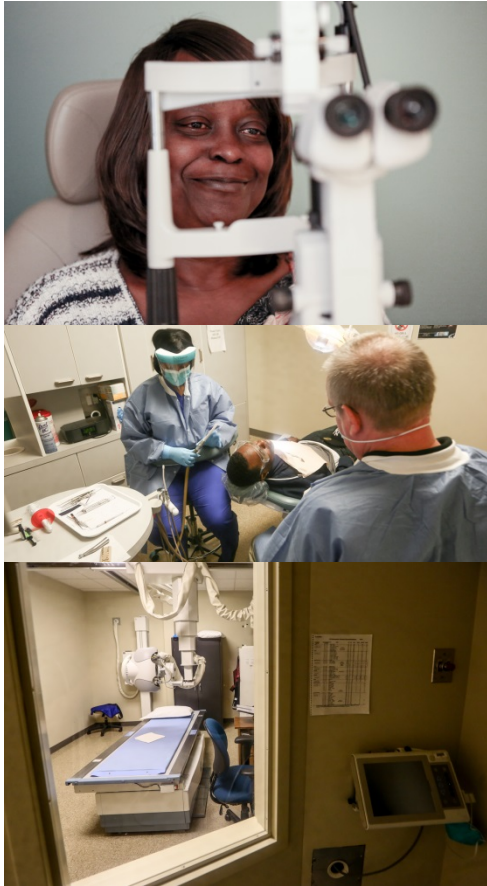
Best served in language  
other than English

**53%**

Male



# Full Range of Clinical Services



## Comprehensive Primary Care

Hypertension, Diabetes, Asthma, Behavioral Health, Pediatrics

## Preventive Care

Health screenings, Immunizations, Physicals, Breast and Cervical Cancer Education and Screenings, Mammography

## Infectious Disease

HIV Counseling, Testing and Primary Care Services, TB Screenings and Treatment Referrals, STD Screening and Treatment

## Recuperative Care

19 Bed Unit at 24/7 Gateway  
Partnership with Grady Hospital  
Focus on Medical and "Social" Recuperation

## Dental Services

Preventative, Primary and Restorative (contracted)

## Vision Services

Eye Exams, Free and Low Cost Glasses

## Diagnostics - X-ray/ultrasound

*with new emphasis on....*

## Behavioral Health

Integrated services within a primary care setting include assessment, counseling, medication management, substance abuse assessment with group counseling and an intensive psychosocial rehabilitation program.

**8%** of budget comes from  
patient service revenue

Saint Joseph's Mercy Care Services



[www.MercyCareServices.org](http://www.MercyCareServices.org)

# Innovative Approaches to Care



- Integration with Grady
  - ED Referrals
  - Staff Privileges
  - Access to EMR
- Patient Navigators & Community Health Workers
- Street Medicine
- PCMH Recognition
- Electronic Medical Record
- HIV Testing as Routine Care
- Award winning Recuperative Care Unit
- Integrated Behavioral Health





# City Snapshot



20,000 homeless persons in city of Atlanta, Fulton County and DeKalb County.  
14% increase in unsheltered homeless. 60% of immigrants are not yet U.S. citizens.  
Fulton County and Dekalb County both have uninsured rates of 23%.  
36 % of Dekalb County and 33% of Fulton County residents  
live below 200% of poverty level.



# The Gap

Atlanta's safety net  
of providers meets only  
**35%** of projected need.

