Expanding Medicaid and Coverage Options

Presentation Before Joint Medicaid Oversight Committee By Steven R. Wermuth, Partner

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The Group 8 Population

- Individuals between 100-138% FPL
- Working in jobs
- Employer may not offer health insurance, or the individual may not be able to afford premium co-pay.



The Uninsured in Ohio

- In 2013, the uninsured rate in Ohio was 13%.
- 70% of the uninsured are working in full time jobs.
- 96.7 % of employers with 50 or more employees offer health insurance.
- 39.5% of employers with less than 50 employees offer health insurance.

Source: Kaiser Family Foundation



Health Insurance Coverage

- 53% are covered by employer or private coverage
- 15% Medicaid coverage
- 17% Medicare coverage
- 2% Other public (military/VA) coverage
- 13% uninsured.

Source: Kaiser Family Foundation



Coverage Options

 Depending on the individual's work status, income level and access to employer sponsored health insurance several options can be employed to extend coverage and control the utilization of Medicaid funds.

Premium Assistance
Premium Co-pays
Health Savings Accounts



Premium Assistance

- Using access to employer sponsored health insurance, eligible individuals receive assistance from Medicaid to pay the premium co-pay for their employer's health insurance.
 - The individual is on their employer's health insurance, not Medicaid.
 - Providers receive a commercial reimbursement.
 - Stretches Medicaid funds much further with less dependence.
 - NJ, Texas, NH, WA and IA use Premium Assistance



Premium Co-Pays

- The eligible individual pays a portion of the Medicaid premium.
- Invokes some personal responsibility and cost sharing.
- Was in the introduced version of HB64.



Health Savings Account

- A Health Savings Account (HSA) is attached to a high deductible insurance plan.
- Many small employers use HSAs to afford health insurance for their employees
- Indiana received approval for an HSA option as part of their Medicaid Expansion.

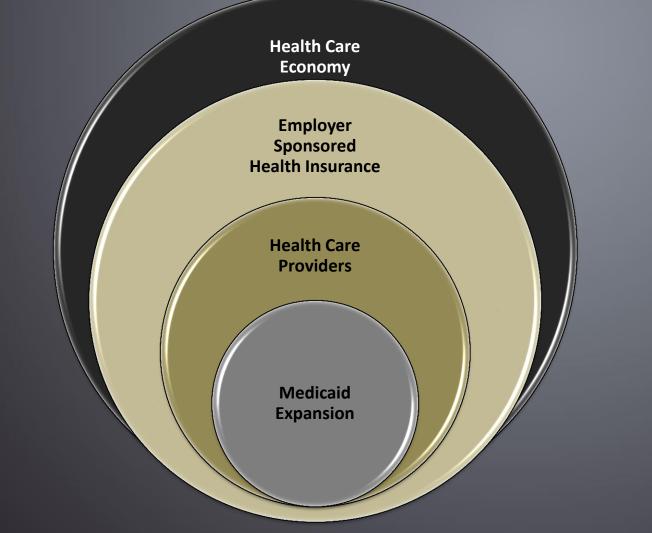


There is No Silver Bullet

- While each of these options has distinct pros and cons, they present valuable options to extending coverage.
- Developing some policy considerations, many options can be employed to effectively use Medicaid funds in conjunction with employer sponsored health insurance and the individual's income level.



System Connectedness



What is Ohio's Goal?

- Is the goal to reduce dependency on federal Medicaid funding?
- Is the goal to ensure a sustainable health care system regardless of ACA's future?
- Is the goal to ensure access to affordable health insurance for both employers and individuals?



Questions?

