

Heart Disease and the Health Insurance Coverage Gap in NC

Erica Palmer Smith
Director, Care4Carolina

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About Us

KEY PRINCIPLES

Care4Carolina advocates for solutions for all North Carolinians that include:



AFFORDABILITY

Advance opportunities for affordable, quality health care

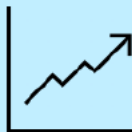
ACCOUNTABILITY
Empower Consumers to manage their health care and ensure that the care provided is efficient



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
Promote a growing and robust workforce to fuel North Carolina's economy

ACCESSIBILITY

Improve access to meaningful health care coverage



Care4Carolina is a statewide coalition of over 80 organizational members that seeks to strengthen the economic and social well-being of our state by closing the health insurance gap and increasing access to affordable, quality healthcare for all North Carolinians.

Patient Advocacy Organizations

Health Providers

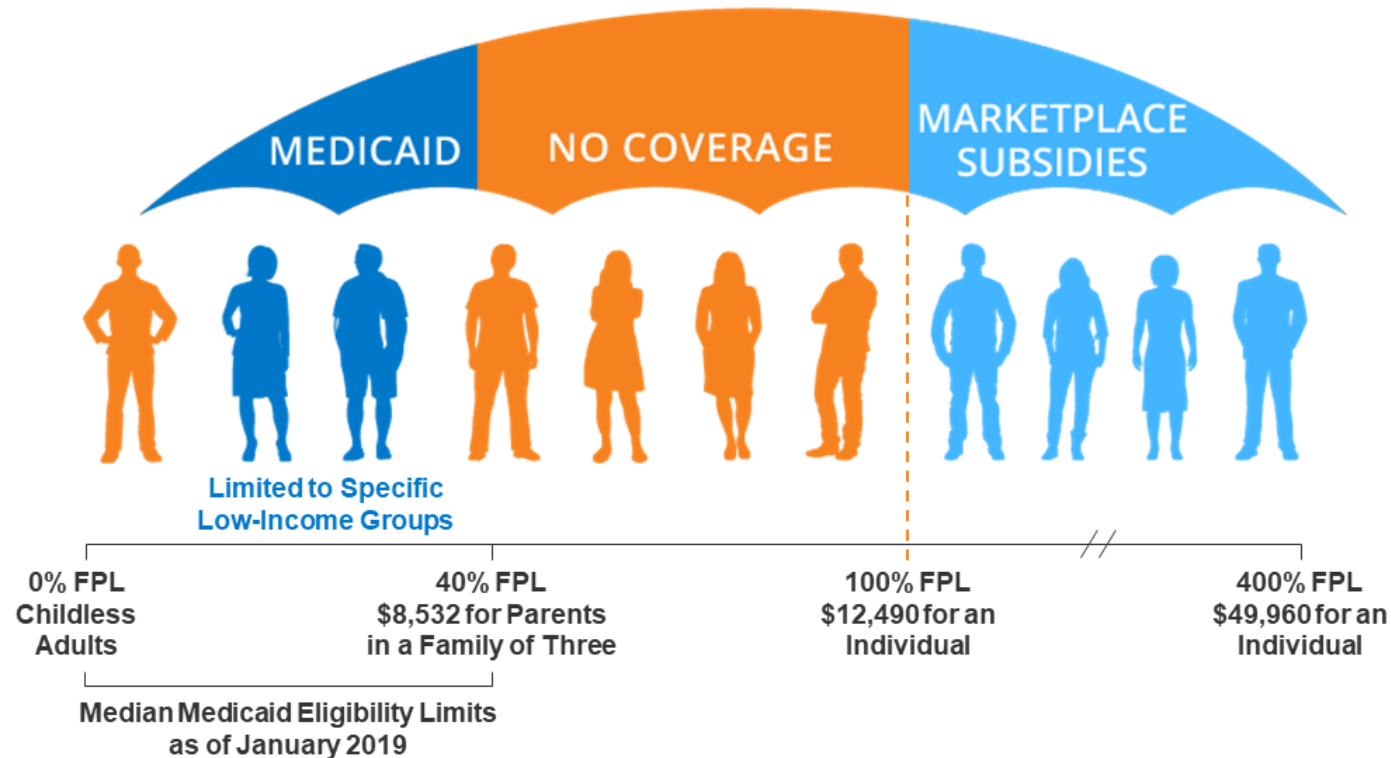
Economic Development Organizations

Child and Family Advocates

The Coverage Gap

Figure 1

Gap in Coverage for Adults in States that Do Not Expand Medicaid Under the ACA

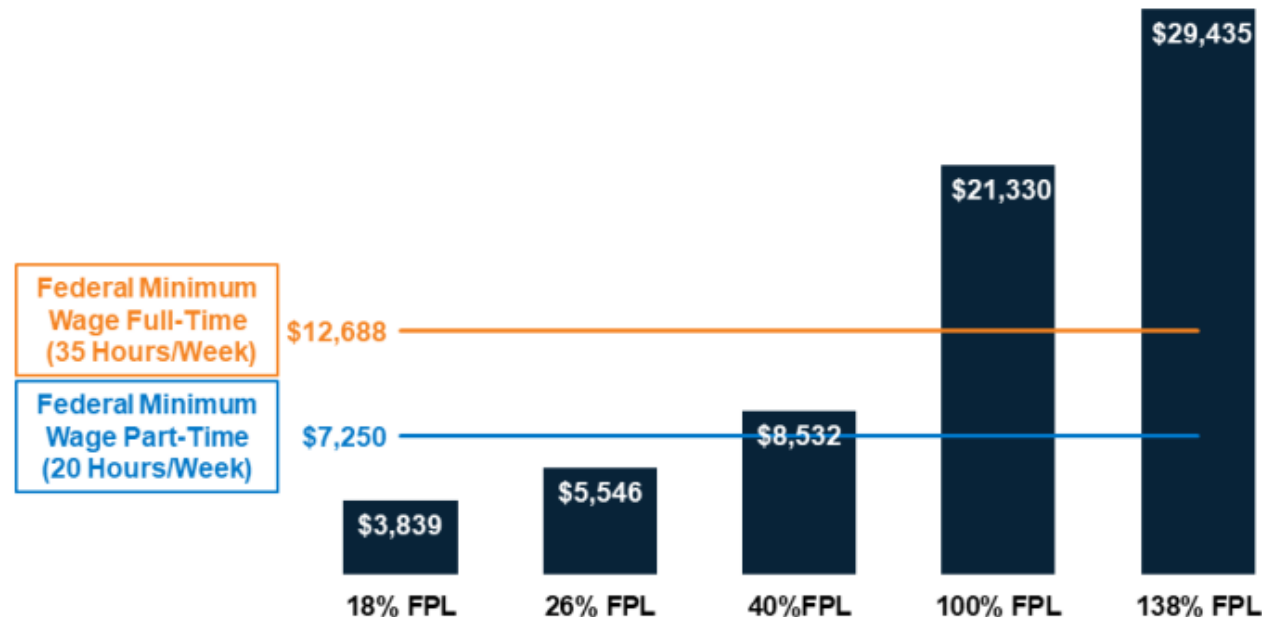


In the Gap

Figure 4

Annual Earnings at Minimum Wage Compared to Annual Poverty Guidelines for a Family of Three, 2019

Minimum Wage and Poverty Level Guidelines for a Family of Three



NOTE: FPL is Federal Poverty Level. All FPLs are at the individual level.
SOURCE: HHS Poverty Guidelines for 2019, <https://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty-guidelines>. Federal minimum wage, <https://www.dol.gov/general/topic/wages/minimum-wage>.

Heart Disease in the Coverage Gap

- Those with cardiovascular disease experience poorer blood pressure control than their insured counterparts.
