

MEDICAID

Seth Gold

*Executive Director – Bureau of Health
Services Financing (Medicaid)*

MISSION & ROLE



MISSION & ROLE

What is Medicaid?

- Medicaid is **health coverage** for **low to moderate income individuals**.
- **Covered groups** include low-income adults, children, pregnant women, the elderly, the blind, and individuals with disabilities.

How does Medicaid differ from Medicare?

- Medicaid is a **joint state and federal program** that provides health coverage to **lower income people** meeting certain eligibility criteria.
- Medicare is a **federal-only program** that provides health coverage to people **65 or older** or with a **severe disability**, no matter the income.

What is Healthy Louisiana?

- Healthy Louisiana is how we refer to our **managed care program**.
- **Managed care** is the way most of Louisiana's Medicaid recipients access health care services.



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MEDICAID IMPACT AT A GLANCE

As of December 2025, Louisiana Medicaid enrollment is
1,511,488 individuals

Approximately **34%** of the state's population



909,537
53%



~35,000
64%



675,073
58%

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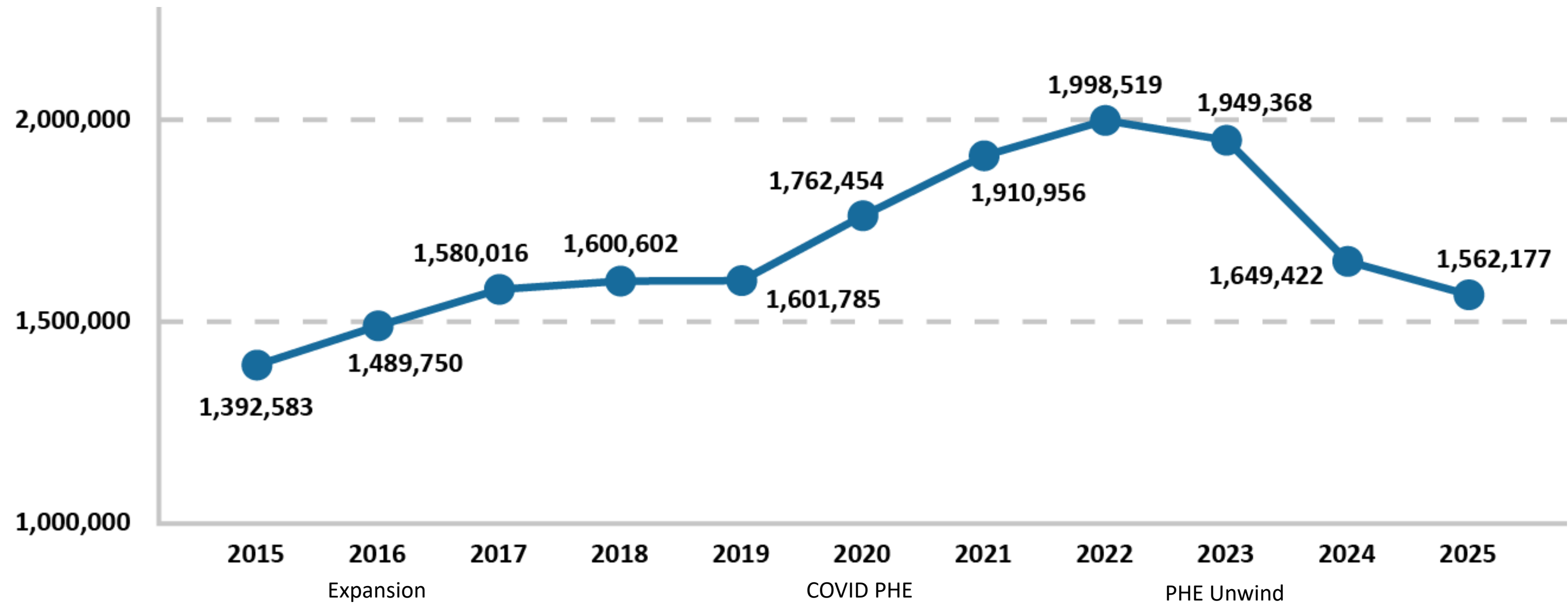
FY 2026 budget details:

