

## Medicaid Expansion is good for Missouri :

- The expansion funds two very critical needs of our low income families, dental benefits and mental health/substance abuse. The epidemic of opioid abuse continues, and deaths of despair (suicide, alcohol or drug related deaths) has skyrocketed during the pandemic.
- As people lose their jobs and income because of the pandemic, they also lose access to health care. Medicaid expansion will help people through difficult times now and in the future. (Enrollment increased by 17% during the first 9 months of the pandemic - January-September 2020.)<sup>1</sup>
- Washington University estimates 250,000 adults and 50,000 children would qualify for Medicaid expansion in Missouri.
- The federal government has already been notified of the state's intention to expand medicare under the ACA guidelines. If the state FAILS to pass funding, lawsuits will be successful to force it to do so, only costing the taxpayers more money in legal expenses.

## Medicaid Expansion is good for Missourians:

- Proportionally more rural individuals than urban are expected to qualify and benefit from the expansion. Moreover, this is our best defense against additional rural hospital closures in our states.
- If funded, the expansion in will allow us to gain from federal funds, increased jobs, improved worker productivity (sick people can't work).

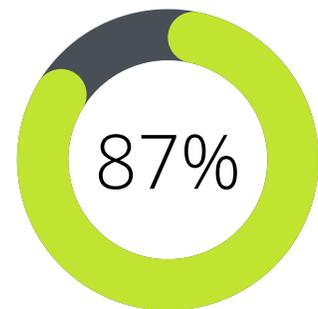
Gov. Parson's recommended budget for Medicaid expansion earmarked \$1.9 billion, with \$1.65 billion (nearly 87%) coming from federal funds.<sup>2</sup>



Currently, a family of four must earn less than **22%** of the federal poverty level (about \$5,550 a year) to qualify for MO HealthNet benefits.<sup>1</sup>



With expansion in place, a family of four will be able to participate if they make<sup>l</sup> less than **138%** of the federal poverty level.



Sources: 1. Missouri Foundation For Health; Medicaid in Missouri: Back to Basics and Fact Sheet  
2. The Missouri Times, "A Look at Parson's Recommended Medicaid Expansion Budget," January 29, 2021

**As Internal Medicine Physicians from around the state, we see first-hand the impact medical coverage has on our patients. The expansion of Medicaid in Missouri will provide a healthier population, increase jobs in Missouri, and improve the productivity of workers. Please support Medicaid Expansion in Missouri.**