

I am currently the Marketing Manager for Liberty Benefit Consultants, in Wichita, Ks. We are an insurance brokerage that since the beginning of the ACA (Obamacare) have partnered with several non-profit organizations to educate and enroll individuals and families into healthcare coverage. We have, over the past two enrollment periods, successfully enrolled hundreds of people with affordable healthcare and have many happy and relieved people who continually express their gratitude for our help.

That is the success and reward for what we do, however, there is a dark and depressing side to this as well. Of the hundreds we have seen over 2/3rds of those individuals and families have had to be told that we cannot help and there is no help for them at all! Do to the state of Kansas and their being reluctant to expand Medicaid, we have had the unpleasant task to inform them that affordable healthcare is not an option that they can embrace.

Our agency decided to assist people, with no charge from us, to give everyone the opportunity to have a basic right of being a citizen of this country. It has been the most eye opening experience however, to sit across from a working individual or family, trying to make it on what they earn and then to have to explain that they don't make enough for the ACA and too much for Medicaid. The look on the faces can be very upsetting. It is like we just told them that they had an incurable disease. It is heartbreaking for us in the industry to turn these people away. For years, we as an agency were used to telling people that we could not help them because of pre-existing conditions but for the first time we thought that we would not have to see that look again of rejection. We were wrong.

It is easy for some to say, "I don't see what the fuss is all about. It can't be that big of a problem!" It is. Simple as that. Unless you have sat at a table all day, meeting with people excited about the prospect of getting healthcare coverage for the first time, only to be told "we can't do anything for you" then you wouldn't understand why expanding Medicaid is so important.

From: Frank Taylor
Address: 5001 E. Pawnee #316, Wichita, Ks. 67218
Phone: [316-680-0665](tel:316-680-0665)
Email: taylor_f76@yahoo.com