

September 9, 2009

Majority Leader Harry Reid
522 Hart Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20510

Speaker Nancy Pelosi
235 Canon House Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20515

Chairman Max Baucus
Senate Finance Committee
219 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20510

Chairman Henry Waxman
House Energy and Commerce Committee
2125 Rayburn House Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Majority Leader Reid, Speaker Pelosi and Chairman Baucus and Chairman Waxman:

We, the undersigned organizations, support Congress and the Administration's efforts to advance health care reform and urge you to **simplify Medicaid** eligibility by connecting it to the federal poverty level.

This change is vitally important to protect the health and wellbeing of low-income families and people with disabilities. Under current policy, single adults with chronic but not disabling conditions, parents separated from their children, and young adults leaving the foster care system are among the examples of people who often do not qualify for Medicaid. We also know that these populations have multiple chronic medical and mental health and substance use conditions and that Medicaid provides the types of services that they need.

In addition, to reap the full benefits of expanding Medicaid coverage to vulnerable, low-income people, it is essential that **community service providers are able to receive Medicaid reimbursement for coordinated health services including primary health care and mental health and addiction treatment services.**

Once an individual or family has Medicaid coverage, service providers must be able to receive reimbursement for all the services they need. To be effective, these services must be provided in an individualized and coordinated manner.

We are encouraged by the progress made on reforming our health care system and hope improving access and quality of care for our most vulnerable Americans is a top priority as the debate moves forward. Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

A Stairway Up - Austin, TX
Adult and Child Mental Health Center, Inc. – Indianapolis, IN
AIM Center – Chattanooga, TN
Andre House of Arizona – Phoenix, AZ
Arizona Coalition to End Homelessness – Phoenix, AZ
Attrache – Hampton, VA
Birmingham Group Health Services – Ansonia, CT
Boston Health Care for the Homeless Program – Boston, MA
Brian Donley – Muncie, IN
Butler Woodcrafters Inc – Richmond, VA
Calhoun Counseling Center – Calhoun, GA
Call for Help Incorporated – Edgemont, IL
Carlsbad Mental Health Center – Carlsbad, NM
Carol Gregory - Fort Wayne, IN
Cathedral Shelter of Chicago – Chicago, IL
Catholic Charities Housing Office, St. Peter's Residence – Albany, NY
CCHC – Chicago, IL
Cee-Breeze Personal Care Services – Roanoke, VA
Centerstone of America – Nashville, TN
Centerstone of Indiana – Columbus, IN
Centerstone of Tennessee – Nashville, TN
Centerstone Research Institute – Bloomington, IN
Central Nassau Guidance & Counseling Services, Inc. – Hicksville, NY
Cherokee County Schools McKinney-Vento Program – Centre, AL
Chicago Alliance to End Homelessness – Chicago, IL
Child and Adolescent Behavioral Health – Canton, OH
Child Guidance Center – Lincoln, NE
Christian Community Health Center – Chicago, IL
Clay County Georgia Family Connection - Fort Gaines, GA
Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio – Columbus, OH
Columbus House, Inc - New Haven, CT
Committee to End Homelessness – Seattle, WA
Common Ground, Social Rehab Club - East Hartford, CT
Community Action Committee of Cape Cod & Islands, Inc. – Hyannis, MA
Community Behavioral Health Association of Maryland – Catonsville, MD
Community Council for the Homeless at Friendship Place – Washington, DC
Community House – IFC - Chapel Hill, NC
Community Mental Health Center, Inc. – Lawrenceburg, IN
Community Shelter Board – Columbus, OH
Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness – Hartford, CT
Connecticut Legal Rights Project, Inc. – Middletown, CT
Cornerstone Services, Inc. – Joliet, IL
Corporation for Supportive Housing - New York, NY
Covenant Community Inc – Atlanta, GA
Crittenton Women's Union – Boston, MA
Cynthia Lathrop – Bothell, WA

