



When Access to Care Ultimately Saves Your Life

Andre H. - Houston, TX



“Having Medicaid gives me peace of mind.”

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.

Andre was diagnosed with sickle cell disease (SCD) when he was a child. SCD is a genetic blood disorder requiring medications, blood transfusions, and is the most common inherited blood disorder in the United States, primarily affecting Black and Hispanic people.

After turning 23, Andre was no longer able to afford his medication and proper care, resulting in a near-death experience that left him in a coma.

Medicaid allows Andre access to the care he needs to treat SCD without having to choose between paying rent or buying the medication

that keeps him alive.

Now that his health is manageable, Andre is pursuing his doctorate in social work, intent on one day helping other people who are struggling to access healthcare.

“Having Medicaid gives me peace of mind,” Andre says. “There was a time where I almost died because I did not have healthcare coverage. There are many people who need Medicaid because they’ve experienced negative health outcomes solely because they cannot access health insurance.”