

# Changes are happening in Alabama Medicaid!



**New services will help patients get the health care that's right for their needs.**

**Starting Oct. 1, 2019, Medicaid begins a new care coordination program.** The new plan will create Alabama Coordinated Health Networks (ACHNs) in 7 regions of the state. These ACHNs will coordinate primary care for people with Medicaid coverage. Your ACHN will have a phone line to call when a Medicaid member has a health problem.

**To get the new services, people who have Medicaid coverage (children, pregnant women, and people getting family planning services) will need to have a primary care doctor of their choice.** Their doctor will become their “medical home” – the first place to contact for ordinary health needs. And new services will be offered to improve patient health. Medicaid members who already have a primary doctor can continue under their care. Coordinating patient care through a primary doctor helps avoid expensive emergency room visits for routine health care needs.

**The Alabama Medicaid Agency will be sending out information about the ACHN program so you can know who to call to discuss care coordination services.** In the meantime, you can help others be aware of the coming changes.

Alabama Arise has organizers available to talk to groups interested in learning more about the coming changes. Contact:

**Pres Harris, organizing director**  
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Alabama Arise is a statewide, nonprofit, nonpartisan coalition of congregations, organizations and individuals promoting public policies to improve the lives of low-income Alabamians. Visit us online at [alarise.org](http://alarise.org).