Georgia Health Policy Center



# Georgia's Reality



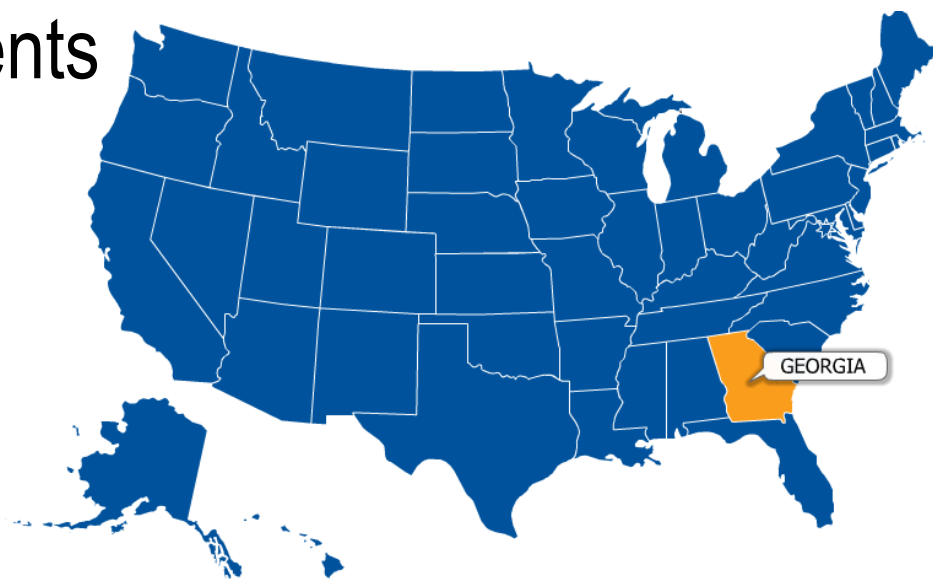
# Georgia by the Numbers – Health Care

**50<sup>th</sup>** in Medicaid spending per patient

**49<sup>th</sup>** in statewide health care spending per capita

**5<sup>th</sup>** most uninsured residents

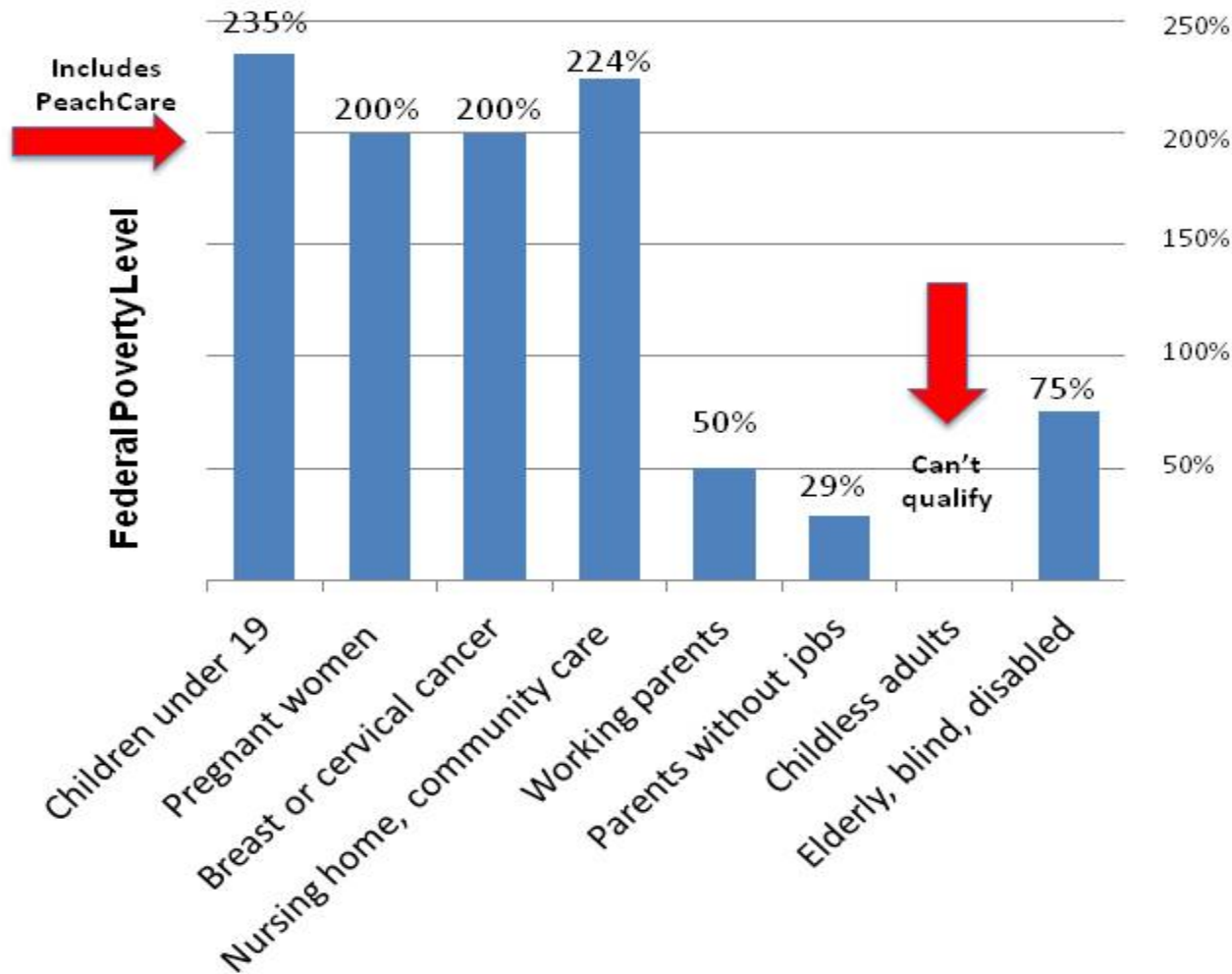
**4<sup>th</sup>** most uninsured kids



Source: [www.GBPI.org](http://www.GBPI.org)



