

H.R. 1 Community Partner Engagement Group Overview

Understanding H.R. 1

On July 4, 2025, the **One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA)**, also known as **H.R. 1**, was signed into law. This legislation introduced more than 21 Medicaid reforms, which will begin taking effect in the **Fall 2026**.

Key changes for Medicaid members:

- **Community Engagement (work) Requirements (January 1, 2027):** Some members will need to complete 80 hours per month of work or community activities to maintain coverage.
- **Eligibility Review Cycle (January 1, 2027)** Many members will move to a 6-month renewal cycle instead of the current 12-month cycle.
- **Retroactive Coverage (January 1, 2027):** Retroactive coverage will drop from 3 months down to 1 or 2 months, depending on the specific program.
- **Eligibility Changes for Immigrants (October 1, 2026):** The law narrows the definition of a “qualified immigrant” to include only lawful permanent residents, certain Cuban and Haitian immigrants, and Compact of Free Association (COFA) migrants.

The H.R. 1 Community Partner Engagement Group

DHHS is convening a Community Partner Engagement Group as part of our implementation plan for HR 1. The purpose of this group is to build a long-term support network of trusted, highly-trained advocates to help Utahns navigate these new mandates and prevent coverage loss due to administrative barriers.

Core pillars of the group:

- **Training and resources:** Developing standardized H.R. 1 modules and co-branded outreach materials (FAQs, "How-to" guides).

- **Strategic alignment:** Synchronizing messaging across agencies to reduce member confusion and establishing feedback loops for frontline partners.
- **Network coordination:** Onboarding "trusted messengers" in rural and underserved areas to close geographic gaps in support.
- **Technical support:** Providing a designated "escalation path" for partners to resolve complex member cases or system errors.
- **Community navigator support:** Identifying and training key community figures to act as lead navigators for the H.R. 1 transition.

Group details:

- **Start date:** April 2026.
- **End date:** January 2028.
- **Commitment:** Regular monthly virtual strategy sessions to review policy updates and share best practices.