Budget Category	State General Fund (SGF)	Federal Funds	Total
Total Medicaid Program	\$5,286,101,587	\$15,968,849,325	\$21,254,950,912

- Medicaid is a program **jointly financed** by both **Louisiana** and the **federal government**. Federal funding amounts are contingent on the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP).
- Depending on the service and the person receiving care, the FMAP can vary between **50%** to **90%**. On average, Louisiana receives about **\$3** from the federal government for every **\$1** in additional contributions by the state.

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Medicaid enrollment over the past 10 years



MISSION & ROLE

Our Three-Pronged Mission:

- **Improving** health outcomes for the people we serve;
- **Driving** quality and satisfaction; and
- **Reducing** health care costs.



Medicaid team members

2025 PERFORMANCE



2025 PERFORMANCE

Reduced Fraud, Waste, and Abuse

- Implemented Louisiana DOGE initiatives, resulting in **\$104.5 million in estimated savings** as of April 2025, driven by the **removal of duplicative enrollees** and other **targeted cost-containment strategies**.

Increased Access to Care

- Expanded access to care by **increasing physician reimbursement rates to 85% of Medicare**, representing a **\$258 million investment** in Louisiana physicians and strengthening provider participation statewide.

Improved Health Care Quality and Outcomes

- Hosted the inaugural **Louisiana Quality & Value Convention** and **strengthened the Managed Care Incentive Program** to further LDH priorities of rewarding Medicaid payments to high-performing MCOs and providers that deliver better results for Medicaid members.



