



ALLIANCE *for*
CONNECTED CARE

January 15, 2026

The Honorable John Thune
Senate Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker of the House
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Senate Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Minority Leader
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senate Majority Leader Thune, Minority Leader Schumer, Speaker Johnson, and House Minority Leader Jeffries:

The [Alliance for Connected Care](#) writes to request your leadership in ensuring permanent Medicare beneficiary access to telehealth. As you know, expanded telehealth flexibilities under the Medicare program have served as a lifeline to Medicare beneficiaries across the country. Having already once allowed this lifeline to lapse, we cannot afford to continue a pattern of temporary policy extensions. We urge you to advance a permanent policy before the end of this month.

Congress has recognized – repeatedly and on a bipartisan and bicameral basis – that Medicare telehealth access allows seniors to access critical health care services even when they have barriers to accessing in-person care, such as frailty and weakened immune systems, neurodegenerative disorders, and chronic conditions, which can make travel and in-person visits especially burdensome.

Telehealth is a permanent feature of health care delivery – not a temporary anomaly. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) [data](#) show that telehealth utilization has stabilized with approximately one-quarter of Medicare beneficiaries using telehealth services annually, representing roughly 6–8 million beneficiaries nationwide. A [research brief](#) from Brown University found similar findings across states. The stabilization in utilization rates demonstrates that telehealth is no longer experimental or episodic. It is an established mode of care that is now embedded in Medicare beneficiaries' expectations and providers' care delivery.

Despite consistent data from CMS, we understand that permanent action from Congress has been stymied by Congressional Budget Office (CBO) cost estimates that have consistently struggled to reflect what are now stable utilization dynamics. As such, these scoring limitations should not serve as a barrier to permanently stabilizing policies allowing cost-effective care that millions of Medicare beneficiaries now rely upon. We recognize and respect the role of CBO, but it is time recognize that scoring efforts have not been successful and move forward with policymaking.

We urge Congress to work to enact permanent Medicare telehealth access. Telehealth is a strongly supported, bipartisan policy. Ensuring permanence is essential to avoid another accidental lapse in access for seniors (see November letter reattached). Enabling choice between in-person and telehealth care is a core capability of a modern, patient-centered health care system – allowing flexibility to meet the needs of the moment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christopher Adamec". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Chris Adamec
Executive Director

November 4, 2025

The Honorable John Thune
Senate Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker of the House
United States Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Senate Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Minority Leader
United States Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senate Majority Leader Thune, Minority Leader Schumer, Speaker Johnson, and House Minority Leader Jeffries:

On behalf of the signatories below, we strongly urge Congress to immediately act on a long-term telehealth fix in its next legislative package to ensure stability and provide clarity for patients, providers, and the health care system as a whole.

Congress has extended telehealth flexibilities multiple times immediately prior to the looming deadlines. Unfortunately, failure to do so this year has led to an abrupt end to telehealth services for millions of Medicare beneficiaries.

This cycle of temporary fixes has resulted in patients and providers facing continued disruptions in care. Providers are faced with decisions between providing the necessary care for their patients and cutting access to clinicians and services they are providing virtually. A [research brief](#) from Brown University found that expiration of the expanded telehealth coverage has cut off access to telehealth services for more than four million Medicare beneficiaries. Additionally, it has caused financial disruptions for the 30 percent of health care providers that deliver telehealth visits to Medicare beneficiaries.

Access to telehealth services serves as a lifeline to millions across the country, allowing patients to access critical health care services even when they have barriers to accessing in-person care, such as frailty and weakened immune systems, neurodegenerative disorders, and chronic conditions, which can make travel and in-person visits especially burdensome.

We urge Congress to work as quickly as possible to reinstate Medicare telehealth access and to work with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to ensure retroactive payment for practitioners that maintained patient access to crucial services during this lapse.

Telehealth is a strongly supported, bipartisan issue. It is crucial for providers and patients to have long-term, predictable access to telehealth services. The undersigned organizations stand ready to support these efforts.

