**Medicaid Messages for Providers**

**Community Health Centers**

*Value to tap: Dedicated to community health, are stretched for resources*

*Barrier to overcome: Lack of time and capacity to support Medicaid expansion.*

Value: Community health centers provide care to uninsured patients at little or no cost, filling a critical gap in our health care system but at times straining the CHC’s resources.

Barrier: When your health center is actually compensated for the services you provide, you can focus more on providing services to the community and worry less about your fiscal health.

* [INSERT STATE SPECIFIC DATA]
* When your patients have the security that comes from Medicaid, they will be more likely to receive routine care instead of postponing it or waiting for an emergency, keeping them healthier and your costs lower.

Ask: Join [ORGANIZATION] to support Medicaid expansion in [STATE] by [speaking at a hearing, signing an op-ed, etc.]

Vision: Community health centers will have the resources they need to best serve their patients.

**Public & Community Hospital Groups**

*Value to tap: Fiscal health of the hospital*

*Barrier to overcome: Hospitals do not see Medicaid expansion as a way to solve their fiscal problems; don’t understand the urgency to act.*

Value: Hospitals provide billions of dollars in uncompensated care for STATE’s uninsured population, straining their fiscal health.

* In 2010, uncompensated care cost hospitals nationwide $39.3 billion, according to the American Hospital Association.
* [INSERT STATE/HOSPITAL SPECIFIC DATA IF AVAILABLE]

Barrier: Now is the time to protect hospitals’ fiscal security; expanding Medicaid in [STATE] will ensure that the state’s hospitals are not hit with huge uncompensated care costs when DSH payments are dramatically reduced.

* The ACA reduces uncompensated care payments for hospitals in exchange for expanding Medicaid coverage – a decision that now rests with lawmakers in [STATE].
* If [STATE] doesn’t expand Medicaid, hospitals will face a double burden: reduced uncompensated care reimbursement and uncompensated care costs for those left without coverage.
* If [STATE] doesn’t expand Medicaid, NUMBER people will be left uninsured. High numbers of uninsured patients will continue to stress emergency departments and hospital budgets in our state.

Ask: Join [ORGANIZATION] to support Medicaid expansion in [STATE] by [speaking at a hearing, signing an op-ed, etc.]

Vision: Hospitals will protect their fiscal health because they will be compensated for the care they provide.