
ILLINOIS

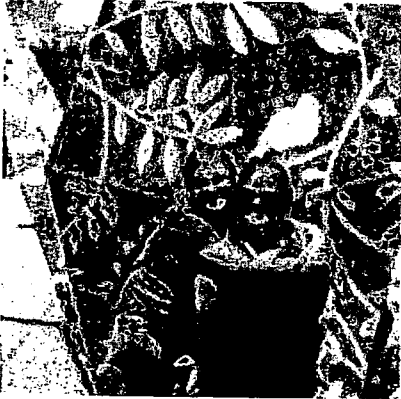
Nicole Jorwic

From: Nicole Jorwic
Sent: Wednesday, July 19, 2017 5:26 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Illinois

Chloe

[REDACTED]

That's me on the left hugging my sister Becka. We both benefit from Medicaid. My sister has Down Syndrome and was born with a hole in her heart. Medicaid helps pay for her medical expenses, which might eventually include her getting surgery for a pacemaker. I am deaf. Medicaid helped pay for my cochlear implant in my right ear so I can "hear." Without my cochlear implant, I was forced to guess at conversations among hearing people or just be left out altogether. With Medicaid, my sister and I can afford medical surgeries that would be too expensive otherwise.



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Nicole Jorwic

From: Nora Handler [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2017 4:53 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Medicaid Story from Illinois

Dear Nicole

My brother Marty Fox relies on Medicaid, SNAP and Section 811 housing. He is 63 years old and on the Autism Spectrum and suffers from anxiety. He relies on Medicaid for his medical care and some very limited case management services he receives from Pioneer Center in McHenry, Illinois. ~~Marty worked on the family farm until our Mom passed away in 1998 and we had to sell the farm. After some job training Marty held down a factory job using a kick press for nine and half years. After a surgery in 2011 Marty could no longer tolerate the repetitive pounding on the kick press. Since then Marty has not been able to find paid employment but he does volunteer, serves on a advisory committee and advocates for his girl friend with disabilities. He lives very frugally in a modest apartment. Without his Medicaid and housing I don't know how my brother would survive.~~ Nora Handler

Sent from my iPad

Nicole Jorwic

From: Donna Helm [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2017 9:51 AM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Illinois (Medicaid)

I work with developmentally Disabled Individuals. Many of these people could not survive and live independently without Medicaid. Some work in low wage jobs in the community making 8.25 an hour and have worked there 22 years. I am sure none of you senators or representatives would work for that kind of income. Yet you vote on cuts that will take the food and medical care from people and cause them to seek different alternatives or die when they cannot get medical treatment needed. ~~I believe the Bill of Rights gives everyone freedom and protection from government~~ that can harm them. Does that say because I am retarded I am not as equal as a senator or representative. Would you have these people who are human beings go back to living in institutions and locked up where you don't have to see or acknowledge them. What has happened to our country when we cannot take care of our own people and give some that need a little help assistance, but we can vote to spend millions to rebuild other countries. We need to help our own Americans first. I invite any of you to come spend a week with me in my job and meet some of these people you are trying to kill off or take away their basic rights and freedoms. Thanks for your time.

Donna Helm ISC/ QIDP
Central Illinois Service Access
[REDACTED]
Lincoln, IL [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Nicole Jorwic

From: Meg Cooch [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, July 16, 2017 10:15 PM
To: nce-state-executives@groups.thearc.org
Subject: RE: [NCE State Executives] Update on Action around Healthcare
Attachments: Medicaid Stories Collect from Illinois Residents.docx

Hi Nicole – My apologies that I didn't share this with you – there aren't names but these are quotes collected at the Arc Convention in April. Meg

Meg Cooch

Executive Director
The Arc of Illinois

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Frankfort, IL [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Like us on [Facebook](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#)!

From: Nicole Jorwic [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, July 16, 2017 7:13 PM
To: nce-state-executives@groups.thearc.org
Subject: [NCE State Executives] Update on Action around Healthcare

Good Evening:

As you have most likely seen, due to Senator John McCain's surgery, the vote planned for this week has been delayed by Leader McConnell: <http://thehill.com/business-a-lobbying/342206-mcconnell-delays-healthcare-vote-after-mccain-surgery>

Because of this delay we have extended the timeline for the Emergency Medicaid Matters to Me Letter Writing Campaign, I will be collecting letters until THIS Wednesday at midnight. The response has been great, thank you for getting the word out, please keep spreading the call to action.

Here is an updated blog on the campaign: <https://blog.thearc.org/2017/07/14/emergency-weekend-medicaid-matters-letter-writing-campaign/>

We will be sending out updated materials tomorrow, thank you for your continued advocacy!

Nicole

Nicole Jorwic, J.D. | jorwic@thearc.org
Director of Rights Policy, The Arc

Stories Collected from Illinois Residents

"Medicaid Helps Me To..."

"Keep our program open, continue to support people with disabilities and provide exceptional care and support."

"Have a home, a job and the ability to see a doctor."

"Be able to see a doctor and have a medical team come to my apartment to assist me, along with receiving assistance while working."

~~"Provide resources and services to the families I work with. Medicaid aids with our day program and CILA services."~~

"Provide choices, options, jobs and training for people with disabilities."

"Have a day program to attend and it helps me to pay for my medications."

"Helps me with everything, including helping me to shop and receive medical care."

"Serve people with disabilities and provide services for those who absolutely need to live and work."

"Care for all my children, especially one diagnosed with Autism. Being able to receive medical attention and services he needs to be successful."

"Provide services for healthcare for all individuals and also provide day program services for residents."

"Fund the persons with disabilities who live in our ICF/DD program and attend developmental training programs."