Louisiana Quality & Value Convention

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP



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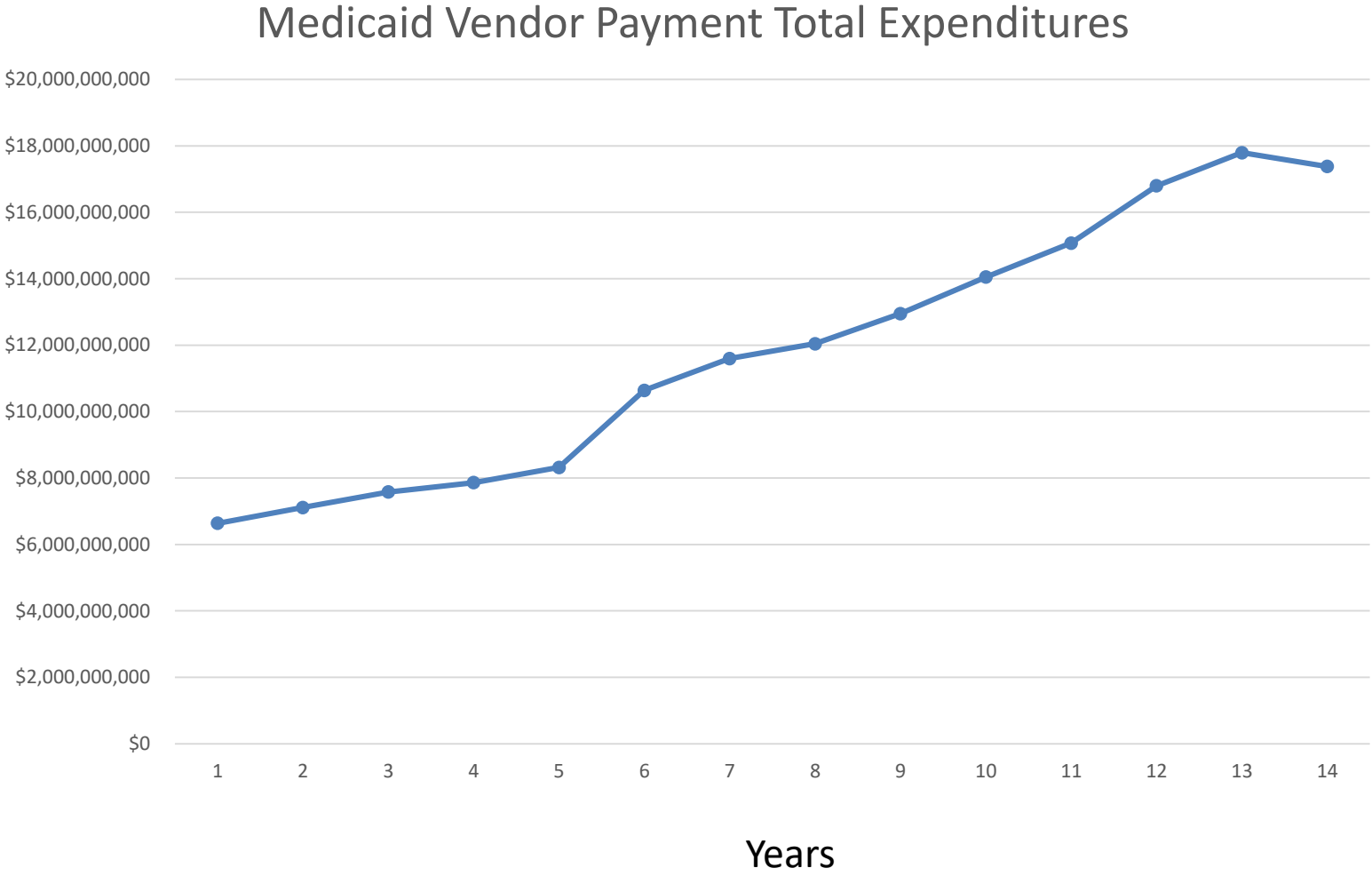
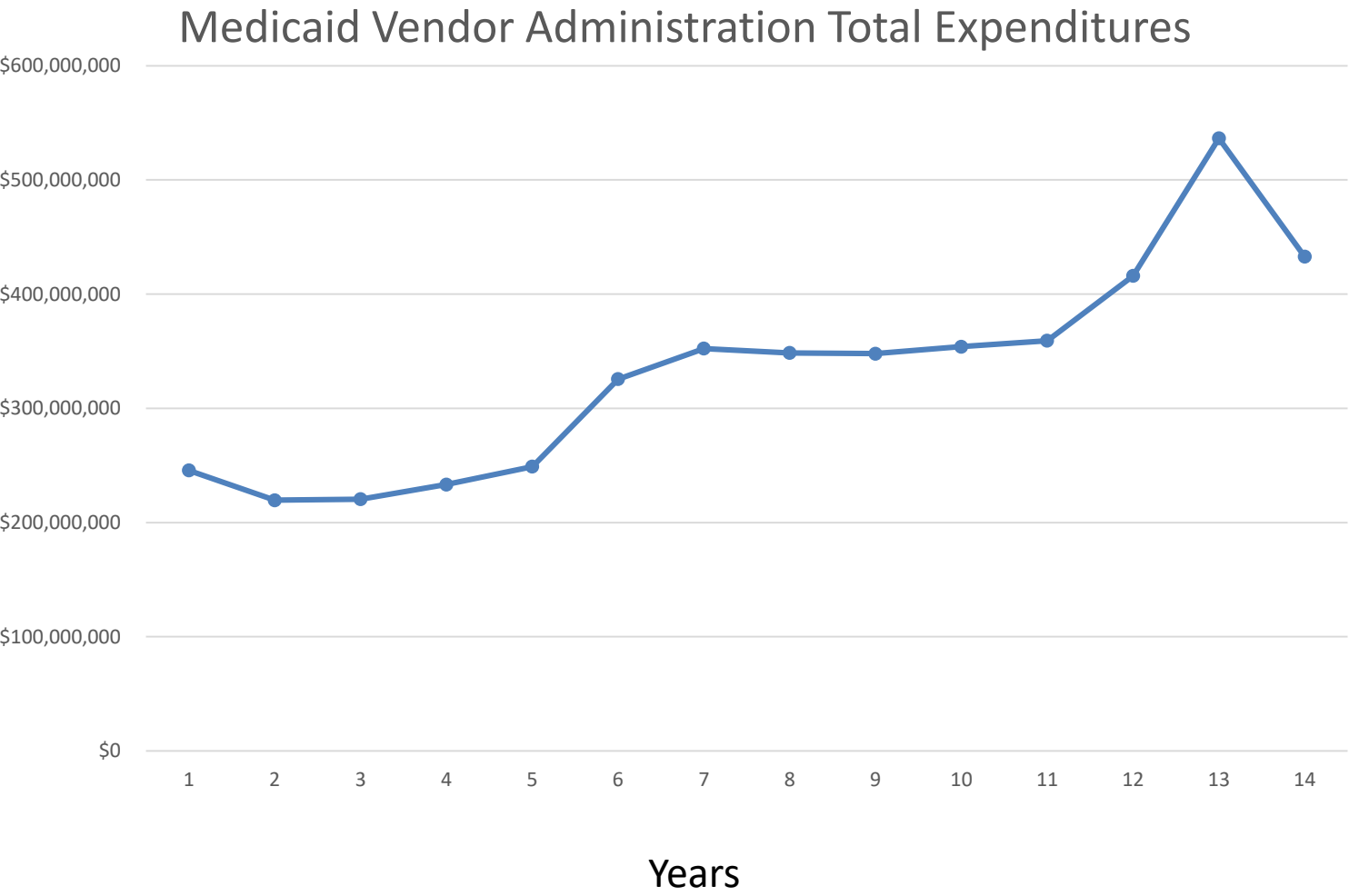
Budget Category	State General Fund (SGF)	Federal Funds	Percentage	Total
Medicaid Vendor Payment	\$5,138,635,934	\$15,508,563,105	97%	\$20,647,199,039
Medicaid Vendor Administration	\$147,465,653	\$460,286,220	3%	\$607,751,873
Total Medicaid Program	\$5,286,101,587	\$15,968,849,325	100%	\$21,254,950,912

