



What's Happening, Why it Matters, and How You Can Take Action

Across North Carolina, families are in crisis. Foster, adoptive, and kinship caregivers, including families supporting loved ones with disabilities across the lifespan. All are navigating months-long delays for therapies, and abrupt changes to home nursing with mounting uncertainty about whether the supports they rely on – Medicaid, food assistance, and medical transportation – will still be there tomorrow.

Behind every policy change is a child waiting to speak, to walk, to breathe without machines. A caregiver is wondering if they can keep saying yes. A grandparent is choosing between groceries and oxygen. A community is stretched to the breaking point.

We are a coalition of family-driven organizations — made up of the very people most affected. Together, we speak with one voice:

The health, safety, and dignity of North Carolina's families must come first.

We are not lobbyists. We are not politicians. We are parents, professionals, and advocates who live this work — and who hear, every day, from families who are exhausted, afraid, and unsure who to trust.

We are calling on our state leaders to:

- **Acknowledge the truth on the ground** — six-month waits for care, delayed therapies, equipment denials, reimbursement barriers, and families at risk of institutionalizing children they love because home care is no longer possible.
- **Communicate in plain language** — clearly, compassionately, and accessibly. Families shouldn't need a policy degree to know what's happening to them.
- **Fund essential services without delay or provider rate cuts** — because every cut pushes fragile families closer to collapse. And every delay in action puts real children in harm's way.

This is not just about numbers. This is about names, faces, and futures. About whether a child gets to stay with the only family they've ever known — or is forced into an institution because the support they need suddenly disappeared.

We urge our fellow organizations, community partners, and elected officials to sign on, speak up, and refuse to look away.

The families of North Carolina are watching. We stand stronger together.



Here's How You Can Take Action – Tell Your Story – Inform and Educate:

1. Find Your Legislators

- Visit [NC General Assembly's "Who Represents Me?" tool](#) and enter your home address.
- Write down the names and contact information for your NC House and Senate members.

2. Make a Call

- Calling takes just a few minutes and is one of the most effective ways to get attention. It is okay to leave a message.
- You can say:
"My name is [first name], and I live in [city]. I am a [provider, clergy, concerned citizen, nurse, educator, volunteer, advocate]. I'm asking you to protect Medicaid and related supports, because without them, we know cannot keep children safe and at home."

3. Send a Short Email or Letter

- Keep it personal and brief. Share how changes could affect a child/youth you know. One or two sentences is enough.
- Example: "Because of Medicaid, a child/youth I know receives [therapy/medication/medical equipment]. If this goes away, I don't know how we can help children/youth healthy and at home."
- Additional Resources:
[Writing Effective Notes to Your Elected Officials](#)
[Tips for Contacting Your Legislator](#)

4. Stay Connected

- Sign up for our updates so you know what's happening and when action is needed most. To sign up, click [HERE](#)
- Follow us on social media. Invite others to join.
- For more info, see video, take survey: <https://mh-ta.com/advocacy>

Behind every policy change is a child waiting to speak, to walk, to breathe without machines. A caregiver is wondering if they can keep saying yes. A grandparent is choosing between groceries and oxygen. A community is stretched to the breaking point. A provider is faced with reducing or ending services or even closing its doors.

This is not just about numbers. This is about names, faces, and futures. It's about whether a child gets to stay with the only family they've ever known — or is forced into an institution because the support they need suddenly disappears or provider closed.

We are standing stronger together with you.