Sincerely,

AAMC
AARP
Accountable for Health
Alliance for Connected Care

AdvaMed
AdventHealth
Adventist Health
Adventist Health Policy Association (AHPA)
ADVION
Advocate Health
agilon health
AGMP Telehealth
Alliance for Headache Disorders Advocacy
Alliance for Nursing Informatics
Alliance Mental Health
Allina Health
ALS Association
AltaMed Health Services
Alternating Hemiplegia of Childhood Foundation
Alzheimer's Association
Alzheimer's Impact Movement (AIM)
Amazon
American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology
American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
American Academy of Neurology
American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
American Academy of Physician Associates
American Academy of Sleep Medicine
American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy
American Association for Psychoanalysis in Clinical Social Work
American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases
American Association of Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Rehabilitation
American Association of Clinical Endocrinology
American Association of Neurological Surgeons
American Association of Nurse Practitioners
American Association of Psychiatric Pharmacists
American Association on Health and Disability
American Clinical Neurophysiology Society
American College Health Association (ACHA)
American College of Clinical Pharmacy
American College of Emergency Physicians
American College of Gastroenterology
American College of Lifestyle Medicine
American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics
American College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists
American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians (ACOFFP)
American College of Physicians
American Gastroenterological Association

American Geriatrics Society
American Health Care Association
American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA)
American Heart Association
American Medical Association
American Medical Group Association (AMGA)
American Medical Informatics Association (AMIA)
American Nurses Association
American Occupational Therapy Association
American Osteopathic Association
American Parkinson Disease Association
American Physical Therapy Association
American Psychiatric Association
American Society of Clinical Oncology
American Society of Health-System Pharmacists
American Society of Hematology
American Society of Pediatric Nephrology
American Society of Plastic Surgeons
American Speech-Language-Hearing Association
American Telemedicine Association
American TelePhysicians
American Urogynecologic Society
AmplifyMD
Amwell Medical Group
ACHIEVE Psychiatric Wellness Center
Access TeleCare
A New Perspective Counseling Service LLC
Allegro Consulting, LLC
Anderson Medical Services
Anderson Mental Health Services LLC
Angelman Syndrome Foundation
Art Therapy of Fairfield
Ascension
Aspire New Life, LLC
Association for Behavioral Health and Wellness
Association for Creatine Deficiencies
Association of American Cancer Institutes
Association of Family Medicine Residency Directors
ATA Action
athenahealth
AthenaPsych LLC
Avail Health
Avel eCare
Avenues of Counseling & Mediation, LLC

Avery's Hope
Awaken The Power Therapy, LLC
Axis Spine Center
Baker Gordon Syndrome Foundation
Baptist Health of Arkansas
BBennettMD Virtual Healthcare
Beachside Adult and Family Therapy Inc
Beacon Health
Behavioral Health Strategists, LLC
Bird on a Wire, LLC
Brownlee Health
Cadence
Carda Health
Catholic Health Association of the United States
Center to Advance Palliative Care
Cerebral Care Consulting, LLC
Chesapeake Psychological Associates
Child Neurology Foundation
Children and Adults with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (CHADD)
Children's Hospital Association
Children's National Hospital
CirrusMD
CityMD
Clarity Squared Behavioral, Inc.
Clay Pot Counseling, Inc.
Cleveland Clinic
Clinical Social Work Association
Coalition to Cure CHD2
College of Healthcare Information Management Executives (CHIME)
Columbia Doctors
Compassion & Choices
Complete Behavioral Health, PLLC
Congress of Neurological Surgeons
Connected Health Initiative
Connected Home Living
Consumer Technology Association
Continuum Therapy Partners
CopilotIQ
Corewell Health
Corstrata
CP State (Cerebral Palsy Associations of New York State)
Creating Compassion
Creative Healthcare, PLLC
CSNK2A1 Foundation