D.A.R.I.N.G – Superior, WI
Daniel Trussell, Ph.D., LPC – Alpharetta, GA
Dare To Dream, Inc. - Union City, GA
David F Woledge – Erie, PA
Deborah's Place – Chicago, IL
Delores Champ – Independence, MO
Delores J. Anderson – Lithonia, GA
Delta Center, Inc. – Cairo, IL
Donna Newton – Sparta, TN
Dooley House Inc – Camden, NJ
Dove Enterprises - Stone Mountain, GA
E & B Disability Services LLC – Atlanta, GA
East Carolina Behavioral Health – Greenville, NC
Ecker Center for Mental Health – Elgin, IL
Emerald Development & Economic Network, Inc. (EDEN) – Cleveland, OH
Enterprise Community Partners, Inc. – Columbia, MD
EveryOne Home - Alameda County, CA
Family Life Mental Health Center - Coon Rapids, MN
Florence Crittenton Services of Arizona – Phoenix, AZ
Florida Alcohol and Drug Abuse Association – Tallahassee, FL
Florida State Mental Health Planning Council - Key West, FL
Foster Family-Based Treatment Association – Hackensack, NJ
Four County Counseling Center – Logansport, IN
Frayser Millington North Shelby Mental Health Center, Inc. – Memphis, TN
Generations Mental Health Center – Morrison, TN
George Tucker - South Roxana, IL
Georgia Coalition to End Homelessness – Marietta, GA
Georgia Mountains Health Services, Inc – Morganton, GA
Grace House of Memphis Inc. – Memphis, TN
Grand Rapids Area Coalition to End Homelessness - Grand Rapids, MI
H.O.P.E. Through Divine Intervention, Inc. – Atlanta, GA
Hamilton Center Inc. - Terre Haute, IN
Heartland Alliance for Human Needs & Human Rights – Chicago, IL
Heritage Behavioral Health Center – Decatur, IL
Home Away From Home Family Resource Center, Inc. – Decatur, GA
Homeless and Travelers Aid Society – Albany, NY
HOPE Atlanta Programs of Travelers Aid of Metropolitan Atlanta – Atlanta, GA
Housing Action Illinois – Chicago, IL
Howard Latham – Clearwater, FL
ICAN Housing Solutions – Canton, OH
Indiana Council of Community Mental Health Centers – Indianapolis, IN
Intown Community Assistance – Atlanta, GA
Iowa Association of Community Providers - Des Moines, IA
J. Muller – Brighton, MI
James C Davis Jr. – Statesville, NC
Janet Wattles Center – Rockford, IL

Janice Davis – Columbus, OH
Jennifer R. O'Leary – Augusta, GA
Jewish Family and Career Services – Atlanta, GA
Joseph's House & Shelter, Inc. – Troy, NY
Juneau Youth Services – Juneau, AK
Kentucky Association of Regional MH/MR Programs – Lexington, KY
La Porte Hospital Community Health Center - La Porte, IN
Larimer Center for Mental Health - Ft. Collins, CO
Leah Patterson - Albany, NY
Lenape Valley Foundation – Doylestown, PA
LifeLong Medical Care – Berkeley, CA
Lifespring Inc. – Jeffersonville, IN
LifeStream Behavioral Center, Inc. – Leesburg, FL
LifeWays Community Mental Health Authority – Jackson, MI
Lisa Harrington – Philadelphia, PA
Living Room, Inc. – Atlanta, GA
Madison County Continuum of Care – Edwardsville, IL
Maine Association of Mental Health Services – Augusta, ME
Mary Salehi-Boettler – Canton, OH
McHenry County Continuum of Care for the Homeless Committee – Woodstock, IL
Men Like Me – Decatur, GA
Mental Health America in Montgomery – Montgomery, AL
Mental Health America of Los Angeles - Long Beach, CA
Mental Health Association of Connecticut, Inc. – Wethersfield, CT
Mental Health Center of Denver – Denver, CO
Mental Health Cooperative Inc. – Nashville, TN
Meridian Services Corp – Muncie, IN
Minnesota Association of Community Mental Health Programs, Inc. - St. Paul, MN
Mon Yough Community Services – McKeesport, PA
National Alliance to End Homelessness – Washington, DC
National Church Residences – Columbus, OH
National Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare – Washington, DC
network180 - Grand Rapids, MI
New Foundation Center, Inc. – Northfield, IL
New Jersey Association of Mental Health Agencies, Inc. – Mercerville, NJ
North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness – Raleigh, NC
North Side Housing and Supportive Services – Chicago, IL
Oaklawn Psychiatric Center, Inc. – Elkhart, IN
Ojai Valley Homeless Task Force – Ojai, CA
Oliver and Assoc. – Maylene, AL
Otis R. Bowen Center – Warsaw, IN
Pacific Clinics – Arcadia, CA
Park Center – Nashville, TN
Partnership for Strong Communities – Hartford, CT
Pathways CBH, Inc. – Clinton, MO
Paul Outreach Services Inc. – Montgomery, AL

