# The Affordable Care Act: Year 5 Open Enrollment

Young Invincibles @YoungInvincible YoungInvincibles.org facebook.com/together.invincible



Today's Agenda

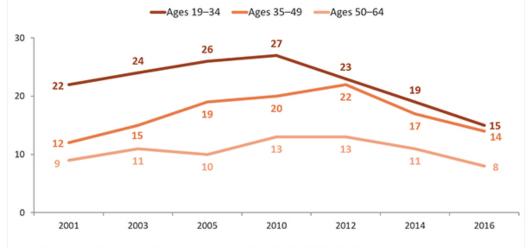
- Getting Back to the Basics
- Messaging & Outreach
- Key Takeaways & OE5 Look Ahead

# Millennials Want Insurance

- Pre-ACA, only 5% polled reported choosing to forgo health insurance
- Young adults value and want health insurance
  - "Affordability, Not Invincibility"

Young Adults Have Made the Greatest Gains in Coverage of Any Age Group Since 2010

Percent of adults ages 19-64 who are uninsured



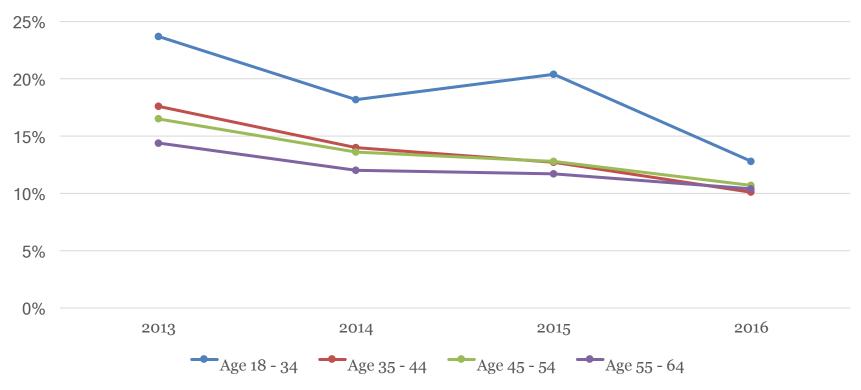
Data: The Commonwealth Fund Biennial Health Insurance Surveys (2001, 2003, 2005, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016).

Source: S. R. Collins, M. Z. Gunja, M. M. Doty, and S. Beutel, How the Affordable Care Act Has Improved Americans' Ability to Buy Health Insurance on Their Own, The Commonwealth Fund, February 2017.



# North Carolina Snapshot by State

Percent of Population Uninsured by Age Group in North Carolina

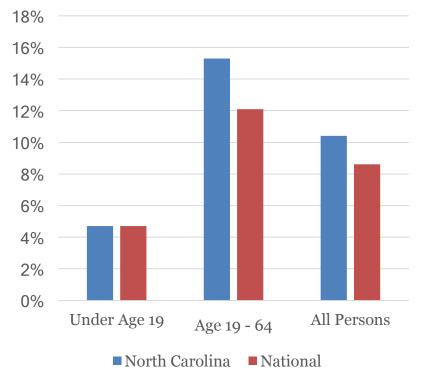


Source: Enroll America's Uninsured Estimates for Non-Elderly Adults (2013 – 2016)

# North Carolina Snapshot by State

### Uninsured Rates: N.C. vs National

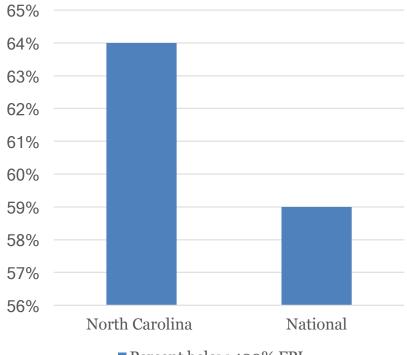






#### Federal Poverty Range: N.C. vs National

Percent of Population Below 400% FPL



Percent below 400% FPL

Kaiser Family Foundation – State Health Data, 2016

# Awareness Gap

- 69% indicated "I can't afford it"
- Many still did not know about financial help or tax subsidies
- Awareness gap exists more within Latino & African American communities