# Georgia Medicaid Income Limits Today



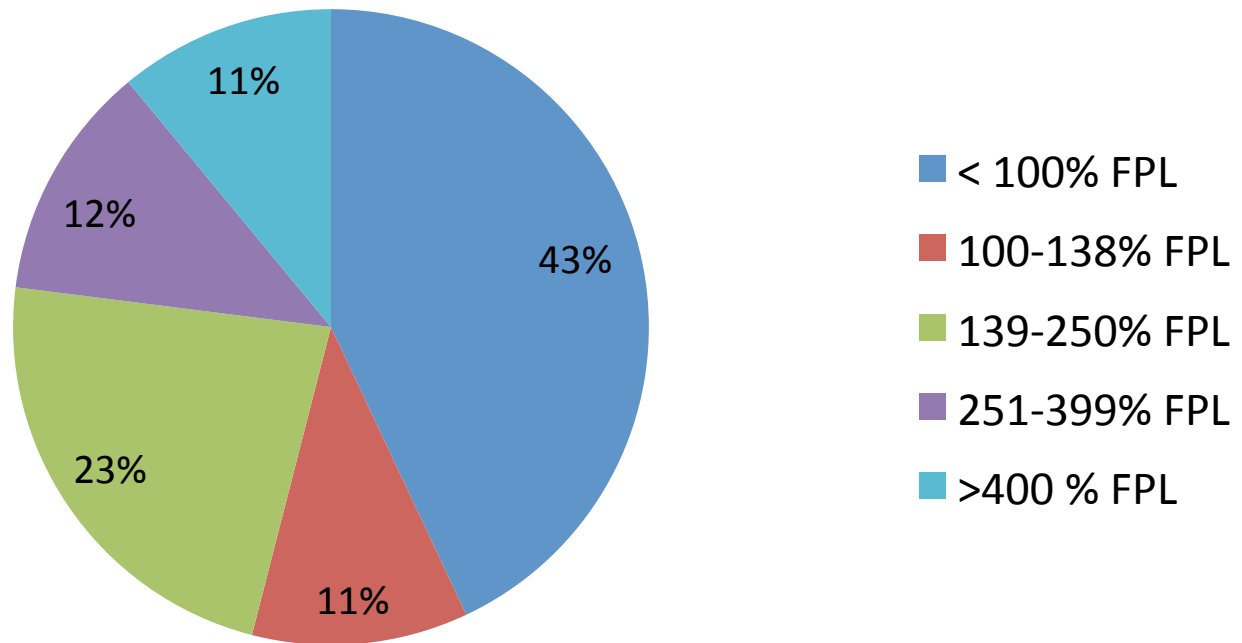
100% Federal Poverty Level 2013

Family Size	Annual Income
1	\$11,490
2	\$15,510
3	\$19,530
4	\$23,550



# The Big Picture, The Big Opportunity: Covering the Uninsured – 500,000 Individuals

## Distribution of Uninsured by Income



Source: CPS data, 2-year average 2010-2011 (Kaiser State Health Facts)