- Those who suffer a stroke experience:
 - Greater neurological impairments
 - Longer hospital stays
 - A 24-56% higher risk of death than the insured
- Dramatic health improvement when eligible for Medicare coverage at age 65

When the Gap is Closed

- Increased utilization of preventive care for heart disease
- Large declines in uninsured hospitalizations for cardiac events
- Reduced racial health disparities among heart failure patients
- Decreased incidence of Out-of-Hospital Cardiac Arrest (OHCA)

Reductions in Mortality for Cardiovascular Illness

COVID-19 and Coverage Gap

1.36 Million Unemployment Claims

Up to 750,000 North Carolinians

Most Common Occupations – Our Essential Workers

Food preparation and serving occupations <i>(cooks, bartenders, restaurant servers, and dishwashers)</i>	57,442	14.9%
Construction occupations <i>(carpenters, electricians, roofers, and plumbers)</i>	44,225	11.5%
Sales and related occupations <i>(cashiers, retail salespeople, travel agents, and real estate brokers)</i>	42,802	11.1%
Cleaning and maintenance occupations <i>(housekeepers, janitors, groundskeepers, and pest control workers)</i>	37,956	9.8%
Transportation and material moving occupations <i>(bus drivers, train conductors, truck and tractor operators, and shipping and packaging workers)</i>	36,541	9.5%
Production occupations <i>(bakers, meat and poultry processors, machinists, and power plant workers)</i>	28,634	7.4%
Office and administrative support occupations <i>(telephone operators, bank tellers, receptionists, and secretaries)</i>	28,424	7.4%
Personal care and service occupations <i>(hair stylists, childcare workers, tour guides, and fitness instructors)</i>	16,344	4.2%
Health care support occupations <i>(nurses, dental and medical assistants, and massage therapists)</i>	15,809	4.1%
Other occupations	77,470	20.1%

