



THE PARTNERSHIP FOR MEDICAID

The Partnership for Medicaid Condemns Racism, Recognizes it as a Public Health Crisis

The Partnership for Medicaid condemns violent acts resulting in unnecessary deaths of black Americans and other people of color. As a coalition consisting of 23 organizations committed to health equity, the Partnership for Medicaid opposes discrimination, exclusion, and disparate access to essential resources that undermine the health, well-being, and lives of people of color. Further, as a partnership committed to improving and expanding the Medicaid program, we know we must work to prevent the continued marginalization of minorities in the health care system, as well as in our society at large. We commit ourselves to reducing racial inequities within our health care system and urge all stakeholders to treat racism as the public health crisis it is.

People of color make up [more than half](#) of non-elderly Medicaid enrollees, yet lag behind white counterparts significantly in health and wellness outcomes. It is estimated that roughly [84,000](#) African Americans die annually due to health disparities. The current [COVID-19 pandemic](#), which has disproportionately affected people of color, has simply laid bare the magnitude of this problem.

Medicaid has evolved dramatically in its capacity to promote quality of care for the millions of people it covers. Yet we recognize that if Medicaid programs and we, their partners, continue to pursue innovations, without first addressing the underlying role that racism plays in health and social inequalities, health disparities will continue to persist. It is incumbent upon us all to confront these threats and to overcome the inequities that afflict racial and ethnic minorities.

Together, speaking with one voice, the Partnership for Medicaid condemns racism in all forms. We must do better.

Below is a collection of statements and resources from our individual members on how their organizations are combating racism and working towards health equity:

[AFL-CIO](#)

[American Academy of Family Physicians](#)

[American Academy of Pediatrics](#)

[American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists](#)

[American Dental Association](#)

[American Dental Education Association](#)

[American Health Care Association](#)

[America's Essential Hospitals](#)

[Association for Community Affiliated Plans](#)

[Association of Clinicians for the Underserved](#)

[Catholic Health Association of the United States](#)

[Children's Hospital Association](#)

[Easterseals](#)

[The Jewish Federations of North America](#)

[Medicaid Health Plans of America](#)

[National Association of Community Health Centers](#)

[National Association of Counties](#)

[National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners](#)

[National Association of Rural Health Clinics](#)

[National Council for Behavioral Health](#)

[National Health Care for the Homeless Council](#)

[National Hispanic Medical Association](#)

[National Rural Health Association](#)

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The Partnership for Medicaid is a nonpartisan, nationwide coalition made up of organizations representing clinicians, health care providers, safety net health plans, counties and labor. The goal of the coalition is to preserve and improve the Medicaid program.

The Partnership for Medicaid seeks to raise awareness about the vital role played by the Medicaid program, which provides essential health care services to more than 65 million people. By working in a bipartisan manner with all levels of government and affected constituency groups, we seek to provide viable solutions to improving the quality and delivery of services, with the aim of constraining costs without undermining the program's fundamental goals.

Above all, **The Partnership for Medicaid** is a unified voice to ensure that Medicaid continues its crucial role as a strong safety net for vulnerable Americans.