# Mercy Care Patients – 83% < FPL

- Limited access to specialty services
- Long waits for Behavioral Health
- Continued impact on housing and jobs
- Financial loss- \$3 – 4 million in new revenue

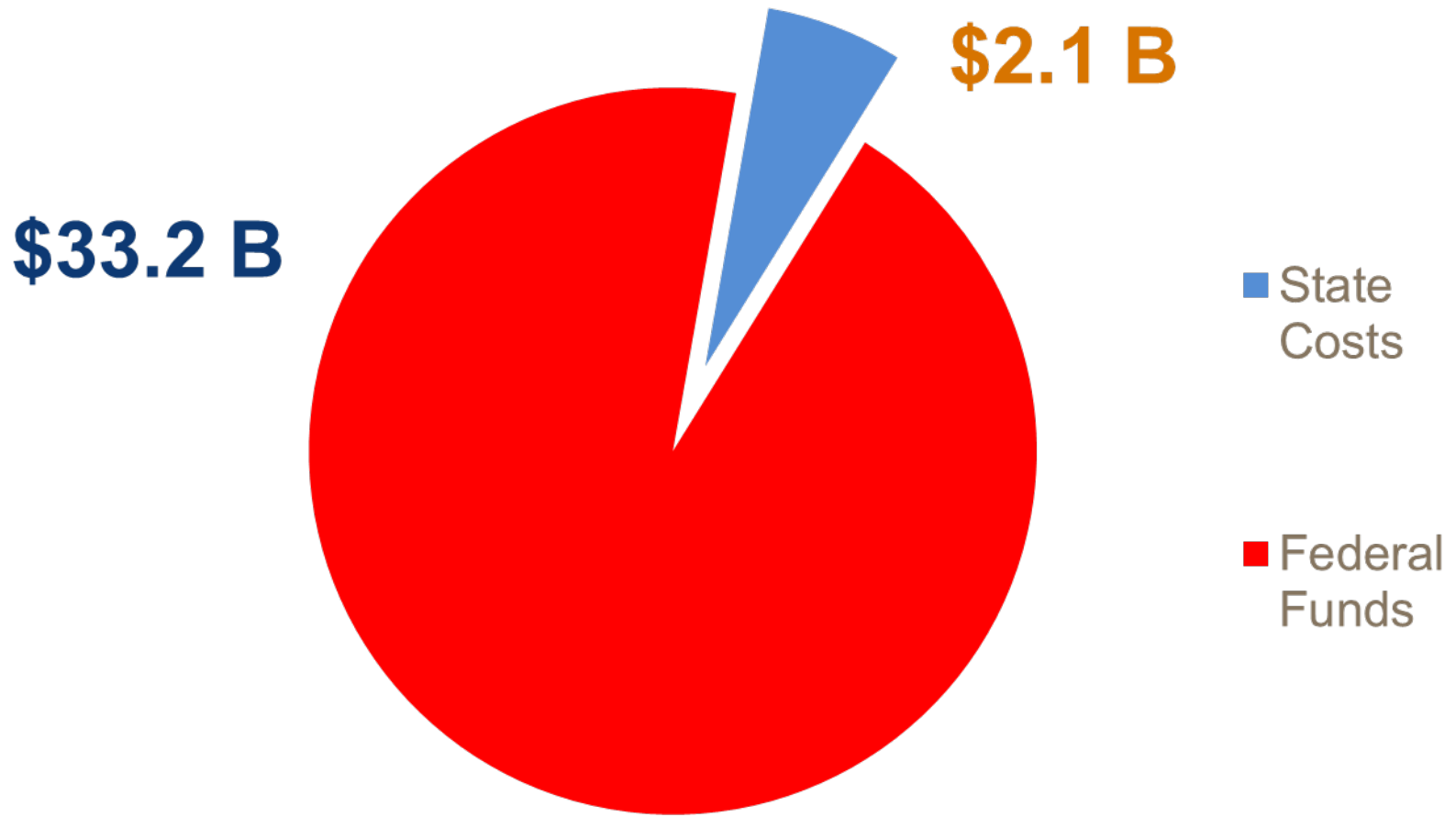


# Georgia – Missed Opportunity





# Georgia's Share of Costs is Minimal (2014-23)



Saint Joseph's Mercy Care Services



[www.MercyCareServices.org](http://www.MercyCareServices.org)