Curai, Inc.
Cure CMD
CURE Epilepsy
CurePSP
CurieDx, Inc
Cyclic Vomiting Syndrome Association
Danny Did Foundation
Dartmouth Health
Dermatologist On Call
Dexcom, Inc.
Diabetes & Endocrinology Consultants of Pennsylvania, LLC
Digital Medicine Society (DiMe)
Doctronic Physicians Group
Dogtown Media LLC
Dravet Syndrome Foundation
Duke Health
Dup15q Alliance
Dysautonomia International
Eating Disorders Coalition for Research, Policy & Action
Elation Health
Emergency Department Practice Management Association
Emory Healthcare
Emplify Health
Encounter Telehealth
Endocrine Society
EnlightenMed
Epilepsy Advocacy Network
Epilepsy Alliance America
Epilepsy Alliance Louisiana
Epilepsy Association Western and Central PA
Epilepsy Foundation of America
Epilepsy Services Foundation
Equum Medical
Essentia Health
EssilorLuxottica
Etica Infectious Disease (ID) Consultants
Everywhere Therapy LLC
Experience Counseling
Facial Pain Association
Fairview Health Services
Florida Health Information Management Association
Flying Changes Virginia, Inc.
Forbes Wellness, LLC
FORCE: Facing Our Risk of Cancer Empowered

Foundation for Angelman Syndrome Therapeutics (FAST)
Friedreich's Ataxia Research Alliance (FARA)
Frontier Psychiatry, PLLC
GABA-A Alliance
Geisinger Health System
Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association (GAPNA)
Gilda's Club South Florida, Inc.
Global Therapy, Inc
GlobalMed
GlyCare
GO2 for Lung Cancer
GRIN2B Foundation
Grossman & Grossman Ltd.
Growing Hope Therapy
Hazel Health
HCU Network America
Healing Minds
Healing Moments, LLC
Health Action Council
Health Innovation Alliance
Health Tech Strategies
Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS)
Healthcare Leadership Council
HealthTap Inc.
Heart Failure Society of America
Heartbeat Health
Hero's Journey Counseling LLC
Hims & Hers
HIMSS Electronic Health Record Association
Holland and Associates Counseling, PLLC
Hope for HIE
HOPE Mental Health, LLC
Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association
Hydrocephalus Association
Immune Deficiency Foundation
IMPOWER
In-Tuitt Behavioral Health Services
Included Health, Inc.
Indiana University Health, Inc.
Infectious Diseases Society of America
Inseparable
Integrated Psychiatric Consultants (IPC)
Integrated Telehealth Partners
Integrative Counsel

Integrative Counseling & Wellness
Intermountain Health
International OCD Foundation
International Pemphigus and Pemphigoid Foundation
Johns Hopkins University & Medicine
KardioGenics,Inc
KCNT1 Epilepsy Foundation
KeyCare
Kimberly Newcombe Counseling
Kivo Health
KMA Services LLC
Kohnling,Inc.
Konk Sleep
Lakeshore Foundation
Language Strides
Layh and Associates, Inc.
LeadingAge
Lennox-Gastaut Syndrome (LGS) Foundation
Life365 Health
Lifebridge Health
LifeMD, Inc.
Lifepoint Health
LMA Mental Health Services
LT Telehealth/LocumTenens.com
LUNGevity Foundation
Mae Mental Wellness
MaineGeneral Medical Center
Manage My Menopause, LLC
Mary Washington Health Care
Mass General Brigham
Massachusetts Health Data Consortium
Maternal Mental Health Leadership Alliance
Mayo Clinic
Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute
Medical Group Management Association
MedStar Health
MedWand Solutions, Inc.
Melanoma Research Foundation
Memorial Sloan Kettering
Mend VIP, Inc.
Microsoft
Miles for Migraine
Mind Revive Psychiatry
Mindful Oasis

Minnesota Hospital Association
Mission Psychological Center
Monebo Technologies, Inc.
Montefiore CMO/UBA
Motivate And Elevate Counseling LLC
My Gene Counsel
NAPCRG
National Alliance for Care at Home
National Alliance on Mental Illness
National Association of Benefits and Insurance Professionals
National Association of Community Health Centers
National Association of Epilepsy Centers
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
National Association of Rehab Providers & Agencies
National Association of Social Workers
National Association of Spine Specialists
National Center for Assisted Living
National Coalition for Hospice and Palliative Care
National Council of State Boards of Nursing
National Eczema Association
National Headache Foundation
National Health Council
National Kidney Foundation
National League for Nursing
National Partnership for Healthcare and Hospice Innovation
National Rural Health Association
National Society of Genetic Counselors (NSGC)
Network of Jewish Human Service Agencies
New Jersey Association of Mental Health and Addiction Agencies, Inc.
Newtown Internal Medicine Longevity
Nixon Law Group
NORSE Institute
Northern Neck Life Consultants, PLLC
Northside Medical Professionals
Northwell Health
NP Housecalls, PLLC
Obesity Medicine Association
OCHIN
Oklahoma State University Virtual Care
Omada Health, Inc.
Omaha System
Oncology Nursing Society
Origin Healthcare
Oshi Health

