MONTANA MEDICAID

HELPING RURAL MONTANA THRIVE

With the passage of Montana's bipartisan Medicaid expansion in 2016, more Montanans have health insurance than ever before which means more people can get the care they need. And our hospitals and health clinics—the centers of many rural communities across our state—are seeing greater revenue for the care they provide for Montana families.

Keeping Hospitals and Clinics Open

When more people have health insurance, hospitals and clinics get paid for their services which helps keep their doors open and their communities thriving.

▶ Uncompensated care costs for hospitals were down by **$103 million** in 2016 alone, a decrease of 44.9%.

▶ **Hospital finances have improved** and their net patient revenues have gone up by more than $200 million in 2017.

▶ In expansion states like Montana, hospitals are **six times less likely to close**.

Strengthening Rural Communities

Nearly half of Montanans covered by Medicaid are from small towns, where many businesses can't afford to pay for health insurance for their employees.

▶ **Medicaid is critical** to Montana's 17 community health centers which provide care throughout rural areas of the state.

▶ The number of **uninsured patients served by health centers decreased substantially** and health center Medicaid revenues doubled in 2016 from $12.2 million to $23.9 million.

Fueling Our Health Care Sector

Medicaid creates thousands of jobs in the health care industry and infuses more dollars into local economies.

▶ Medicaid has helped make health care the **#1 driver of private sector income** and the **#2 largest source of jobs** in Montana.

▶ More than **5,000 jobs** have been created since 2016, with **$280 million** in income generated for Montanans each year.

▶ Between 2016 and 2017, **health care wages grew at a rate of nearly 12%**, compared to the statewide average of 7%.

MONTANA HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION

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