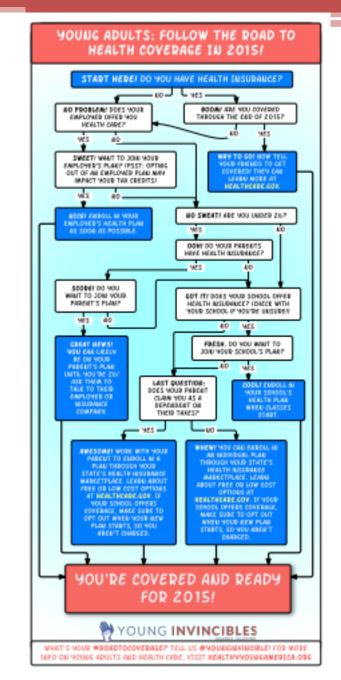


# Clear the Confusion

- Affordable Care Act **has not** been repealed
- Financial assistance is still available
- 2017 Open Enrollment: Nov. 1 Dec. 15
  Do not procrastinate, and do not bank on extensions!
- Login and actively enroll in a plan

# Ways to get covered

- Stay on a parent's plan (if you're under 26 and the plan covers dependents)
- Student health plans
- Job-based coverage
- <u>HealthCare.Gov</u> or state website, the official health insurance marketplace
  - Medicaid
  - Qualified Health Plans (QHP)



## Where to find help?

NC Navigator Helpline 1-855-733-3711

Get Covered Connector App Connector.GetCoveredAmerica.org

> Federal Marketplace 1-800-318-2596

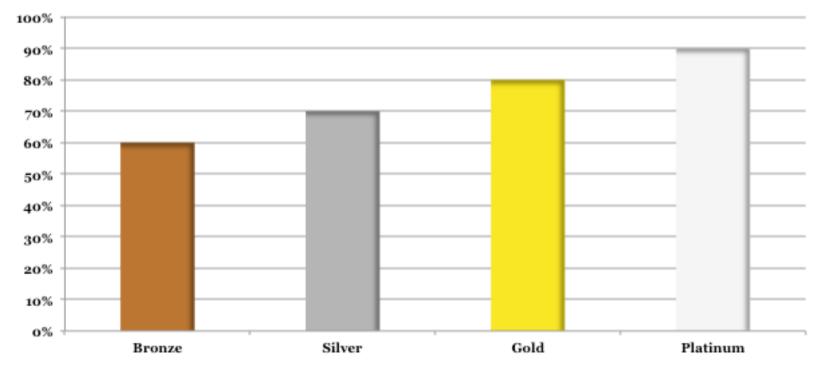
Ensure Clients Know the Fundamentals Before Enrolling

# Terminology is Key

- Premium monthly bill you pay to have insurance
  Same as a monthly cell phone bill
- Deductible amount you pay out-of-pocket before insurance kicks in to cover a service
  - Same as car insurance when you have an accident
- Copayment / coinsurance set dollar amount or percentage you pay out-of-pocket for a service after deductible is met

# Understanding the coverage levels

- The level of coverage you choose affects your monthly premium and your out of pocket costs
- Generally, lower premiums mean higher out-of-pocket costs



#### Amount of Coverage Paid by Your Insurer

# Catastrophic Plans

- Available to:
  - Young adults under 30, **OR**
  - Those w/ a "hardship exemption"
- What it covers:
  - 3 primary care visits a year
  - Preventive services w/o co-pay or deductible
  - Further services, but with high deductible



What do I pay?

# When you buy health insurance, you will have two kinds of costs

Monthly Premium + Out-of-Pocket

Your total cost

# Tax Credits

- Those making between 100-400% of FPL could qualify for premium tax credits (subsidies)
- An *advanceable* tax credit allows a person to receive assistance at the time that they purchase insurance

Household Size	100% FPL	400% FPL
1	\$12,060	\$48,240
2	\$16,240	\$64,960
3	\$20,420	\$81,680
4	\$24,600	\$98,400
5	\$28,780	\$115,120

# **Estimating Yearly Income**

- 1. Household Adjusted Gross Income
  - 1. Gross income minus allowed tax deductions
    - Ex. Student loan interest, or alimony paid
    - Don't include Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
    - Include tax-exempt Social Security benefits
- 2. Adjust for any expected changes
  - 1. Expected raises
  - 2. Work scheduling changes
  - 3. Changes in tax dependent

# **Cost Sharing Reductions**

- Eligible to those below 250% federal poverty level
- Reduces deductible and out-of-pocket expenses associated with silver level plan
- Paid by federal government directly to insurance provider
  - Presidential Executive Order

