Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

When Supports Means a Future

Sabrina M. - Albuquerque, NM

That's Medicaid *shares stories of people covered by Medicaid at critical points in their lives, underscoring the importance of stable health insurance coverage in building a Culture of Health.*

Sabrina plans to become a doctor and her positive experience as a Medicaid recipient informed how she sees the U.S. health care system.

"My experience opened my eyes about how hard getting health coverage can be," she says.

Now a junior at the University of New Mexico, she has been on Medicaid since she was 18 years old after qualifying as a full-time student.

In Sabrina's first year with the program her care needs were relatively limited. But in late 2020 she began to have pain in her stomach that resulted in many visits to the doctor before ending up in the emergency room. Medicaid made her medical care and medications affordable.

Her experiences make her want to tell other young people about the value of having health coverage and encourage them to learn as much as they can about it.

"Medicaid saved me because I was going through a really hard time," she says. "It takes away a big stressor."