



August 13, 2024

Dear FSSA Secretary Dr. Dan Rusyniak and Medicaid Director Cora Steinmetz,

**We, the undersigned organizations, urge Indiana Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA) to maintain Healthy Indiana Plan (HIP) Plus coverage to all HIP members, just as they did for the past four years.** The state's proposal to reduce healthcare coverage for hundreds of thousands of Hoosiers threatens the health and economic well-being of those in our state who can least afford it. This proposed policy by the state also threatens to destabilize our healthcare system and harm providers by reducing the number of services covered. These essential benefits include vision, dental, and chiropractic services.

Since the inception of the HIP 2.0, **HIP Plus has always been the initial, default benefits package for HIP members.** *Only* when Individuals failed to make POWER Account Payments did they move to HIP Basic and lose access to Plus benefits, like dental and vision and no co-payments. At present, HIP members cannot make POWER Account payments due to a Federal Court decision.

For the past four years HIP Members also have not made POWER Account Payments as that requirement had been suspended voluntarily by the state. Since March 2020, as a part of the federal Public Health Emergency Indiana waived all POWER Account payments for HIP members in order to ensure HIP members maintained lifesaving continuous healthcare coverage during the pandemic. In July of 2021, FSSA announced that effective August 1st, 2021 for the remainder of the Public Health Emergency, all members currently on HIP Basic would be switched to HIP Plus. In addition, new HIP members were to be automatically enrolled in HIP Plus. This action granted all HIP members the enhanced benefits of HIP Plus, and [demonstrates the state's recognition that HIP Plus is the default version of the program.](#)

HIP POWER Account Payments were set to return beginning July 1, 2024, but Judge [James E. Boasberg's June 27th, 2024 ruling on the Rose v. Becerra case](#) required FSSA to suspend HIP POWER Account payments and some other provisions of HIP deemed burdensome barriers to healthcare coverage. In response to the ruling, [the state has now filed an appeal](#)

[and requested they be able to restart POWER Account payments and other provisions pending a ruling on their appeal.](#)

**We urge FSSA to continue running HIP as it has done successfully for most of the past 4 years: protect Hoosier health and finances by restoring Healthy Indiana Plan (HIP) Plus coverage to all HIP members.**

**Sincerely,**

AIDS Resource Group  
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network  
Count Us In  
Concerned Clergy of Indianapolis  
El Centro Comunal Latino  
Fair Housing Center of Central Indiana  
Greater Indianapolis Multifaith Alliance  
Hoosier Action  
Indiana Community Action Poverty Institute  
Indiana Family Health Council, Inc.  
Indiana Task Force  
Prosperity Indiana  
The Good Trouble Coalition  
TRI-CAP