# Medicaid Overview

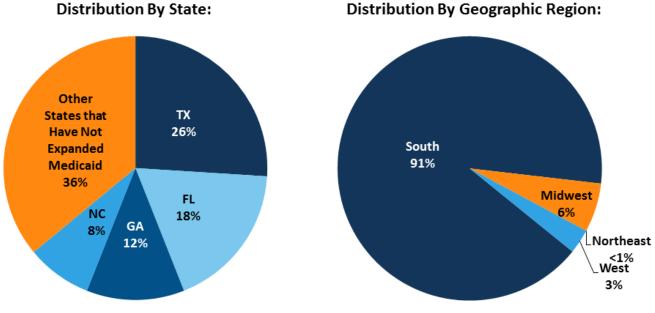
- Federal-state partnership
- Provides free or low-cost health coverage to <u>some</u> low-income people
- Not to be confused w/ Medicare, which is health coverage for people 65+



# The Medicaid Coverage Gap

Figure 2

# Distribution of Adults in the Coverage Gap, by State and Region



Total = 2.6 Million in the Coverage Gap



Source: Kaiser Family Foundation analysis based on 2016 Medicaid eligibility levels and 2016 Current Population Survey.

## Key Messaging to Focus On

# Be Mindful of Your Language

- Affordable Care Act vs. Obamacare
  Be inclusive
- "Mandate" and "fine" conveys a demand
  It is a tax penalty
- Do not engage in the politics
  Be conscious of your audience

## **Biggest Motivator: Financial Assistance**

- Most consumers will find a plan that is subsidized
- HUGE savings:
  - Highlight stories of consumers with low cost plans
- Free preventive services: flu shots, yearly check ups, contraception, HIV/STI screenings, etc.
- Keep it real & relate the cost to other monetary items



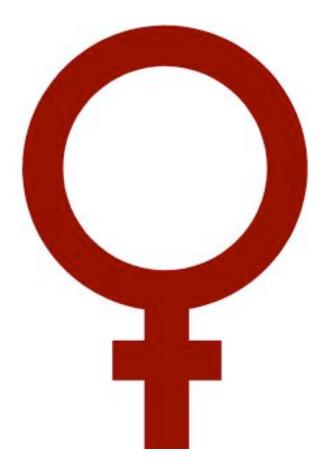
## **Preventive Services**

- Be proactive about your health!
- **Free** preventive services covered by all plans:
  - Flu shots
  - Blood pressure and cholesterol screenings
  - HIV screening
  - Immunizations, like Hepatitis and Tetanus
- Preventive care also includes women's health benefits



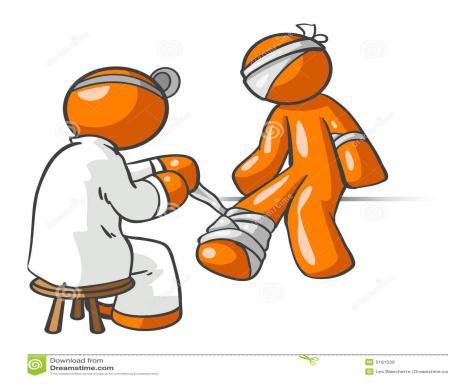
# Women's Preventive Services

- Well-woman visits
- Support for breastfeeding
- Domestic violence screenings and counseling
- Mammograms and cancer screenings



# Messaging to Peers

- Benefits of having insurance
  - Get preventive care like check ups and flu shots for free
- Financial security
  - Young adults end up in the ER more than any other age group outside the elderly
- Financial assistance
  - Vast majority receive financial help
- Avoid the tax penalty
  - Why pay something for nothing?



# Flag on the play: The Tax Penalty

- A tax penalty is applied if individuals forego "minimum essential coverage" (MEC)
- Penalty is pro-rated
- Grace period for those insured less than 3 months
- Capped at national average annual premium for a Bronze plan



# Penalty Breakdown

	2015	2016	2017
G r e a t e r	Percentage amount: 2% of income above tax filing threshold	Percentage amount: 2.5% of income above tax filing threshold	Percentage amount: 2.5% of income above tax filing threshold
	Flat dollar amount: • <b>\$325</b> per adult + \$162.50 per child	Flat dollar amount: • <b>\$695</b> per adult + \$347.50 per child	Flat dollar amount: • <b>\$625</b> per adult + \$347.50 per child
o f	Family max: \$975	Family max: \$2,085	Family max: \$2,085

