



See Our **dis**Ability

# People First Wisconsin Cares about Medicaid

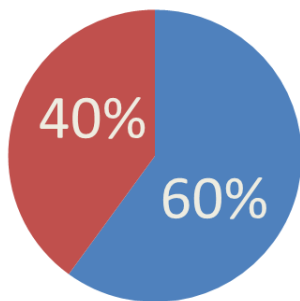
## What is Medicaid?

Many members of People First Wisconsin use Medicaid programs. Medicaid works like a health insurance program for people with disabilities and low-income people. People have a Forward card that they use at doctor visits and to pay for medications.



Medicaid funds other programs under different names like Family Care, IRIS, MAPP, BadgerCare. Medicaid funding also helps people with personal care supports, special transportation, help with housekeeping, supports to keep a job - like a job coach, a support broker or case manager and more.

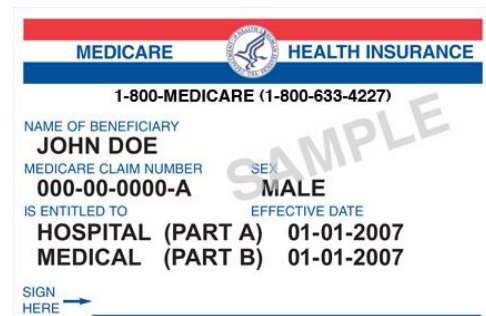
The Federal Government  
Pays More \$\$ for  
Medicaid



The **federal government** right now pays for more than half of the cost (60%) of all of these Medicaid programs. States like **Wisconsin** must follow certain rules and provide certain types of supports in exchange for this money.

## What is Medicare?

Some People First members use Medicare. Medicare is a federal health insurance program for people over age 65 and certain younger people with disabilities who are on SSDI - the Social Security Disability benefit. When you're enrolled in Medicare, you get a red, white, and blue Medicare card.



## What supports do People First Wisconsin members use?

People First Wisconsin members statewide rely on various types of supports and programs to live their lives. Here are just some examples:

- Medicaid
- Supplemental Security Income-SSI),
- Social Security Disability-SSDI
- Medicare
- Family Care
- IRIS
- Personal care

## What are concerns about a Medicaid Block Grant?

Many leaders in Washington and Madison want to change the way Medicaid works. They are calling this change a Medicaid Block Grant. Under a Block Grant States would get a set amount of money from the federal government. Some people worry that this funding will be a lot less than it is now and will require big changes to programs in Wisconsin.



### **ASK A POLICYMAKER: Questions we have about possible changes to Medicaid under a Block Grant**

- How will the Medicaid programs I use today change? Will they be cut?
- Will I still have the same medical care and medications coverage I can afford?
- My care plan has the supports I need to keep living in the community. If my needs don't change, will I still have funding in my plan to get the services I need?
- Will I still be able to choose and keep my doctors? Will my doctor still be willing to take Medicaid patients if funding is less?
- Will I still be allowed to live in my own home and get the supports I need to live in the community, or will I be forced into an institution or nursing home?
- Will people with disabilities have to wait to get into programs like Family Care and IRIS?
- Will Wisconsin decide to eliminate some services—like personal care or transportation—to save money?