Pederson-Krag Center – Huntington, NY
Pennsylvania Coalition to End Homelessness – Erie, PA
Pittsburgh Ministerial Alliance Inc. – Atlanta, GA
Primavera Foundation – Tucson, AZ
Quinco Mental Health Centers – Bolivar, TN
Ramsey County Mental Health Center - St. Paul, MN
Recovery Resources – Cleveland, OH
Reubenna Cooley - Brooklyn Park, MN
Rhodes to Independence – Cranston, RI
Riverbend Community Mental Health, Inc. – Concord, NH
Rowan County Homeless Education Program – Morehead, KY
SafeHomes of Augusta, Inc. – Augusta, GA
Salt Lake County Homeless Coordinating Council, Inc. - Salt Lake City, UT
Sam Vigil – Albuquerque, NM
Samaritan Behavior Health Inc. – Dayton, OH
Schuyler County Community & Public Health Services - Watkins Glen, NY
Shalom Community Center – Bloomington, IN
Shaw House – Bangor, ME
Shelter Resources, Inc. d.b.a. Belle Reve New Orleans - New Orleans, LA
Six County, Inc. – Zanesville, OH
Solutions For Life – Douglas, WY
South Shore Mental Health – Charlestown, RI
South Side Office of Concern – Peoria, IL
Southeast Mental Health Services, Inc. – Memphis, TN
Southern Hills Counseling Center, Inc. – Jasper, IN
Southern Illinois Regional Social Services – Carbondale, IL
Southwest Alabama Mental Health Mental Retardation Board – Monroeville, AL
Spectrum Community Mental Health – Minneapolis, MN
Steven Keith Keever – Hokkywood, FL
Stopping Woman Abuse Now – Olney, IL
Sunnyslope After School, Inc. – Phoenix, AZ
Supportive Housing Network of New York - New York, NY
Supportive Housing Providers Association – Chicago, IL
Susan Pahl – Portland, OR
Susanna Marshland – Kensington, CA
Swash Park Ministry to the Homeless - Myrtle Beach, SC
Tennessee Association of Mental Health Organizations – Nashville, TN
Texana Center – Rosenberg, TX
The Coalition of Behavioral Health Agencies, Inc. - New York, NY
The Dale Association, Inc. – Lockport, NY
The Edge Connection - Kennesaw, GA
The Garden Of Gethsemane Homeless shelter – Covington, GA
The Night Ministry – Chicago, IL
The Ohio Council of Behavioral Health and Family Services Providers – Columbus, OH
The RI Council of Community Mental Health Organizations – Cranston, RI
The Right Turn Inc. – Montgomery, AL

The Uptown Shelter – Charlotte, NC
Townhall II – Kent, OH
Trinity Episcopal Church - The Woodlands, TX
United Counseling Service – Bennington, VT
Uptown Shelter – Charlotte, NC
Urban Residential Development Corporation – Atlanta, GA
Vermont Council of Developmental and Mental Health Services – Montpelier, VT
Veterans Transition House - New Bedford, MA
Virginia Association of Community Services Boards (VACSB) – Richmond, VA
Virginia Supportive Housing – Richmond, VA
Western Oklahoma Family Care Center, Inc. - Elk City, OK
Women's Community Development Organization – Duluth, MN
Yes I Can Inc. - New York, NY
YouthCare – Seattle, WA
Yvonne M. Buhlinger – Wildwood, MO
YWCA Columbus – Columbus, OH