"Take care of my medical needs while looking for a job and studying for my license."

"Live my life fully outside in the community."

"Maintain a quality life for my daughter who has Down Syndrome."

"Receive day services 24/7 for daily living skills, health insurance along with being able to receive my prescriptions and wheelchair."

"Keep our program open, continue to support people with disabilities and provide exceptional care and support."

"Access affordable and quality healthcare for my son."

"To live a more healthy, full life with multiple sclerosis."

"Receive healthcare, medical equipment, prescription drugs. Most importantly I receive personal care through DHS."

"Medicaid is important for my daughter to remain and live in the community, to receive her durable medical equipment, receive her medications, to receive health care."

"Provide supports and service to adult people with disabilities i.e. meds, medical care, equipment, DT, money."

"Access Health Care: primary, nutrition, counseling. She is waiting for HCBS service so that she can live in the community."

"Keep my job so I am able to get services: personal assistance for my daughter. Help afford her routine costs with her wheelchair and afford her medication."

"Have a wheelchair. That relieves pain because I can adjust it."

"Support people with DD to live, work, and play in the communities where they live through supports and services in a day program and residential programs."

"Have a day program and a home to live. Pay medical expenses and have 24/7 care for my future."

"Get the medicine I need for my depression and ADHD. Get treatment and therapy because I was bullied and abused as a child giving me PTSD."

"Make living in the community and working in the community possible."

"Offer waiver based services HBS/CILA to individuals with ID/DD diagnosis."

"Get my medication, receive home based services, and my day programs."

"To receive services and help to live independently."

"Get my diabetes medicine. I also have glaucoma and need eye exams every 3 months. I need it for my daughter, she has autism."

"Stay healthy and get healthcare and access to important therapy."

"Pay for my medication for my depression."

"Medicaid helps my daughter with medication, day programs, and the ability to receive services in the community."

"My brother gets medicaid. He gets case management and it allows him to live and volunteer within the community."

"Get medication, prescription, respirator, drugs, a wheelchair, glasses, and much more. Doctor's visits, specialists, and hospitalization."

"Provide me with health insurance. I do not get any other types of services."

"Get insurance and supports for my condition from prescription to hospitalization. (High Functioning Autism)"

"Help support my son to live independently in the community."

"To live at home with my parents and have money to have outside services and supports."

"Keep and maintain my wheelchair."

"Keep my daughter in a safe and loving place and participate in the joys of community living."

"Do my job, allows the agency to work and provide housing, healthcare, and programming throughout the day."

"Ensure that people who are eligible for medicaid continue to receive life-saving as well as life-enhancing services; avoid homelessness."

"My clients housing and medical appointments through CILA and day training programs and medications."

"I have housing, wheelchair, meds, and services during the day."

"Get all my meds, to see the doctor that I like, to keep my sleep machine."

"Provide personal care, wheelchair, medication, day programming, which helps so many individuals live full, complete happy lives."

"Allows my daughter to live in a group home and be actively engaged in meaningful day programming and supportive employment."

"Get my epilepsy medicine."

"Get anxiety medicine."

"Put me in the position to live independently through the pre-admission screening process and on the waiting list for mental health support to live alone."

"Go to the community: mental health center for my recovery from depression and anxiety disorder to regain my life."

"Support my brother who has a disability, homebound supports to live independently in his own home."

"Live in my own apartment, receive psychiatric meds affordably, and work as a bagger for 17 years."

"My son uses medicaid for residential services, job coaching, so he can work at Mariano's in the bakery paying into SS, Medicaid, and Fed/State taxes."

Nicole Jorwic

From: Amy Foster [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, July 16, 2017 6:29 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Letter request

To whom it may concern,

My Name is Amy. My life would not be the same without the support from that program. 1st since you have to have it to get any kind of services in IL. I am a personal assistant to a man who is blind. So it funds my job. Please stop talking things away from people with disabilities.

I do vote.

Amy Foster

Nicole Jorwic

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, July 15, 2017 6:50 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Illinois

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Shirley A. Perez, I am the parent and legal guardian of Tamekia. Tamekia is a 40 year old young lady who is the joy of my life. She has struggled with many set backs in her life, including seizures, developmental and intellectual delays, non-verbal and Autism.

However in spite of her challenges - due to the supports that she receives through Medicaid, she is able to live a full and fulfilling life in the community. Any cuts to Medicaid would jeopardize her quality of life! I appeal to all of you, please DO NOT be responsible for the death of my daughter's dreams, life and ability to be as independent as possible - this is what Medicaid affords her and so many others!

If these proposed cuts go forward to Medicaid, the only options that would be available to Tamekia and many other individuals would be to be institutionalized. WE Can NOT allow this to happen. Please VOTE NO!

Thanking you in advance for during the RIGHT THING!!!!

Sincerely,
Shirley and Tamekia Perez

Nicole Jorwic

From: Cal Montgomery [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, July 15, 2017 5:19 PM
To: Nicole Jorwic
Subject: Illinois

My name is Cal. I am not on Medicaid. I don't have in-home services.

I am surviving, but I am close to institutionalisation. My wheelchair has not been fully operational for about 2 1/2 years. It's not 3 years old yet. I have no income. I can't pull off the forms. I don't take my meds every day. I don't always eat and when I do, sometimes it's chips. I don't have augmentative communication. I don't have the supports to have friends. I try to smile in public but it's hard.

Many people are not as lucky as I am. They cannot live in this limbo.

If I had Medicaid my life might be very different.

I have been institutionalised. I am not going back. When the wheelchair dies, so will I.

Please do not take people with good lives, jobs, friends and families and do this to them. Please.