# How to Apply for Exemptions

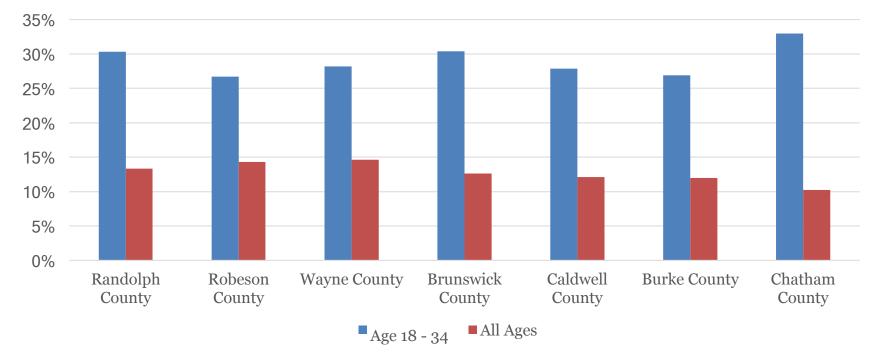
Form on HealthCare.gov	Tax Return	HealthCare.gov OR Tax Return	No Application
Hardship exemption	Gap in coverage < 3 mo.	Coverage unaffordable	Below tax filing threshold
Member of religious sect	Undocumented	Incarcerated	
Eligible for services through Indian health care provider		Member of federally- recognized tribe	
		Member of health care sharing ministry	

Source: https://www.healthcare.gov/exemptions/

# **Targeting Your Outreach Efforts**

# Percentage Snapshot by County

Counties with Highest Percentage of Uninsured Young Adults in 2016

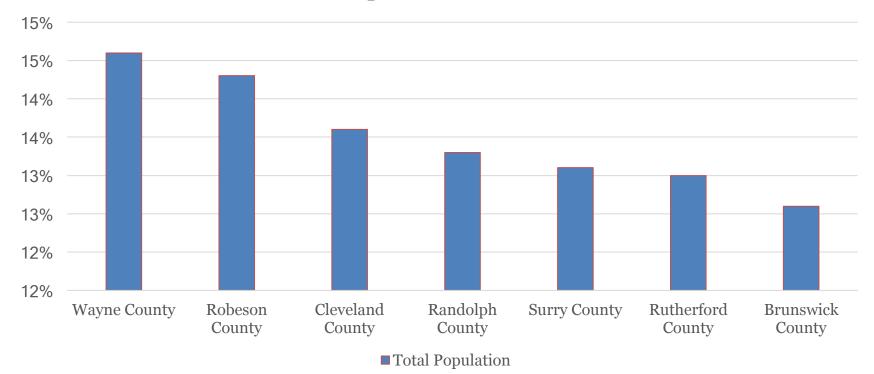


Notable others: Alamance, 23.7; Rutherford, 23.2; Cleveland, 23.1; Rockingham, 21.7; Surry, 21.6; Harnett, 21.2

Source: US Census American Community Survey, 2016

# Percentage Snapshot by County

#### Counties with Highest Percentage of Total Uninsured Population in 2016

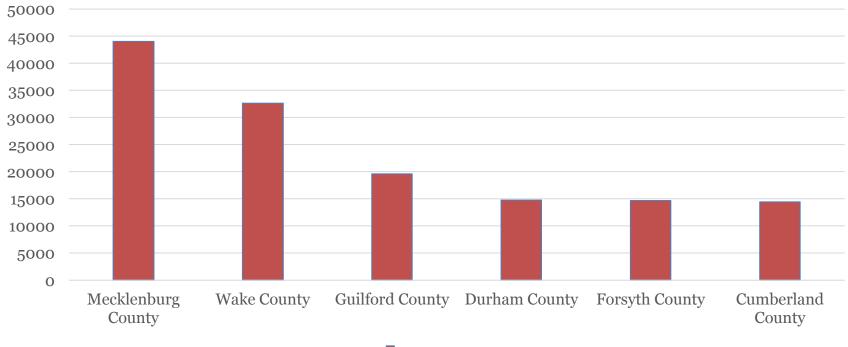


Notable others: Johnston, 12.2%; Caldwell, 12.1%; Durham, 12%; Alamance, 12%; Buke, 12%

