



ALLIANCE FOR A  
HEALTHY KANSAS

## Expand KanCare: Just the Facts

KanCare expansion is a fiscally responsible Kansas-based solution that will bring hundreds of millions of your federal tax dollars back home to Kansas and create jobs, boost our economy, protect hospitals and improve the health of Kansans.

More than 150,000 Kansans currently fall into a health coverage gap. They earn too much to qualify for KanCare but too little to be eligible to get financial help to buy private insurance. These are hard working men and women here in Kansas who are stuck with few options for affordable health coverage. To close that gap, a diverse coalition of over 100 business, civic and health care organizations from across the state have come together to form the Alliance for a Healthy Kansas – urging our state to expand KanCare now.

### **Expanding KanCare will create thousands of jobs and return hundreds of millions of tax dollars to our state every year**

- Expanding KanCare will inject hundreds of millions of dollars into the Kansas economy and create more than 3,800 **new jobs**.
- Kansas does not save money by refusing expansion — it simply gives up the opportunity to bring tax dollars back to our state. Nearly all the **costs of expansion are covered** by the federal government. Under federal law, at least 90% of the costs of expanding KanCare will be funded by the federal government.
- Expansion **saves money** for states. Other states that have chosen to responsibly expand Medicaid are seeing substantial savings in budget expenditures on services for the uninsured.

### **Expanding KanCare will protect hospitals and communities**

- All hospitals are at risk – not expanding KanCare could limit access to health care in rural and urban communities.
- One-third of the rural hospitals in Kansas – more than 30 hospitals – are considered financially vulnerable. Expanding KanCare could mean the difference between staying open or closing their doors.

### **Expanding KanCare would improve health and financial security for 150,000 Kansans and increase access to preventive care.**

- Expanding KanCare will provide **health coverage** to individuals and families who fall into the coverage gap – Kansans who work for a living but either earn too much to qualify for the current program, or too little to get financial help to buy a private plan.
- Expansion **increases access to primary and preventive care**, reduces the cost of uncompensated care, and enhances continuity of coverage, which improves health and reduces costs.
- Expanding KanCare **saves lives**. States that have expanded experience lower mortality.

**Thirty-one states and DC have taken advantage of this opportunity. It's time for Kansas to join them. For more information, visit the Alliance for a Healthy Kansas website at <http://ExpandKanCare.com>.**



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## Expand KanCare: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

### How does a potential “repeal and replace” of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) affect expansion of KanCare?

Last week, the United State House of Representatives pulled the proposed American Health Care Act (AHCA) when it was clear that it did not have enough votes to pass. As a result, Speaker Ryan confirmed the Affordable Care Act (ACA) is the law of the land.

Last week’s action removes any doubt that Medicaid expansion will remain in place. Now, is the time to unite to expand KanCare. To date, we have forfeited over \$1.7 billion of or tax dollars by not expanding Kancare. We can bring hundreds of millions of our tax dollars back to Kansas to create jobs, protect hospitals and communities, and provide coverage and care for more than 150,000 Kansans.

### Why do we need to expand KanCare?

- **Creates jobs and stimulates the economy:** Expansion will bring tens of millions of federal tax dollars back to Kansas and will create more than 3,800 new jobs.
- **Improves the health of Kansans:** Expansion insures more than 150,000 hardworking Kansans, enhancing their access to preventive services, primary care, and other services.
- **Protects our communities and hospitals:** Expansion covers unpaid health care costs, making a bottom line difference for hospitals and opening doors for preventive and mental health services.
- **Supports Kansans:** In states that have expanded Medicaid, beneficiaries have reduced debt, enhanced credit scores, and are better able to find and keep a job.

### Is Expanding KanCare is fiscally responsible?

- Expanding KanCare is the fiscally responsible thing to do. It brings our tax dollars back to Kansas – providing a net financial gain of tens of millions of dollars to the state budget.
- Expanding KanCare ensures that our tax dollars are coming back to Kansas rather than going to other states like California, Colorado, and New York.
- By declining to expand KanCare, **Kansas has already forfeited more than \$1.7 billion of our tax dollars.**
- Local hospitals, clinics, mental health centers, and other health care providers are providing care for thousands of hardworking Kansans without being paid, which has put more than 30 of our rural hospitals at risk of closure. Expanding KanCare can help provide them a vital source of funding so that they can continue to serve residents in local communities all across Kansas.