

# Close the Coverage Gap - For Healthier Babies

Medicaid covers most low-income women only after they become pregnant. Health care before conception can save babies' lives. Improving a mother's health is best done before she gets pregnant, when it is easier to fight diabetes, high blood pressure, and other chronic conditions that drive up pregnancy risks.



Out of every 1,000 births in North Carolina, 7 babies do not survive their first birthday.<sup>1</sup>

A baby's chance of survival is closely tied with their mother's health. A baby is much more likely to be born healthy if their mother is healthy and cared for.<sup>2</sup>



1 out of every 5 women between the ages of 18 and 44 in North Carolina has no health coverage.<sup>3</sup>



Across the nation, fewer newborns die in states that have closed the coverage gap. Closing the insurance coverage gap would provide more than 500,000 North Carolina adults, including women of childbearing age, with health insurance.

**Closing the Coverage Gap Means Healthier Babies. Please Close the Health Insurance Coverage Gap.**

**Care4Carolina**

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