Source: US Census American Community Survey, 2016

# Numbers Snapshot by County

Counties with Highest Numbers of Uninsured Young Adults in 2016

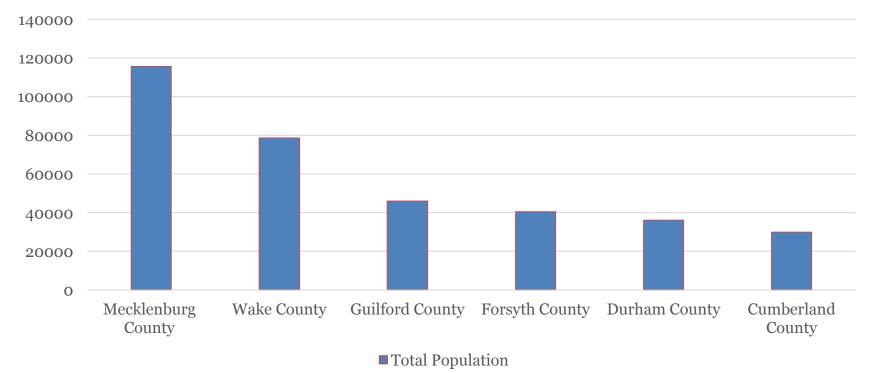


Age 18 - 34

Source: US Census American Community Survey, 2016

# Numbers Snapshot by County

#### Counties with Highest Total Numbers of Uninsured Population in 2016



Source: US Census American Community Survey, 2016

# **Outreach: Key Messengers**

- Parents
- College Advisors,
   Professors, Student Life
- Community College, Graduate Programs
- Employers, Career Fairs
- Peers!
- Faith Leaders



# Key Community Partners

- Community Colleges
- Labor Unions
- Bar & Service Industry
- Artists & Young Entrepreneurs

- Trade Schools
- Barber Shops & Beauty Salons
- Job Training Centers
- Retail & Seasonal Workers

# Messaging to Partners

## • Incentivize participation:

- Access to new client base
- Brand building
- Uplift the community

## • To Employers:

- Increase worker productivity
- Increase morale
- Build loyalty



#### **Roles: Trusted Community Partners**

- Navigators and CACs are not the only vital roles during open enrollment
- Lean on your community:
  - Faith-based places of worship
  - Community centers
  - United Way 2-1-1
  - Local Elected Officials
  - YMCAs & YWCAs
  - Libraries

# Go Digital

- Facebook
  Facebook Live
- Twitter
  - Event promotion & information sharing
- Instagram
  - Capture the moments

#### Planning your Events

#### Education & Enrollment Events

- Provide rolling education presentations
- Use computer labs or large spaces where assisters can set up laptops
- Sign in & out to ensure follow up for unfinished enrollments



#### **Education Awareness Events**

- Large education events:
  - Focus on educating & connecting young adults with enrollers
- Provide entertainment incentives:
  - Music
  - Food
  - Free yoga / Zumba
  - Face painting for children



#### Best Practice Tips: Tabling

- Location, location, location
- Prepare a script
  - "Hello. Do you need help signing up for health insurance?"
  - "Did you know you may be eligible for financial assistance?"
- Provide handouts with concise information and marketplace contact information



#### **Best Practice Tips: Enrollment Events**

- Build Attendance by:
  - Planning collaboratively
  - Radio promotion
  - Social media
  - Canvassing with flyers
  - Email blasts
  - Local news & newspapers
  - Reminders
- Family-friendly environments
  - Choose spaces where parents or caretakers can bring children



## Piggyback on Existing Events

- Festivals
- Career & Health Fairs
- Farmer's Markets
- College Orientation / End of Semester
- Seasonal Events
  - Holidays



#### **Appointments Tips**

- Encourage consumer to bring all required documents to initial appointment
- Remind them of benefits of getting covered
  - Free preventative services
  - Financial security
- Take into account marketplace downtimes when planning



#### Marketplace Scheduled Maintenance

The marketplace will not be operational:

Overnight into Wednesday, November 1<sup>st</sup>

Sundays 12am-12pm ET, except December 10<sup>th</sup>

Plan your appointments accordingly!

### Story Collection

- Stories are a powerful way to educate
- Share stories within your community to spread the word



A tale shall accomplish something & arrive somewhere. – Mark Twain

#### Looking Ahead

NATIONAL YOUNH ENROLLMENT DAY NATIONALYOUTHENROLLMENTDAY.ORG

- **Open Enrollment:** 2018 plans begin: • November 1<sup>st</sup> – December 15<sup>th</sup>
- - December 15<sup>th</sup>

- January 1<sup>st</sup>
- Deadline to actively renew: National Youth Enrollment Day:
  - December 8<sup>th</sup>

#### Questions?

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