COVID & Cardiovascular Disease

- Patients hospitalized for COVID-19
 - Nearly 7 in 10 had high blood pressure
 - 1 in 4 had cardiovascular disease
 - Nearly half of those hospitalized who 65 or older had underlying cardiovascular disease
- Increased risk for serious complications when infected
- 2-3 times higher mortality rates than the general population

Long-Term Implications for Patients

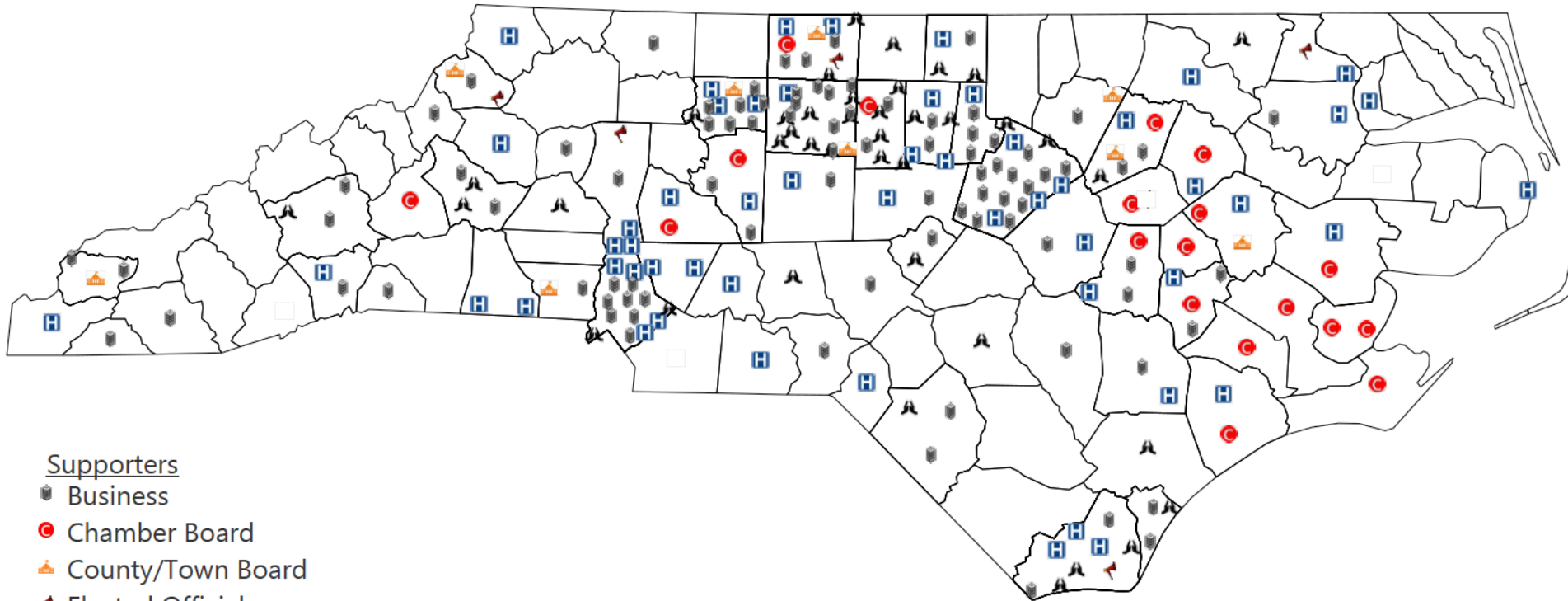
Many COVID-19 survivors experience some type of heart damage:

- Heart Abnormalities
- Ongoing Myocardial Inflammation

Closing the Gap

- Provide Coverage for up to 750,000 North Carolinians
- Ensure patients have access to needed care now and for any long-term effects of COVID-19
- Ensure health access for our essential workers
- Reduce racial health disparities
- Provide a lifeline to struggling families

Widespread Support



Supporters

-  Business
-  Chamber Board
-  County/Town Board
-  Elected Official
-  Faith
-  Hospital Board

Thank You!

Erica Palmer Smith

Director, Care4Carolina

erica@care4carolina.com

Care4carolina.com