When You Have a Second Chance at Life

ESTIE J. - RUSSELLVILLE, ARKANSAS

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.

Estie was born with congenital myopathy, a muscle disorder, and adopted shortly theraftер.

At three months old her lungs collapsed.

Because she was enrolled in Medicaid at the time of adoption, the extensive care she needed to survive was available.

"**The doctors thought I wouldn't live very long**," Estie said. "**They told my family that I would have no quality of life and they should let me go**."

She left the hospital four months later on a home ventilator covered by Medicaid and the program has continued to assist with other essential services such as a wheelchair and in-home nursing care.

"Without Medicaid my parents could not afford this care and I would've had to go in a facility," she says.

Estie has recently graduated from high school and now works at a nonprofit organization that advocates for disability services. Medicaid helped her make it through her health challenges and hopes to ensure it does the same for others.

"I hope to be a public speaker someday and help others with disabilities," Estie says. "Medicaid allows me to stay at home with my family and pursue my dreams."