MEDICAID CUTS IN THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT REPEAL BILL:
Devastating for People with Disabilities, Older Adults, and Kids in Utah

The Congressional Budget Office estimates $880 billion in cuts to Medicaid from this bill. Some likely consequences of this include:

#1 Proposed federal funding caps to Medicaid would shift huge costs onto states and consumers. Utah likely would not be able to bear additional expenses, and would be forced to either shift cost to Medicaid enrollees, who are often unable to pay, or, even worse, cut services and eligibility.

#2 People with disabilities, older adults, and children in Utah would be at serious risk of losing vital services. Outside of Medicaid expansion, 17% of federal Medicaid spending is for seniors, 40% for people with disabilities, and 25% for children. When faced with the need to control cost, Utah will likely target populations with higher costs: people with disabilities, older Americans, and children.

#3 Medicaid provides affordable health care coverage to approximately 10% of the state’s population. This includes one-third of people with disabilities, one-half of nursing home residents, and a fifth of the children in Utah.

Medicaid provides a variety of services to its enrollees, without which many Utahns could not provide for their families. These services include:

- Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment for Children
- Pregnancy-related care (including 31% of births in Utah)
- Family Planning Services
- Prescription Drugs
- Mental Health Care
- Medicare Cost-sharing (i.e., premiums, deductibles, co-payments)
- Long Term Services and Supports

Medicaid is the principle provider of Long Term Services and Supports (LTSS), one of the most important services for people with disabilities and older Americans. These services are not typically covered by Medicare and private insurance. LTSS provide individuals with personal attendant services, private duty nursing, supported employment, habilitation (i.e., ABA therapy), adult day programs, and home and community based setting care (i.e., DSPD waiver services).

Any attempts to undermine the existing guarantees of Medicaid — guarantees in place for over 50 years — will put the health of many Utahns at risk. Please help us stop the devastating cuts to Medicaid. Call your U.S. Senators and Representatives to let them know you are against Per Capita Caps on Medicaid, (202) 224-3121.