

Coverage4All Action Alert!

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Media Contact: **Janet Fry**, jrolon@crcny.org

ALBANY, NY- On Wednesday, March 2, Community Resource Center will join a rally organized by the New York Immigration Coalition (NYIC) in Albany along with other organizations to demand Coverage4All: the creation of a state-funded Essential Plan for All New Yorkers up to the 200% of the federal poverty level who are currently excluded because of their immigration status.

The economic and resulting social inequities that became glaringly apparent during COVID has mobilized nonprofits around the state to push for legislation that will protect workers who have been traditionally excluded from employment and health insurance in New York despite providing economic benefits to New York. There are 154,000 uninsured, low-income New Yorkers who are ineligible for coverage because of their immigration status. According to a 2021 report by Families USA, more than 8,200 New Yorkers died from Covid-19 due to lack of health coverage. We estimate at least 2,050 of them are undocumented.

Here is a CRC client-member testimonial:

My name is Maria V. I live and work in Yonkers and I am a single mother of three children. In 2014, I was diagnosed with Diabetes. Aside from having diabetes, I also suffer other illnesses. Currently, I'm awaiting surgery due to a hernia that must be removed. I'm not eligible for health insurance due to a lack of immigration status. I'm not eligible for financial assistance to buy medicine for the same reason. As part of my diabetes, I take insulin and metformin twice a day. Insulin treatment is expensive; it costs about two thousand dollars per month. Because I don't have health insurance, I must pay for it out of pocket. Not having health insurance has put my life at risk and at the brink of becoming homeless. For this reason, I ask our state government to provide us with health insurance. That would allow us to have access to medical treatments, discounted prescriptions, access to medical services, and all services provided under the Essential Plan.

By allocating \$345 million state legislators could make it possible for excluded New Yorkers like Maria to access quality and affordable health coverage.

New York State should create a state-funded Essential Plan for All New Yorkers who live up to the 200% of the federal poverty level, regardless of immigration status, by enacting A880A/S1572A.

**Join the Rally: Albany, NY
March 2, 2022 at 11:00 AM**