



When You Need Health Care, Call First Care!

105 W. 13th St.
Hays, KS 67601
785.621.4990

208 Marc Wagner Dr.
Victoria, KS 67671
785.735.3710

www.firstcareclinic.com
Fax: 785.628.8719

Written Testimony on:
SB 252 - FY 20 KanCare Expansion

Presented to:
Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee

By:
Bryan R. Brady, Chief Executive Officer of First Care Clinic

Chairman Suellentrop and members of the committee. I am Bryan Brady, CEO of the First Care Clinic in Hays, KS. I appreciate the opportunity to submit written testimony about KanCare Expansion and how it would impact my clinic and the Kansans of Ellis County.

My clinic serves some of the most vulnerable populations in Ellis County. For our patients, the struggle to afford healthcare is real and patients avoid seeking services because of limited financial resources. When patients delay seeking healthcare, it usually turns in to an urgent issue that has to be addressed in an emergency setting. It is a well-known fact that the emergency room is one of the most expensive methods of delivering care. In this time of rising healthcare costs, it is imperative that we avoid adding unnecessary costs to the healthcare system.

The expansion of KanCare would improve health and reduce costs by providing affordable healthcare coverage to 150,000 hardworking Kansans. I also want to talk about what this means for my clinic. Last year, we provided over \$750,000 in uncompensated care for the uninsured. Under KanCare expansion we are conservatively estimating that \$400,000 in new revenue will be generated from existing patients we are already providing services for. This estimate does not take into effect any new revenue from patients seeking care for the first time, now that they have insurance. The new money generated from KanCare expansion will be used to expand our



current services by adding additional staff to help ease access to care concerns that will arise from the newly insured.

Though it means a great deal for our clinic and the local community, the most important aspect is what this means to the uninsured residents of Ellis County that would gain coverage. It means that since they have insurance they are more likely to:

- o seek services (including recommended preventive services)
- o have a regular source of care
- o take medication appropriately
- o be healthier
- o have lower mortality rate
- o not be in debt.

KanCare expansion makes sense for Kansas, it makes sense for the local economy and most importantly it makes sense for hard working Kansans in Ellis County.

I respectfully urge you to expand KanCare on behalf of the 150,000 Kansans that currently don't have access to affordable healthcare. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Bryan R. Brady
Chief Executive Officer