

Affordable Care Act & Family Caregiving FACT SHEET
Prepared for Indivisible Groups by Maya Hennessey - Author of *If Only I'd Had This Caregiving Book*
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Senators McCain & Flake DON'T REPEAL ACA

To find your congressman: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/members/map>

Family caregivers across the nation sacrifice their health and safety to care for loved ones. *Caregiving in the U.S.* (2015) a study by the National Caregiving Alliance for Caregiving and AARP, estimates 43.5 million caregivers in the U.S. provide a value of \$470 billion in services *if those services were provided by professionals.*

Arizona Benefits from Affordable Care Act (ACA) (HHS.Gov/Assistant Secretary Public Affairs)

410,000 = 36% more Arizonans insured since ACA

3,888,000 AZs Employee Covered

1,716,198 AZs Medicaid (including 151,00 seniors & disabled or Children's Health Ins Program)

1,175,624 AZs Medicare (ACA strengthened Medicare Trust Fund, extending it a decade due to cost cutting)

96,954 AZ Seniors saving \$94 million on drugs (ACA negotiated cost cutting)

Working poor, seniors, children & other vulnerable Americans currently get subsidies they will lose unless Congress VOTES to KEEP ACA.

Arizona's most vulnerable need Senators McCain & Flake to VOTE NO TO ACA REPEAL

AZ 2015 POPULATION 6,828,000 (U.S. Census)

18 years old and under 23.8% 1,625,064

65 & older 16.4 % 1,119,792

40.2 % 2,744,856

- 804,000 Arizona Family Caregivers provide 749 million hours of care, valued at \$9.4 Billion in services (AARP Public Policy Institute)
- 1,188,072 17.4% Arizonans are living in poverty
- Nearly 1 in 4 family caregivers report financial strain due to caring for loved one.
- Over 60% of family caregivers are forced to work outside the home due to financial strain & risk job loss or have lost jobs due to time off responding to urgent needs of their care recipients.

Shame on employers who fire family caregivers who save AZ millions of dollars

SENATORS McCain & Flake: If ACA is repealed more will be piled on the breaking backs of family caregivers. VOTE NO TO ACA REPEAL to...

- help alleviate caregiver stress battling claims & finding services
- prevent or delay costly out-of-home placement when caregivers collapse.

ACA has eliminated the gut wrenching stress formerly associated with MANAGED CARE refusal to pay for benefits clearly stated in the insurance policy; and the suffering as you watch a loved one die after being denied vital life-saving treatments by Insurance Companies. (See Congressional Committee transcripts of testimony on Managed Care Abuse)

More about Maya Hennessey, author of If Only I'd Had This Caregiving Book...

“When a caregiver collapses like I did while caring for my husband as he was dying of brain cancer, the caregiver and loved one are torn away from each other and tossed into the health care system & nursing homes. Caregivers are one of our nation’s greatest resources that must be appreciated and protected by lawmakers.

Research shows that without adequate help the immune system of caregivers deteriorates along with their loved ones (*Ronald & Janice Glaser*). Under the relentless lash of 24/7 demands caregivers suffer from debilitating depression, anxiety, despair, exhaustion, insomnia & confusion. A weakening immune system allows genetic conditions like diabetes, cancer & heart disease to flourish. Many family caregivers die before the patient. Those caring for loved ones with high-demand conditions like Alzheimer’s have even higher mortality rates.

Without the AFFORDABLE CARE ACT over-burdened family caregivers will be at greater risk of burning out physically & mentally from the gut-wrenching heartache of battling insurance companies while watching loved ones die after being denied crucial life-saving treatments. Managed care agencies will once again take billions of dollars currently being spent on services for Americans through the Affordable Care Act. **Join us in saving “The Patients Protection Affordable Care Act.”**

- Copy & distribute this FACT SHEET to everyone you know, everywhere you go
- Help seniors and family caregivers contact their congressman:
<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/members/map>
- Call & email congress to tell your managed care/HMO nightmare stories.
- Tell congress to save ACA or they will lose your vote.
- Email me your managed care stories at www.mayahennessey.com/contact
- Downloadable PDF of this Fact Sheet <http://www.mayahennessey.com/published.php>

Maya Hennessey is a semi-retired national consultant & trainer on the plight of family caregivers. Maya was the coordinator of volunteers in the Midwest for the National Family Caregivers Association; she served on Chicago Mayor’s Daley Caregivers Advisory Council, trained Case Coordination Units & Area Agencies on Aging. Maya conducts workshops on her book & on *Communicating Effectively with Health Care or Professionals &/or Conquering Your To-Do List*. Maya has trained thousands of staff in federal & state government and human services organizations, and won awards for her progressive approaches and amazing outcomes. Maya was on numerous policy committees of four Governors (three republican and one democrat.) Maya served on two of First Lady Hillary Clinton’s health care committees on families. Maya is featured in the Bill Moyers series on addiction titled *Close To Home*, demonstrating the power of collaboration to rebuild the lives of families through the award winning Project SAFE that she managed in Illinois. To learn more about Maya or get a downloadable PDF of this Fact Sheet www.mayahennessey.com<http://www.mayahennessey.com/published.php>