

Our members are the backbone of Florida's pediatric health system

Message: Don't Cut Our Capacity to Care for Children

Talking Points:

Cutting Children's Hospital Funding During a Pandemic is Bad Policy

Children's hospitals have been ready when Florida's children and parents needed them the most. Now we are asking Legislators to be there for them.

While representing only 15 of the 224 acute care hospitals in the state, these children's hospitals are targeted to bear over half of the cuts to children's health care in the Senate's budget and nearly 75% in the House proposed cuts.

Children and Their Families Are Hurt When Medicaid Cuts are Imposed on Children's Hospitals

When children are sick or injured, the more parents and caregivers need the services that can only be provided in a highly staffed and prepared children's hospital.

Critical care funds help ensure that all of Florida's most vulnerable children have access to the highest quality life-saving care.

Cuts Devastate Critical Care Neonatal Intensive Care Center Hospitals

House proposal: Cuts \$361.3-million from Regional Perinatal Intensive Care Centers and Critical Care hospitals; \$514.3- million total hospital cuts.

Senate proposal: Cuts \$205.6 Million from Regional Perinatal Intensive Care Centers and Critical Care hospitals. \$328.5 Million in total hospital cuts.

More Federal COVID Relief Funding Is Needed to Make-up for COVID-Related Hospital Losses

The federal COVID provider relief funding (PRF) was a lifeline, not a windfall. Even after federal relief funds, children's hospitals are in the red due to COVID-related expenses and lost revenue.

The federal COVID provider relief funding made up only a minor portion of government-imposed hospital shutdowns and readiness expenses.

Federal relief funds were a one-time event. The proposed budget cuts are recurring and will permanently reduce the ability of hospitals to respond to the needs of patients.

Reimbursement Cuts Would Also be Devastating after a Decade of Declining Reimbursement Rates

Funding for Medicaid hospital services has consistently declined since 2014.

Funding for hospital services paid for through Medicaid Managed care is less in dollar amount and percentage than it was a decade ago. Despite all of these challenges, children's hospitals have been there for our families and communities.