

Save My Care Bus Tour Stops In Springfield



BY: [Bailey Strohl](#)

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[Save My Care Bus Tour](#) and Missouri Health Care for All are hosting an event in Springfield Saturday at the National Avenue Christian Church in Springfield. Organizers of the press conference say the reason is to stand against Congress' plan to take health care away from [504,000 Missourians](#) and state level attempts to gut Missouri's Medicaid program.

During the event, Missouri doctors, health advocates, and patients spoke about how the Affordable Care Act and Medicaid have benefitted them—and urged elected officials not to strip health care away from Missouri families.

“Thanks to the Affordable Care Act I have been able to stay on my parents’ insurance plan,” said Aaron Strahl, a 22year old college graduate and ACA beneficiary. “However, if the ACA is repealed I fear I will be denied for my preexisting conditions. My family also worries whether we would still be able to afford and access the care my mother needs to treat her Multiple Sclerosis. Without insurance, two of her medications alone cost over \$8,000 a month.”

It started at 10 a.m on a bitterly cold Saturday morning.

“We are standing together because our elected officials are talking about cutting access to care, putting lives at risk,” said Crystal Brigman Mahaney, Deputy Director for Missouri Health Care for All and the organizer of the event. “That’s why we’re welcoming the Save My Care bus to Springfield and lifting up the stories of our neighbors. To let our elected officials know that repealing the Affordable Care Act or pursuing dangerous block grants for Medicaid is the wrong way to support healthy communities and families.”

In addition to Strahl, speakers included:

- Pastor Jenn Simmons, Co-Pastor, National Avenue Christian Church
- Dr. John Mihalevich, Retired Physician and Missouri Health Care for All Board Member
- Aaron Strahl, impacted consumer concerned about plans to repeal the Affordable Care Act
- Lexi Amos, impacted consumer and mother talking about the importance of Missouri’s Medicaid program and the Affordable Care Act
- Jenny Reynolds, Youth Services Worker, Rare Breed Youth Services



The Save My Care Bus Tour is traveling from coast to coast over 2 months, stopping in cities and towns to tell the stories Americans who have benefited, and who will be hurt if Congress’ repeals that current health care reform. The bus tour launched last month at an event in Washington, D.C. with health care groups, patients, doctors and elected officials. After the D.C. launch, the bus headed to New York, Maine, Pennsylvania and Kentucky. This week, the tour is in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin and Missouri.