**Medicaid is jointly funded by the State of Louisiana and the federal government.*

- Medicaid is the **largest line item in LDH’s budget**, and LDH is committed to **holding down administrative costs** so that total investments can be returned to the people of Louisiana.
- **Changes by the federal government** to Medicaid funding will bring newfound challenges to Louisiana. Our budget this year is in good standing, but future years will have new challenges as **federal funds decline**.

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

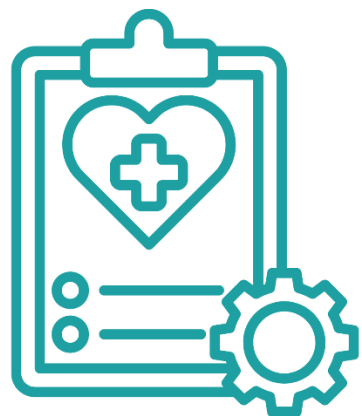
	MVA	MVP	Total
Total expenditures over 15 years	\$5,497,898,962	\$183,208,226,439	\$188,706,125,401



2026 GOALS & PRIORITIES



2026 GOALS & PRIORITIES



Managed Care Modernization

- Implement new **Managed Care Incentive Program** quality initiatives to drive greater quality.
 - Strengthen access to **behavioral health services**.
 - Expand focus on **prevention** and **chronic disease**.
- Increase transparency, accountability, and quality of care by **improving network adequacy standards** and **reducing unnecessary restrictions on care**.



