



**CommunicationFIRST**

Because communication is a human right.

## What Would You Do Without Your Aide?



*Alongside their aides, AAC users eat boxed lunches at a table in a hotel atrium.*

The President and Congress are talking about making large funding cuts to all State Medicaid programs. Many know that Medicaid funds health care for low-income people. But Medicaid home and community-based services (HCBS) “waivers” also fund services and supports that allow people with disabilities to live *in their community* – not in a nursing home or other institution. **Medicaid-funded services like aides are key to enabling AAC users and other people with disabilities to live full lives.**

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<https://CommunicationFIRST.org/>



**Cutting Medicaid would hurt people who need AAC by limiting these critical services.**

Many Members of Congress do not know the essential role of Medicaid in supporting our lives. They need to hear our stories! Please make a difference! **Tell your US Representative and Senators and/or your Governor what would happen if you lost your Medicaid waiver services.** Write them an email, record and send them a video of yourself, or ask for a Zoom or in-person meeting in your district as soon as possible. **Congress is planning to act soon!**

**Our amazing partners have created tools and resources to make telling your story and staying informed as easy as possible.**

## MEDICAID ADVOCACY TOOLS AND RESOURCES:

- Autistic Self-Advocacy Network
  - [Medicaid Action Alert](#): explains the issue in plain language and provides a sample email to request meetings, what to say, and key terms
  - [A Self-Advocate's Guide to Medicaid](#): includes an Easy Read version that uses pictures along with text
  - [Medicaid Webinar Recording](#): answers: "What is Medicaid and how can we save it – again?"
- The Arc of the United States
  - [Digital Form for Emailing Congress](#)
  - [Digital Form to Submit to Congress and The Arc](#)
  - [Explanatory Videos](#)
  - [Petition to Protect Medicaid](#)
- Caring Across Generations
  - [Digital Form for Emailing Congress](#)
  - ["Medicaid Minute" Videos](#)

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