

Health and Economic Livelihood Plan Progress Report

Thursday, September 29, 2016



The Montana Health and Economic Livelihood Partnership is how our state is working to provide affordable quality healthcare to more than **54,000** hardworking Montanans, including more than **6,700** American Indians.

**54,000
Covered
Montanans**



Uninsured Rate

The HELP Act is responsible for decreasing Montana's uninsured rate, which has plummeted from **15%** in 2015 to **7%** in 2016.



State Savings

The HELP Act has already saved the state general fund **\$ 10.6 million**.

- Federal funds cover expenses Montana paid for in the past – saving the state **\$9.3 million** in Medicaid funds. Cost-reducing measures for the Dept. of Corrections have saved **\$1.3 million**.



Reduced Uncompensated Care

Responses to a survey of Montana's largest hospitals to help to ascertain the impact of the HELP Act showed that it has **universally** (comparing 2015 to the first six months of 2016):

- Reduced the number of **uninsured** each hospital is seeing
- Reduced the cost at each hospital of the combined **charity care and bad debt expenses**

Preventive Care

The new law is an opportunity to dramatically improve the health of our state by incentivizing primary and preventive care up front to prevent costly complications down the road. As of May 2016, more than **24,313** preventative care exams/screenings have been conducted.



This bipartisan solution lets us bring our federal tax dollars back to Montana, injecting more than **\$153 million in** federal dollars into Montana's economy to provide health coverage to individuals who earn less than \$16,424 a year, most of whom work in businesses that traditionally do not offer health care coverage, like construction, food service, ranching, cleaning services, childcare, and landscaping.



Innovation

Montana is the first state in the U.S. to use a private third party administrator model. The HELP Act also invests in accountability and encourages personal responsibility – requiring enrollees to pay up to **5%** of their incomes in out-of-pocket costs and providing them with job search and training opportunities.



An analysis conducted by the Montana Department of Labor found that **2/3** of those eligible for the HELP Act are employed. The HELP Act also offers Montanans new help finding work and help getting new job skills or education.



To date almost **6,000** people have completed the HELP-Link assessment so that they can be matched with the best resources to meet their needs, including: labor market information – to help identify high growth, high demand jobs, intensive one-on-one employment planning and job search services, help with resumes and cover letters, or access to subsidized job training resources (for those eligible).