

Potential Talking Points: One Big Beautiful Bill (OBBBA)

These talking points are designed to help senior leaders at MHS Association member organizations communicate the operational implications of the One Big Beautiful Bill (OBBBA) to internal staff, boards, and key stakeholders. The focus is on clarity, non-partisanship, and preparation. This document is written with all of our members in mind and some points may not apply. Please modify this document to best benefit your organization.

Talking Points for Staff

- Beginning January 2026, many of the people we serve will need to provide proof of 80 hours of work or related activities monthly to keep Medicaid coverage.
- Eligibility recertification will now happen every six months instead of annually, which will increase documentation needs and administrative complexity.
- These changes may impact our workflows, requiring more communication and support services to assist clients with maintaining coverage.
- Some clients may delay or forgo services due to new co-pays, impacting service utilization and reimbursement.
- We are investing in systems and support to help smooth this transition, and your roles are vital to maintaining continuity of care.

Talking Points for Boards

- OBBBA includes up to \$1 trillion in Medicaid cuts over the next 10 years, resulting in estimated coverage loss for nearly 12 million Americans.
- Cost-shifting to states and service providers will increase financial strain, particularly in rural and safety-net service areas.
- Reduced Medicaid reimbursements and more uncompensated care could impact our financial sustainability and require strategic resource allocation.
- We will need to modernize billing systems and consider restructuring certain service lines to adapt to new demands.
- Your leadership will be critical in guiding organizational priorities and engaging donors to help bridge funding gaps.



Community Messaging Themes

- We remain committed to our mission of compassionate, values-driven care, even in the face of shifting policies.
- Our organization is preparing carefully to continue serving individuals affected by coverage changes.
- We are enhancing partnerships and systems to support the communities we serve and to advocate for their well-being.
- Transparency, empathy, and proactive communication are central to how we navigate these transitions.

Focused Messaging Guidelines

- Acknowledge empathy for individuals losing coverage
- Emphasize mission alignment
- Reinforce faith
- Avoid a partisan spin and focus on operational realities