# New Revenue Offsets Much of New State Costs

	2014-2023 Total
Expansion Specific State Costs	\$2.1 Billion
State Premium Tax Revenue	\$751 Million
State Income & Sales Tax Revenue	\$1.0 Billion
<b>10-year Net State Costs (after new revenue)</b>	<b>\$353 million</b>
<b>Average Yearly Costs as Percent of 2014 Budget</b>	<b>0.2 percent</b>



# Recent **obstacles...**

- 2014 Legislative Session
  - HB 990
  - HB 943

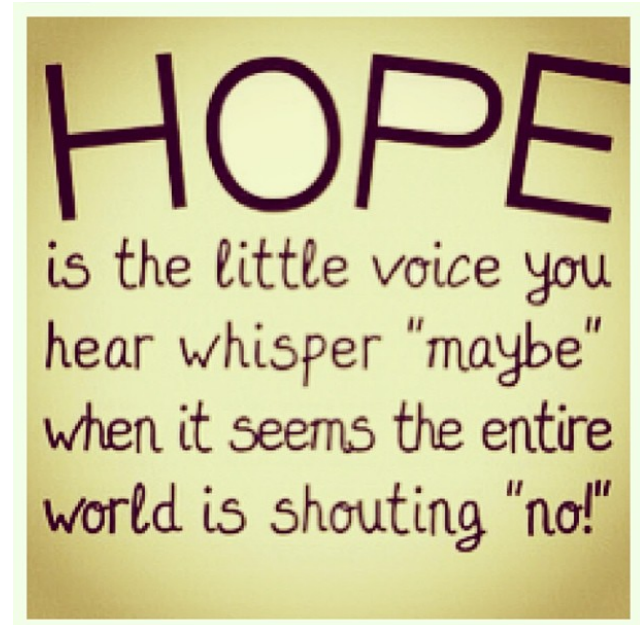


Copyright © Ron Leishman \* <http://ToonClips.com/11867>



# The Good News

- Majority of Georgians Agree
- Addressed DSH through 2016
- Gubernatorial election
- Conversation has been started.



# Current **work** and **advocacy**



# Four legged **stool**:

- Faith community
- Business community
- Healthcare community
- Coalition building/education



# Alternatives on the table

- Safety Net Collaborative

- Pilot proposal
- NACHC/AEH/GWU – Kaiser Grant
- Approved ACO – Use of structure for pilot
- Developing a new 501c3
- Gathering political good will



# On going “Readiness”

- New Atlanta CoC
  - Health Homes – Implemented first model
  - Integrated health services in the intake & assessment process
- Integrated BH
- PCMH
- New EMR – Link to Public Hospital







**Healthcare  
for the  
Homeless  
Houston**

*health • hope • dignity*

Frances E. Isbell, CEO  
Healthcare for the Homeless -  
Houston

May 28, 2014

# BRIEF AGENCY HISTORY

- Originated in 1998
- Houston-area service agencies for the homeless formed a consortium dedicated to the provision of comprehensive, coordinated healthcare for the homeless; developed initial vision of HHH
- Incorporated as a nonprofit organization in 2000
- Deemed an HRSA 330(h) program in 2002, awarded second FQHC designation for the Cathedral Clinic in 2007
- Currently serve 10,000 clients/year

# PROGRAM SERVICES

- 3 integrated primary/behavioral healthcare clinics w/ psychiatry/telepsychiatry, CM, SA, podiatry, LMFT, chaplaincy, O&E, CHW
- specialty women and children's clinic
- street medicine
- comprehensive oral health services
- vision assistance
- Jail Inreach Project (includes new prostitution recovery program)
- Hospital Inreach Project
- Project Access transportation program