Pharmacy Priorities

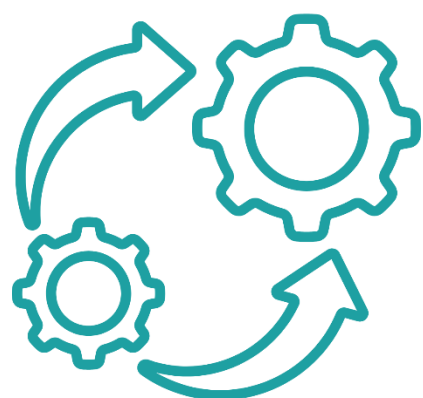
- Participate in new Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) pharmacy initiatives designed to **improve medication access, affordability, and health outcomes** for Medicaid members.
- **Modernize the pharmacy benefit** by releasing a Request for Proposal to improve how preferred medications are selected and how savings are returned to the Medicaid program.



Federal Changes

- **Establish new work requirements for working-age adults** to move members from dependence to independence.
- Enhance **protections** against **fraud, waste, and abuse**.

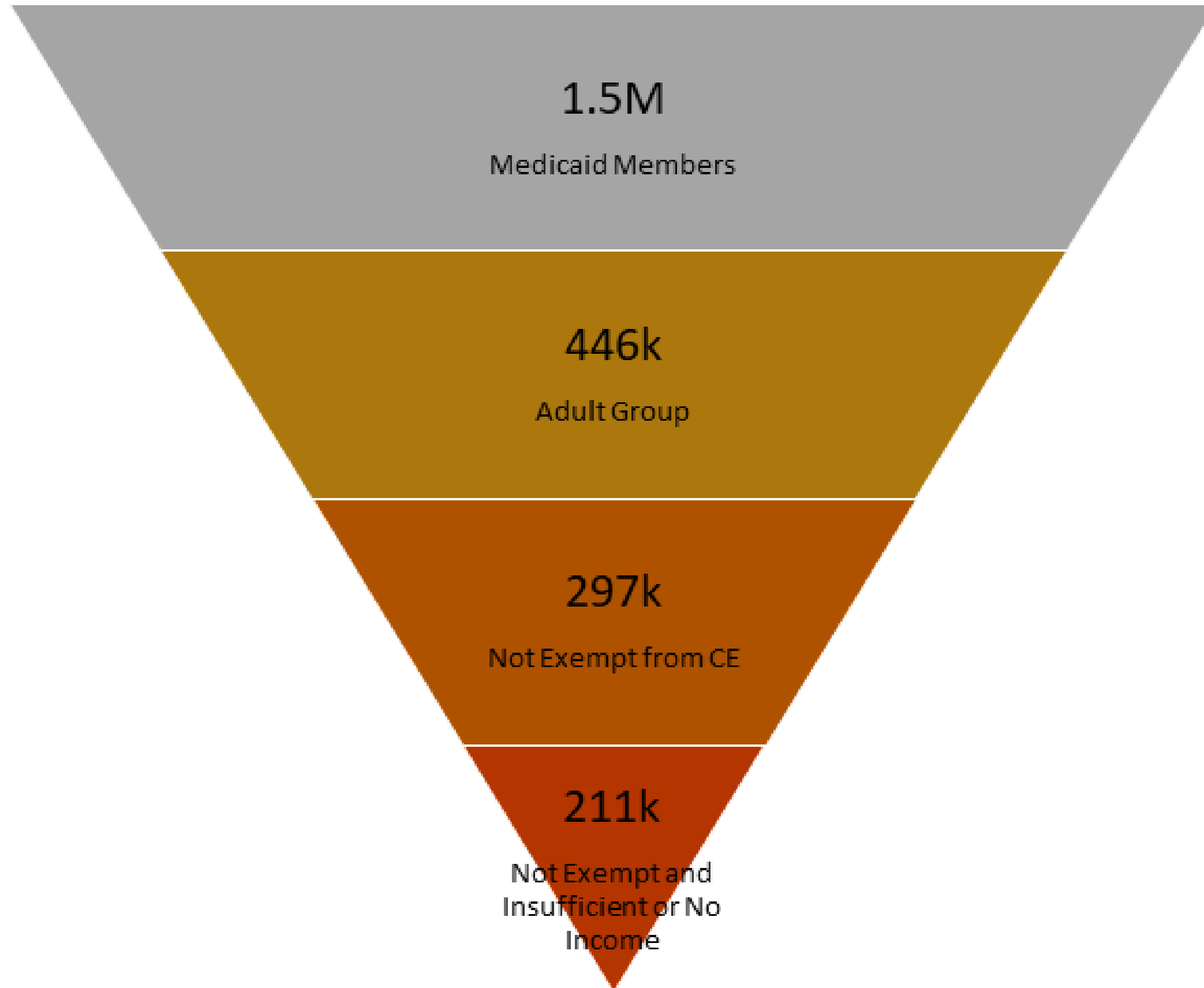
2026 GOALS & PRIORITIES



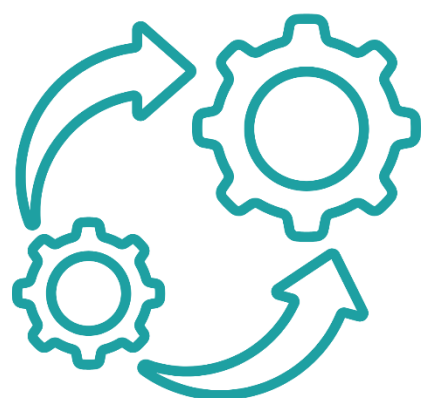
Work Requirements

- Beginning on **January 1, 2027**, LDH will implement **new work requirements for working-age adults in Medicaid**. Members will be required to demonstrate **80 hours per month** of:
 - Work (or an income equal to the minimum wage x 80; i.e., \$580 per month)
 - Schooling
 - Job training
 - Volunteering
- **Excludes:**
 - Children and seniors;
 - Pregnant women and parents of children under 14;
 - Caretakers of dependents with disabilities; and
 - Medically frail populations (e.g., cancer, substance use, disabilities).

2026 GOALS & PRIORITIES



2026 GOALS & PRIORITIES



Work Requirements (cont.)

- **Prioritize easy reporting** by relying on existing data and only requesting information from members when absolutely necessary.
 - Payroll
 - Claims data
 - Household makeup
- Timelines
 - **May (6 months before start):** Initial outreach will begin to members whose coverage renews in January.
 - **August (3 months before start):** Reviews of compliance begin for members whose coverage renews in January.
 - **November:** Eligibility renewal packets will be sent out to members whose coverage renews in January.

RESIDENT IMPACT & ENGAGEMENT



ENGAGING WITH LDH

Stay Informed

- **Read and respond to all Medicaid letters and messages** to stay informed about upcoming changes.
- **Keep contact information up to date** to ensure you receive important notices and guidance.
- **Sign up for Medicaid text alerts** to get timely updates and reminders.
- **Follow Louisiana Medicaid on Facebook** at facebook.com/LouisianaMedicaid for updates and resources.

Beneficiary Advisory Council (BAC)

- Louisiana Medicaid created the BAC to center beneficiaries, their families, and caregivers in policy and program design, **increasing transparency and accountability** for the residents we serve.
- **Interested in joining the Beneficiary Advisory Council?** Individuals with lived Medicaid experience who are interested in participating may email QualityCommittee@la.gov for more information.



Medicaid team members at an outreach event

RESIDENT IMPACT & ENGAGEMENT

Access to Coverage and Care Coordination

- Medicaid enrollment connected Jonny to Louisiana Healthcare Connections and a dedicated care manager who understood both his health and social needs.

Stability During Recovery

- With coverage in place, Jonny was able to focus on healing from surgery rather than delaying care due to cost or lack of access.

Housing Support

- Through Medicaid health plan value-added benefits, Jonny received assistance with his first month's rent and utility deposits, helping him transition out of homelessness.

Reduced Physical and Mental Strain

- Stable housing eased the physical pain and stress that had been worsened by living in his car.

Ongoing, Trusted Support

- A strong relationship with his care manager ensures continued guidance and support as Jonny works toward long-term stability and independence.

LDH ANNUAL SHAREHOLDER MEETING | JANUARY 21

THANK YOU

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