

JOINT STATEMENT:

Close the Coverage Gap for North Carolinians with Disabilities, Chronic Illnesses, and Complex Medical Needs

Thirty organizations and individuals, including health care providers, advocates, and caregivers for people with disabilities, chronic illnesses, and complex medical needs support closing the coverage gap.

For many North Carolinians living with disabilities, chronic illnesses, and complex medical needs, health insurance coverage is unaffordable and out of reach. Thousands of us, our patients, our clients, and our loved ones are uninsured because they fall into the coverage gap, earning too little to afford a private insurance plan but unable to qualify for Medicaid despite their disability or illness.

Living without health insurance coverage prevents these North Carolinians from accessing the care and treatment they need. It prevents them from living full and independent lives, and from experiencing the peace of mind and financial security that comes with protection against large medical bills. For some, lack of access to health care makes it difficult to work, go to school, or care for their family. For many of them, access to health insurance can even mean the difference between life and death in managing their chronic illness or disability.

For a healthier North Carolina, a stronger workforce, and a thriving health care system, the undersigned advocates and providers of care for North Carolinians living with disabilities and chronic illnesses support closing the health insurance coverage gap.

Disability Rights North Carolina
 The Adaptables Center for Independent Living
 Addiction Professionals of North Carolina
 Advocates for Medically Fragile Kids NC
 Alliance of Disability Advocates
 American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
 American Heart Association/American Stroke Association
 Autism Society of North Carolina
 The Brain Injury Association of North Carolina
 CaroMont Medical Group
 Community Based Care, LLC
 Community Bridges Consulting Group
 FIRST
 First In Families of NC

Hemophilia of North Carolina
 I/DD Medical Health Home Initiative
 i2i Center for Integrative Health
 Jean Andersen, Advocate, Caregiver, Mom
 The Licensed Professional Counseling Association of North Carolina (LPCANC)
 Mental Health America of Central Carolinas
 NAMI North Carolina
 NAMI Wake County
 National Association of Social Workers North Carolina
 National Multiple Sclerosis Society
 NC Coalition on Aging
 NC Pediatric Society
 North Carolina Brain Injury Advisory Council
 North Carolina Providers Council
 North Carolina Psychiatric Association
 North Carolina Psychological Association

