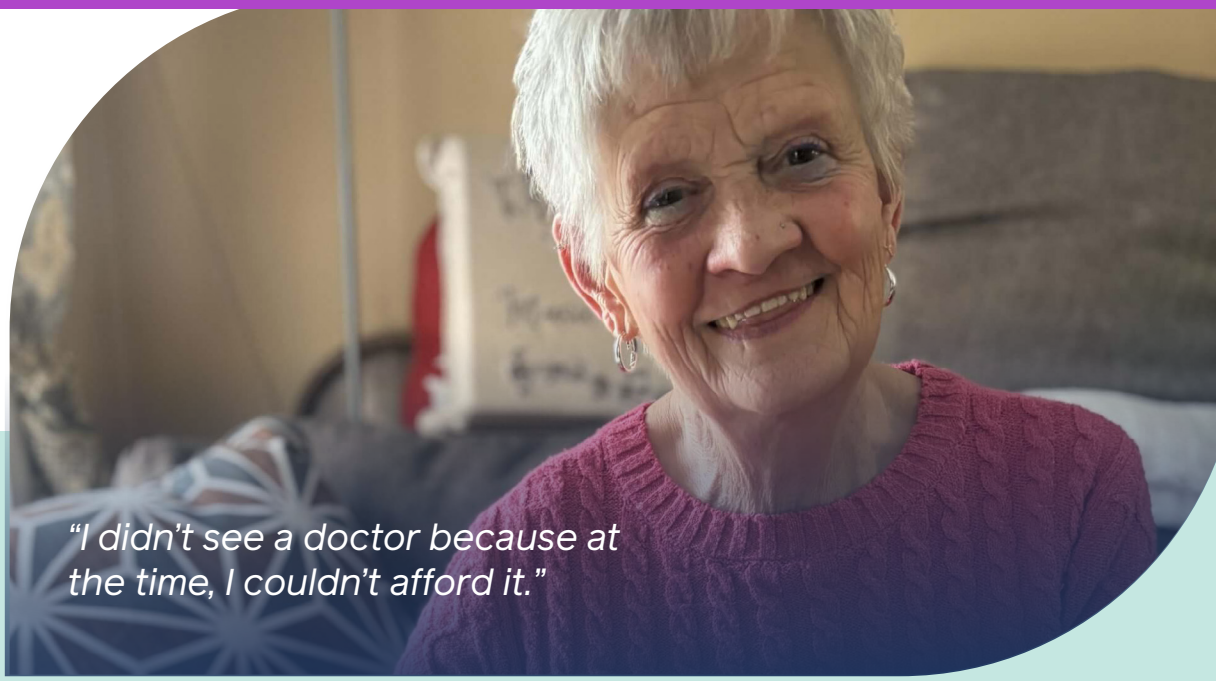

When Regaining Coverage Lets You Live Your Best Life

KATHY S. - WATERVILLE, MAINE

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 America.

Kathy lives in Maine working as a self-employed hairdresser. Employer-provided healthcare was not an option for her, so she turned to MaineCare—the state's Medicaid program—for health coverage.

Years later, Kathy was diagnosed with emphysema. Medicaid helped Kathy access an oxygen machine that helped her breathe properly and live comfortably.

Following funding cuts to MaineCare in 2017, Kathy lost her health coverage and was unable to afford her oxygen machine, which led to additional health complications.

In 2019, state lawmakers expanded eligibility for MaineCare, offering Kathy the opportunity to reenroll and get her oxygen machine back. "**I wouldn't be sitting here without the help of Medicaid**," Kathy said.