



# NM Medicaid Postpartum Extension Coverage

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In partnership with the State Maternal Health  
Innovations grant (HRSA)

# Session Objectives

- Learn eligibility and coverage details
- Be familiar with key messaging points
- Provide feedback to improve outreach



# About the Medicaid Advisory Group

- Convened under the State Maternal Health Innovations grant (HRSA)
- Provides input on Medicaid postpartum policy
- Develops relevant, accessible messaging
- Works with community and provider partners



# Why It Matters

- Postpartum is a critical period for recovery and health
- Many complications and conditions occur after delivery
- Continuous coverage ensures ongoing care



# Policy Context for Medicaid Postpartum Extension

- In **March 2021**, the **American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)** created a new option for states to extend Medicaid postpartum coverage from **60 days to 12 months**.
- The option became effective **April 1, 2022**, and states could **opt in** by amending their Medicaid state plan.
- Previously, Medicaid coverage for most postpartum individuals ended **60 days after pregnancy**.
- Research showed that **1 in 3 pregnancy-related deaths occur between 1 week and 1 year after delivery**, highlighting the critical need for ongoing coverage.
- Extending coverage helps address maternal mortality, postpartum depression, substance use, and management of chronic conditions.
- The **Biden-Harris Administration encouraged states** to adopt the postpartum extension, framing it as a maternal health and equity priority.
- New Mexico opted in, making **12 months of postpartum Medicaid coverage available statewide starting in 2022**.



# What the Coverage Includes



# Eligibility Basics



# Continuous Coverage Rules



# Retroactive Coverage



# Messaging Points

- “Medicaid covers you for 12 months after pregnancy—automatically.”
- “Coverage includes physical, mental, and dental health.”
- “No action needed to maintain coverage.”
- “Support continues even if your income changes.”



# Discussion & Feedback

- Questions for participants:
  - What messaging resonates most?
  - What language or framing should be avoided?
  - What outreach methods work best in your communities?



# Next Steps

- Collect and integrate feedback
- Finalize messaging toolkit
- Share resources broadly with partners, providers, and families



# Thank You

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