

AIDS Foundation OF CHICAGO

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Support “Illinois Covered” Healthcare for Tens of Thousands of People Living with HIV/AIDS

Governor Rod Blagojevich has proposed a healthcare expansion plan called “Illinois Covered” that aims to extend health coverage to most of the 1.4 million adult Illinois residents without health insurance, including approximately 20,000 people living with HIV/AIDS.

Access to healthcare for people living with HIV will save lives and money.

- According to federal estimates, half of all people living with HIV in the U.S. receive no medical care whatsoever for their HIV-related medical needs.
- Without proper medical intervention, HIV can quickly accelerate its progression to AIDS. This can lead to costly and preventable end-of-life emergency visits and hospitalizations.
- Under “Illinois Covered,” people living with HIV will be able to regularly visit their doctor, monitor their condition, and afford the live-saving treatments that will extend their life.

“Illinois Covered” will help provide healthcare to uninsured people living with HIV and their families across a range of incomes.

Individuals who cannot afford private insurance and small businesses who cannot provide it for their employees will be able to purchase comprehensive coverage at affordable prices, including inpatient and outpatient care, doctor visits, and prescription drug coverage. This will be achieved in several ways:

- **Illinois Covered Choice:** offers comprehensive coverage at low-premiums
- **Illinois Covered Rebate:** subsidizes premium payments for moderate to middle income individuals and families
- **Illinois Covered Assist:** offers free comprehensive coverage with low co-pays for low-income individuals who do not qualify for Medicaid.
- **Expanded FamilyCare:** FamilyCare has allowed low-income working parents to get healthcare through the State. Illinois Covered would expand eligibility to 400% of the federal poverty level (185% currently). The plan also extends the age a dependent child can remain on their parent’s insurance to 29 (currently 22 or 23) and includes measures to improve quality and hold down costs.

For more information go to www.illinoiscovered.com.

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