

TALKING POINTS

Defend Medicaid and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program



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For more than a century, National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) has been at the forefront of advocating for women, children, and families. NCJW is driven by a communal responsibility to ensure that every person and family not only survives but thrives. We work to ensure that our government fulfills its moral obligation to support the most vulnerable in our communities. Medicaid and federal nutrition assistance programs are critical for protecting and supporting those in need, including families living in or near poverty, children, the elderly, and people with disabilities.

Jewish teachings about our responsibility to the sick and hungry are clear and unequivocal. *Tzedakah*, the Jewish obligation to bring fairness and justice to the world, guides our support for programs like Medicaid and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) that help care for the sick and feed the hungry.

Medicaid Talking Points

- Medicaid is a lifeline for millions of low-income families. It is the single largest health insurer in the nation and provides access to care for our nation's most vulnerable.
- Medicaid is also one of the most cost-efficient forms of health coverage. It has lower total and per capita costs than all other major health programs, including private health insurance.
- Cuts to Medicaid will exacerbate the struggles of families already coping with inflation. It will force mothers in need of healthcare to forgo it because they cannot afford it. Medicaid literally saves lives.
- Millions of people should not have to suffer so we can deport immigrants or offer the super-rich a massive tax break.

- Medicaid is an integral part of a necessary safety net that keeps society's most vulnerable members healthy and safe. It would be morally wrong for billionaires to profit from the suffering caused by Medicaid cuts.
- Groups facing discrimination and systemic oppression in the health care system are more likely to have lower incomes and more likely to use Medicaid — including people of color, LGBTQ+ people, people with disabilities, and women.
- One in five women of reproductive age rely on Medicaid for their health care.
- The free and low-cost health insurance coverage that Medicaid provides particularly helps women access essential health care.
- Congress must reject any proposal to cut or limit access to Medicaid.

SNAP Talking Points

- The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) helps feed and support 42 million families each month.
- People in every community across the country experience food insecurity, though it is particularly prevalent in the South and in rural areas.
- SNAP is an integral part of a necessary safety net that keeps society's most vulnerable healthy and safe. It would be morally wrong for billionaires to profit from the suffering caused by cuts to SNAP.
- Groups facing discrimination and other systemic oppression are more likely to have lower incomes and more likely to use SNAP. This includes people of color, LGBTQ+ people, people with disabilities, and women.
- Cutting SNAP hurts not only those families who are struggling with food insecurity but also the farmers who grow our food and all the workers in our food supply chain.
- Congress must reject proposals to cut or limit access to SNAP.