# PRIMARY CARE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONSULTATION

- Considered “extreme” integration
- Pilot project with homeless population
- Behavioral Health Consultant (BHC) will see patients with Primary Care Clinician at “point of care”
- Focus on CBT, MI, brief interventions
- Begins May 2014

# TEXAS AND MEDICAID

- Considered the most restrictive state in regard to Medicaid
- General misconception: it covers all poor people
- Highest rate of uninsured in nation; ~1 million still uninsured in Harris County after implementation of ACA insurance marketplace
- Mental health spending lowest in nation until 2013
- Texas CHIP program has lost 2 federal court battles due to low rate of enrollment in past 10 years

# MEDICAID (NON) EXPANSION

- ~1.9M people would be eligible
- Gov. Rick Perry vehement in his rejection; presumptive new governor's campaign staff more receptive
- Commissioner of Department of State Health Services may be open to expansion but is generally conservative
- Most of the medical community in favor of expansion
- Urban business communities, in general, in favor

# MEDICAID (NON)EXPANSION/CONT.

- Texas legislature: proposes to find a “Texas Solution”
  - ❖ “Culture war” – urban vs. rural demographics
  - ❖ Argue for a block grant
  - ❖ Cost sharing; i.e., co-pays and deductibles
- “Back room” movement toward expansion, but outcome very uncertain
- Harris Co. planned to apply for a regional expansion, but CMS ultimately decided against regional expansions; 60/40 split but could expand coverage

# EFFECTS OF CHANGING DEMOGRAPHICS ON MEDICAID EXPANSION

- Texas is the fastest growing state; Houston is the fastest growing city in nation – majority moderately skilled and uninsured
- Minority population is now majority
- Young population with increased birth rate
- In 2016, Texas will spend more on Medicaid than on public education



# MEDICAID 1115 WAIVER

- September 2011, CMS granted a 5-year waiver
- “Waives” certain mandated requirements
- Focus on innovation; cost reduction; improved clinical outcomes
- Covers people not eligible for traditional Medicaid
- City Health Dept: “Integrated Care for the Chronically Homeless Initiative”

# EFFECTS OF NON-EXPANSION ON HHH

- No immediate financial changes, although continued education of private foundations & public essential
- Medicaid 1115 Waiver allowed HHH to expand services and capacity
- Increased expenditure of resources on policy and advocacy efforts
- Necessitated strengthening billing efforts to prepare for possible expansion (which slightly increased MCD revenue)

# ADVOCACY IN A RED STATE

- Coordinated advocacy efforts at local and state levels and across sectors essential
- ROI: cost/benefit analysis most helpful; legislators concerned about future funding
- Mental health and CJ releasees are of greater interest to both state and local officials in Texas, which has been useful in advocacy work; last legislative session increased funding to both

# ADVOCACY IN A RED STATE/ CONT.

- Many 1115 Waiver projects target reduction in ED visits; by year 3, may have specific financial data for advocacy
- Especially important to address possibility of cost sharing & bundled payments
- Work with staff when legislature not in session; become a resource and “expert”

# ADVOCACY IN A RED STATE/ CONT.

- Avoid discussion of politics, rather focus on need
- Recognize hostile political environment toward ACA in most red states and avoid discussion; recognize that any Republican appearing moderate sounds the death knoll for that politician

TO EXPAND OR NOT EXPAND?  
**THAT IS THE QUESTION.**

---

A UTAH SHAKESPEAREAN MELODRAMA

Directed By

Jennifer Hyvonen, Communication Director

Fourth Street Clinic

Salt Lake City, UT

801.712.1211

[jenn@fourthstreetclinic.org](mailto:jenn@fourthstreetclinic.org)

# The Players

## *Antagonists*

Speaker Becky Lockhart

Republican House Leadership



## *Protagonists*

Fourth Street Clinic

SLCo Dept. Behavioral Health Services

Utah Health Policy Project

Coalition of Religious Communities

AARP

Voices for Utah Children

CAB & BOD

Governor Gary Herbert



# Plot

Everyday Utah looses **\$769,987**

**107-316** Utahns to die annually

*BUT*

Utah doesn't like government, regulations or taxes, and believes that the private market, state's rights, volunteers, the self made man and Jell-O will fix everything.



