# A HEALTHY, WEALTHY, and WISE DECISION

# to expand Medicaid

under the American Rescue Plan

North Carolina has a new opportunity to make sure that both the health and wealth of our state recovers from the pandemic!

By expanding Medicaid, NC can gain an extra \$1.7 billion in federal dollars for two years and more than 600,000 people could see a family doctor.<sup>1</sup>





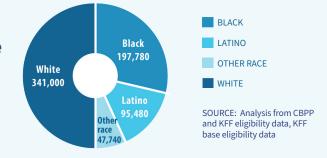
## A great deal got even better!

Under the American Rescue Plan, North Carolina can get at least \$1.7 BILLION from the federal government to expand Medicaid **ON TOP of the federal government paying 90%** of the cost for expansion forever!

- More than 1 in 10 North Carolinians can't see a medical doctor²
- Mental health concerns and substance use disorders are on the rise with COVID-19
- 1 in 3 North
   Carolinians have
   reported feeling
   symptoms related to
   anxiety or depression
   since April 2020<sup>3</sup>
- There has been a 15% increase in ER visits for substance use or binge drinking<sup>4</sup>
- In May 2020 there were 828 Emergency Department visits due to opioid overdose, compared to 658 in May 2019. This represents a 25% increase<sup>5</sup>

### **Expanding Medicaid is a Racial Justice Issue**

Number of uninsured who would become eligible for Medicaid if NC expanded



Expanding
Medicaid
is Health Justice

- ▶ Only **2%** of justice-involved people are eligible for Medicaid as it is now<sup>6</sup>
- ▶ **71%** of people in NC prisons need long-term substance use disorder treatment and 65% have a mental illness<sup>2</sup>
- ▶ Upon release, an estimated **90%** are uninsured<sup>8</sup>

#### **NOW IS THE TIME FOR NC TO EXPAND MEDICAID!**

TAKE ACTION TODAY and Contact your Legislator to Urge them to Expand Medicaid!