

MEDIA ADVISORY

March 21, 2017

Contact: Lisa Rossignol, Parents Reaching Out, lrossignol@parentsreachingout.org, (505) 363-4465

Contact: Maria Archuleta, maria.a@nmpovertylaw.org, (505)255-2840

ACA Repeal Bill Would Devastate New Mexicans' Healthcare

#SaveMedicaid Press Conference **Tomorrow at Noon Hosted by Parents Reaching Out and a Coalition of Organizations**

Albuquerque, NM—This Thursday, the U.S. House of Representatives plans to vote on the Republican bill to repeal the Affordable Care Act (ACA). This bill recklessly endangers New Mexico's healthcare system by making it even more expensive for middle class and working families to afford private healthcare coverage and by dismantling Medicaid, which covers more than 900,000 New Mexicans.

Parents Reaching Out (PRO) and a coalition of organizations, including the New Mexico Center on Law and Poverty, Health Action New Mexico, the ACLU of New Mexico, the ARC of US, the Association of University Centers on Disability, Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities, and other groups will hold a press conference on **March 22 at 12:00 pm at PRO's offices at 1920 B Columbia Drive SE, Albuquerque NM 87106.**

Families will be present to discuss Medicaid's impact on the lives of children with complex medical problems and what cuts or caps would mean for them.

The bill is moving through the House quickly and will reach the Senate soon. Dismantling Medicaid will cause damage on a large scale in New Mexico.

- More than 145,000 New Mexicans will lose their healthcare coverage – mostly due to massive cuts to Medicaid, including rolling back the Medicaid Expansion and cutting federal funding support for Medicaid.
- Thousands of jobs could be lost statewide. Medicaid directly supports over 50,000 jobs in New Mexico while also providing a major payment source for our hospitals, clinics, and nursing homes.
- The bill caps Medicaid funding, which will force our state to ration care or make deep cuts to healthcare coverage for New Mexicans who need it the most – children, the elderly, people with disabilities and low-income adults.

###

The New Mexico Center on Law and Poverty is dedicated to advancing economic and social justice through education, advocacy and litigation.