# Opening Scene – End 13 Session

House (R) proposes bill to opt out of ACA

ME substituted for ACA, voted out of House

Cooler heads prevailed in Senate

## **OUTCOMES**

Bars ACA implementation without Utah Legislature

Health Reform Task Force to study issue - Charity Care

# Mid Summer Daydream – Doing more with less

An independent Cost Study was commissioned

Gov Work Groups tasked with finding Medicaid alternatives and reported out at Gov's Health Care Summit in Oct 2013

UHPP formed U4ME: held rallies, circulated petitions

FSC, BOD, CAB penned Op-Eds, spoke at community press conferences

CAB testified at interim sessions, wrote letters to the task force committee and Governor.

# Approach of 14 Session

“We will not to do nothing.”

- Gov. Herbert

# 2014 Opening Speech



"...I cannot support, and do not understand, why anyone would propose to saddle Utah any further with Obamacare, the most costly and catastrophic federal mandate of all.."

"Here's a suggestion. The next time the White House offers more unfunded mandates ... and the governor's office tries to figure out how to pay for it, we as a House and we as a state should politely decline, drop a copy of the Constitution inside a statement 'return to sender,'"

# Bills Proposed

House – Utah Only Plan

Senate – 100% FPL, Private Option

Senate – Medicaid Expansion

# End Result



# Gov Responds



Called House Plan “Illogical”

Announces Utah Healthy Plan  
@4thStreetClinic



# Gov. Herbert's **Healthy Utah Plan** closes the coverage gap by...

Supporting  
private insurance



Keeping \$774 M of your  
tax dollars in Utah



Covering whole  
families



Preventing medical  
bankruptcy



Evaluating results  
after 3 years



Letting Utah  
opt-out





# Speaking Up - HCH Advantages

We are medicine

Experts on “gap population”

Can respond to Charity Care models

Sympathetic patient population

CAB

Board of Directors

Add street cred

# Activities & Steps

Organized Internally – Staff, CAB, Board, Roles, Stories

Timely response - public testimony, Op-Eds,  
Letters to key constituents, rallies

Petitions

Clinic Tours – to both sides

PARTNERSHIPS & PARTICIPANTS in community and  
government work groups

# Messages

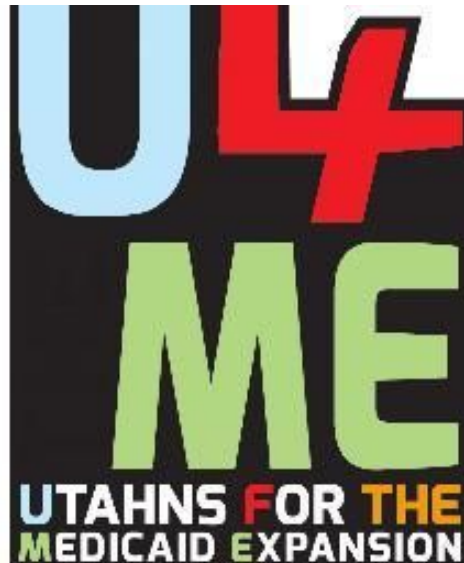
Stories and faces of Coverage Gap

Economic and humanitarian arguments

\$680 million to D.C. let's take \$258 million back

Fairness

Utah Solution



VS



# Next Steps

Gov staff and community partner collaborations

Media & social media

Defining medically frail

Petition drives, story banking, studies, film screenings

Independent polling on public perceptions on ME

Patience, repetition

# Continuing Services w/o ME

Dental clinic

Mental health and substance abuse services

Outreach and enrollment activities

Partnerships and other funds

(COG Grant to fund Outreach Coordination)

# NATIONAL HCH COUNCIL RESOURCES

- Policy briefs, webinars, advocacy materials:  
[www.nhchc.org/policy-advocacy/](http://www.nhchc.org/policy-advocacy/)
- State Medicaid Expansion Advocacy page:  
<http://www.nhchc.org/policy-advocacy/reform/state-medicaid-expansion-advocacy/>
- Dan Rabbitt, Health Policy Organizer,  
[drabbitt@nhchc.org](mailto:drabbitt@nhchc.org)