

Dear Valued Patient,

Many of you have reached out with questions about the recent HR1 budget resolution and how it may affect your health care. We understand that this is a time of uncertainty, and we want to provide you with clear and thoughtful information. At this time, the proposed changes appear to focus primarily on individuals who receive Medicaid. Although some details are still being reviewed, we want you to know that the care you receive at Careteam Plus will not be affected. You are the reason we are here. Our mission has always been to provide respectful, high-quality health care to every person who walks through our doors. That mission has not changed, and it never will. We remain fully committed to caring for you and your family.

Our grant funding has remained stable, and we do not expect any changes. You may have noticed a small adjustment in your co-pay. Some co-pays have increased slightly, and others have decreased. These are standard updates, and no other changes are expected at this time.

There has been recent discussion surrounding Medicaid eligibility. Some public comments have focused on excluding undocumented immigrants and unemployed individuals. It is important to clarify that undocumented immigrants have never been eligible for Medicaid. In addition, more than sixty percent of adults currently enrolled in Medicaid are employed.

The rising cost of Medicaid is the result of several factors. These include job losses during the COVID-19 pandemic when unemployed individuals could receive health coverage, an increase in the number of older adults becoming eligible, and support provided through the Affordable Care Act to working individuals in low-income jobs who do not receive health insurance from their employers. Currently, twenty-three percent of people on Medicaid are either disabled or elderly with limited income. This group accounts for more than half of all Medicaid spending due to the ongoing care needed for chronic conditions. Children make up thirty-six percent of Medicaid recipients, and Medicaid supports more than forty percent of births in the United States.

We want to help you stay informed and feel supported. Based on our understanding of recent changes, individuals who are unemployed and currently covered by Medicaid or the Affordable Care Act (ACA) may be at higher risk of losing their health coverage. This should not include seniors or those who are disabled. If you believe this may affect you, please do not worry. Careteam Plus offers a sliding fee scale that makes our services affordable for uninsured patients with limited income. You may call our office at any time, and we will send you the information and application materials. You will continue to receive the care you need. There will be no surprises when you come to us.

At Careteam Plus, we believe that health care is a right that should be available to every individual. If you have any questions, concerns, or would like to speak about your situation, I welcome you to call. I will be happy to speak with you and provide as much information and support as I can.

With respect and care,

Johanna Haynes, CEO



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