

# Nurses » *It's Our Duty to Fight HHS Cuts that Hurt Patients, Public Health!*

The health of your patients, your community, your family, and, yes, yourself, is in serious danger. That's because the most important federal public health agency in our country, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), is on the chopping block. In order to fund continued tax cuts for billionaires and corporations, the new administration wants to gut HHS and the entire nation's public health infrastructure by slashing \$880 billion from Medicaid and getting rid of half of HHS staff.

## **Nurses must fight back! Here are just a few of the ways HHS protects us »**

- ▶ **Provides health coverage and care for 170 million people** in the United States through Medicare, Medicaid, the Affordable Care Act, and CHIP.
- ▶ **Runs the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention** to monitor, prevent, and contain the spread of infectious diseases.
- ▶ **Funds critical, groundbreaking research** into diseases and cures through the National Institutes of Health.
- ▶ **Ensures the safety of our food supply, medications, medical devices, and cosmetics** through the Food and Drug Administration.
- ▶ **Supports the most vulnerable patients among us**, including children, disabled people, seniors, patients in substance abuse treatment, and people with mental health conditions.

In addition, the new HHS Secretary, Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., has been vocal about shifting the department away from public health responsibilities like infectious disease control.

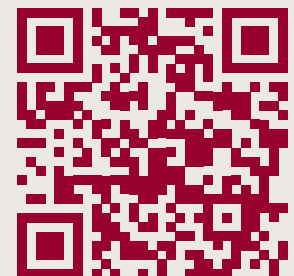
We are not exaggerating when we say that every aspect of our health and life will be at risk. Bird flu and other serious diseases like measles are on the rise or resurging. Practicing nursing and working in medicine without reliable data, research, and medication and vaccines while our patients and communities suffer without health care is unacceptable.

Yanking Medicaid funding will also hurt hospital budgets and lead to fewer nursing jobs, worse staffing, service cuts, and even hospital closures.



**The public trusts nurses to speak up for them. We must rise up and say NO to these cuts.**

**Stay tuned for our next steps, right now we need you to sign this petition »**



**OUR PATIENTS. OUR UNION. OUR VOICE.**

