

# COALITION FOR HEALTH CARE OF NORTH CAROLINA

Post Office Box 502, Carrboro, NC 27510

(919) 246-4843 (for Project Contact only)

*“Of all the forms of inequality, injustice in health care is the most shocking and inhumane...”  
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

September, 2015

Office of the Governor  
20301 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-0301

Dear Governor McCrory,

Despite some improvements implemented under the Affordable Care Act (ACA), medical care in our state remains inaccessible to many and woefully inefficient:

- According to the Kaiser Family Foundation, 1.6 million nonelderly North Carolinians have no health insurance.
- A 2014 study by researchers at Harvard and City University of New York projects that between 455 and 1,145 North Carolinians who would be covered under Medicaid expansion will die each year because they lack health insurance.
- Duke University Hospital estimates that the cost of treating uninsured patients at their hospital alone in 2012 exceeded \$40 million.
- Pungo Hospital in Belhaven, NC has already closed and other rural hospitals are on the verge of closing because of uncompensated care.

With a profound concern for the health and well-being of the people of North Carolina, **we write this letter to urge the acceptance of Medicaid Expansion.** Here are the compelling reasons:

- According to a study done by the Kaiser Family Foundation, Medicaid expansion would extend insurance coverage to 357,000 North Carolinians.
- The NC DHHS estimated that accepting Medicaid expansion would save our state approximately \$65 million over ten years.
- The private economic forecasting company Regional Economic Models, Inc. projects that expanding Medicaid would create more than 25,000 jobs in NC by 2016.
- Cone Health Foundation estimates that Medicaid expansion would generate \$21 billion in total business activity for NC from 2016 to 2020.

Until North Carolina accepts Medicaid expansion, people's lives will remain at risk. The people of North Carolina deserve to know that when we need medical help, it is available *and* affordable. Please do everything in your power to assure Medicaid Expansion for North Carolinians.

With hope for health care for all,

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Print name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_