Parent Project Muscular Dystrophy
Parkinson's Foundation
Partnership to Advance Virtual Care (PAVC)
Patients Rising
Peace of Mind Inc
Pediatric Gastroenterology of Northern Virginia
Pennsylvania Office of Rural Health
Philips
PM Healthcare Consulting, LLC
PMPITeleMed
Post-Acute and LTC Medical Association
Prana Wellness, LLC
Premier Inc.
Presbyterian Healthcare Services
Preventive Medicine Research Institute
Primary Care Collaborative
PROVAIL
Psychiatric Medical Care
Psychiatric Medical Practitioners, Inc
Psychological Services of North Texas
Psychotherapy Action Network (PsiAN)
QuickVisit Urgent Care
Rare and Undiagnosed Network (RUN)
Rare Epilepsy Network (REN) Coordinating Committee
RASopathies Network
Re-architect Health LLC
Recora Health
Recovery & Wellness PPLC
REDC Consortium
Remission Medical Inc.
Renewed Spirit Counseling, LLC
Renovations Counseling, LLC
Resmed Corp.
Resolve Psychiatric Services
Rewild PLLC
Ring 20 USA
Ritual Wellness ATX
River Ease Psychotherapy Services
Rocket Doctor
ROWLLINS MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS CENTER LLC
RPM Healthcare
Rural Wisconsin Health Cooperative
RxHomeTest
Samsung Electronics America

Sarvis Mental Health
Shadow Mountain Mental Health
SHIELDS for Families
Shock Therapy Group, LLC
Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council
SNAP25 Foundation
Social Innovation Ventures
Society for Participatory Medicine
Society of General Internal Medicine
Society of Gynecologic Oncology
Society of Teachers of Family Medicine
Somatic Liberation Psychotherapy LLC
SonderMind
Sound Physicians
South Carolina Advocates for Epilepsy
South Carolina My Care Team
Sovato
Spectrum Psychological Services
Spina Bifida Association
Spring Health
SSM Health
Stanford Health Care
Stanford Medicine Children's Health
Starling Physicians
STeM
Still Waters Psychiatry
Summit Health
Summit Healthcare Association
Sunrise Mental Health
Superior Counseling LLC
Survivor Healthcare
Susan G. Komen
Synchronous Mental Health
Talkiatry
TapestryHealth
Teladoc Health
Teledigm Health
Telehealth Advisory Group, LLC
Telehealth Clinical Evals
telehealth.org
TeleMed2U
Telemedicine.com
Texas Health Resources
The Coopersmith Counseling Center LLC.

The Global Telemedicine Group
The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research
The Mindful Oasis Co.
The Society of Thoracic Surgeons
The Taylor-Austin Group, LLC
The Thrive Center LLP
tMED - The Massachusetts Telemedicine Coalition
Tourette Association of America
Transcarent
Transcendental Wellness, PLLC
Transformative Healthcare
Tri-Area Community Health
Trifecta Health
Trinity Health
Trinity Rehabilitation Services
TSC Alliance
U.S. Pain Foundation
UC Davis Health
UC San Diego Health
Understood Care
Undiagnosed Diseases Network Foundation
UnityPoint Health
University of California Health
University of Colorado Anschutz School of Medicine
University of Kansas Medical Center, Kansas City
University of Maryland Medical System
University of Michigan Health
University of Pittsburgh Medical Center Health System
Uplift Counseling and EMDR, PLC
URAC
UVA Health
UW Medicine
Validic
Valley Diagnostic Medical Center
Vandalia Health
VCU Health System Authority
Vento Healthcare Consulting, LLC
Vestibular Disorders Association
Village Medical
Virginia Counseling Services
Virtumedex
Vital Voice and Speech LLC
ViTel Net
WeKonnnect, LLC

Welliti
WellLink Health Alliance
Williamsburg Endocrinology, Inc
Wind River Parkinson's Group
Workit Health
WVU Medicine
Yale New Haven Health System