

# Expand Medicaid

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To the editor: With the United Way, Samaritan Outreach Center, and Salvation Army, giving down severely it is obvious our people are hurting. South central Missouri has been a region of high poverty for many years.

There have been many letters to the editor extolling the needs and benefits of expanding Medicaid. I firmly believe Medicaid should be expanded. It would increase employment in our area, put more dollars in our economy, and most importantly provide health care coverage to our unemployed and our working poor. In my opinion it is time for our elected legislators to take a more pragmatic and less ideological stance in these issues.

As in any major legislation, there will be needs for pruning and refining the ACA. There will be (and have been) many bumps in the road to its implementation, but that is for another time.

Certainly the inflationary course of health care cannot continue.

And when election time comes, our big question should be, "How many jobs did you create and what did you do for our poor?"

Marvin Fowler M.D.,

West Plains