

Innovations to Improve Outcomes and Lower Expenditures

Experiences of State Medicaid Buy-In Programs

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Session Objectives

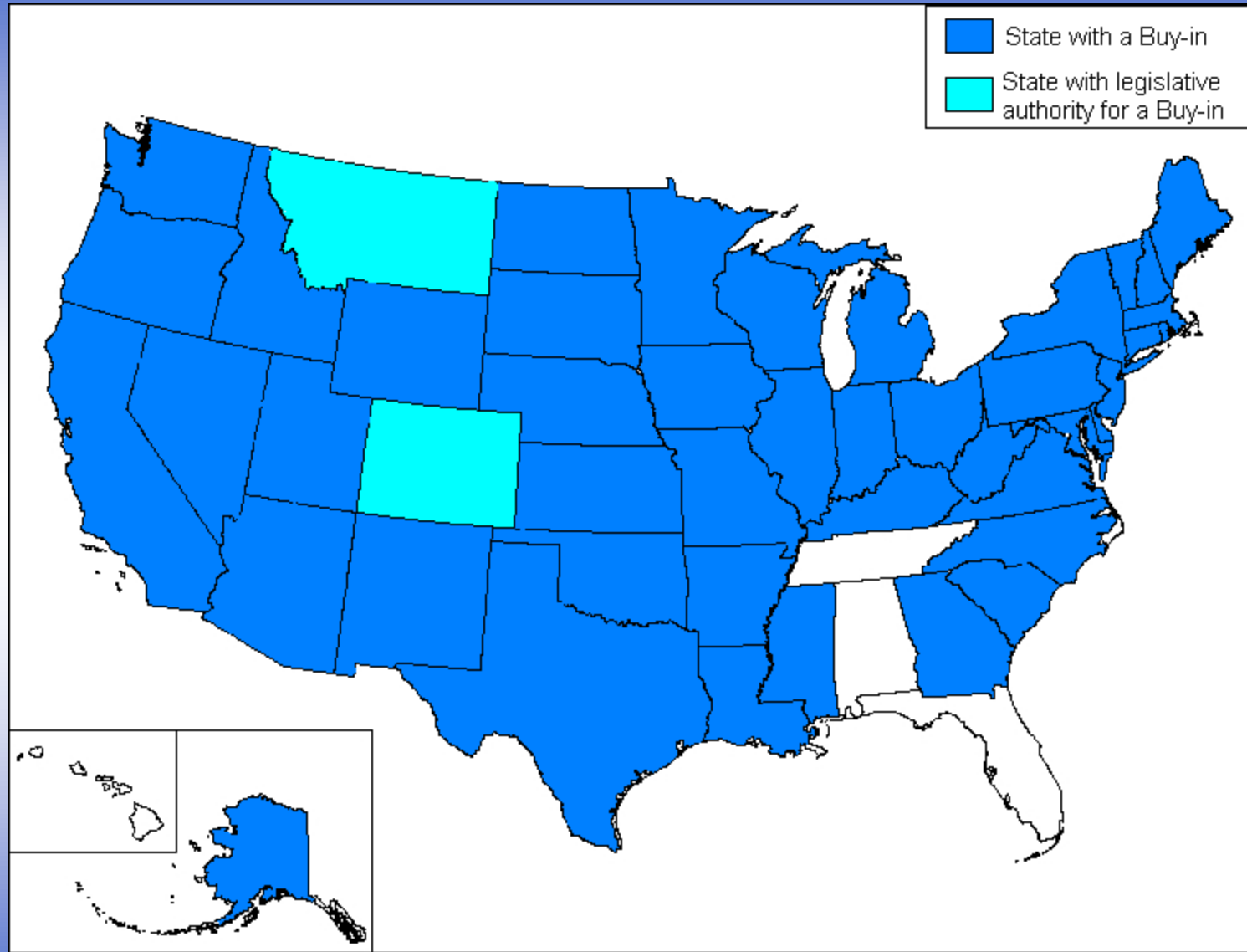
- ❑ Provide background information on Medicaid Buy-ins;
- ❑ Discuss national Buy-in trends;
- ❑ Provide three State examples of successful Buy-in outcomes:
 - ▣ Kansas
 - ▣ Minnesota
 - ▣ Iowa

Medicaid Buy-ins

□ Medicaid Buy-ins:

- One primary employment concern of people with disabilities: losing healthcare
- Medicaid provides essential supports often not available through private insurance
- Medicaid Buy-ins provide ongoing supports to workers with disabilities that meet the Social Security Criteria.
- People with disabilities pay monthly premiums and receive full Medicaid benefits package
- Forty four states currently have Medicaid Buy-ins; two additional States have passed legislation to create a program.

States with Buy-ins (2009)



Medicaid Buy-ins¹

□ Overarching Policy Goals:

- Remove the choice between health care and employment for individuals with disabilities;
- Increase employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities on Medicaid;
- Reduce medical expenditures for people with disabilities who work;
- Increase tax revenue and economic activity by enabling individuals to have higher income;
- Replace a government check with a paycheck.

1 State Medicaid Buy-in programs are implemented under one of three different authorities: The Balanced Budget Act of 1997, the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999, and 1115 demonstration waivers.

Medicaid Infrastructure Grants

- ❑ Unmatched Federal Funds to State Medicaid Agencies, or another agency in cooperation with the Medicaid Agency
- ❑ Provide resources to improve the infrastructure of Medicaid and Employment, including:
 - ▣ Altering eligibility systems;
 - ▣ Research on impact of new Medicaid policies;
 - ▣ Research on program outcomes; and
 - ▣ Developing links and collaborations to other disability service systems.

National Data

- According to Mathematica Policy Research's analysis of Buy-ins^{1,2}:
 - 31% of enrollees experienced a psychiatric disability as their primary condition;
 - 73% of enrollees were also in Medicare.
 - The majority of participants (over 65%) were enrolled in Medicaid prior to the Buy-in;
 - Buy-in participants' Medicaid expenditures were lower than other comparable Medicaid enrollees with disabilities.

1 <http://www.mathematica-mpr.com/publications/PDFs/WWDcompare.pdf>

7 2 http://www.mathematica-mpr.com/publications/pdfs/disability/buy-in_medex_rpt.pdf