

# Partnership for Medicaid Partnership for Medicaid

## Statement of the Partnership for Medicaid on the Supreme Court Decision Regarding Medicaid Expansion

June 29, 2012

The Partnership for Medicaid – a nonpartisan, nationwide coalition of safety net providers, counties, labor and health plans – is pleased that the Supreme Court has affirmed the ability of states to expand their Medicaid programs under the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

However, the Supreme Court’s ruling calls into question the ability of the federal government to ensure states move forward with the expansion. We therefore strongly encourage all states to participate.

The Medicaid program is the foundation of our nation’s health care safety net, providing coverage to millions of our most vulnerable people. Medicaid expansion is set to begin in 2014 and could extend coverage to an additional approximately 16 million of the poorest individuals – if states take advantage of the opportunity offered to them in the ACA. It’s unfortunate that those who stand to benefit most from health care reform might now have the most to lose should their state decline to expand Medicaid. The Partnership is concerned that millions of people who would otherwise have had access to coverage may once again fall through the cracks with no other affordable insurance options. The decision raises questions about access to health care for low-income people throughout the country.

Regardless of how many people ultimately are covered under the Medicaid expansion, members of the Partnership for Medicaid will continue to help low-income individuals and families while continuing to offer innovative solutions to improve the value and reduce the costs of Medicaid. The Partnership for Medicaid is committed to protecting and preserving the key tenets of the Medicaid program and its ability to provide access to care for the populations it serves. We stand ready to work with Congress and states to find ways to help low-income Americans gain access to care.

For Questions: Please contact Shawn Gremminger, Assistant Vice President for Legislative Affairs, National Association of Public Hospitals and Health Systems: [sgremminger@naph.org](mailto:sgremminger@naph.org), 202-585-0112. Learn more about the Partnership for Medicaid at [www.thepartnershipformedicaid.org](http://www.thepartnershipformedicaid.org).

*\*This statement has not been individually endorsed by every Partnership member organization.*