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# RESULTS

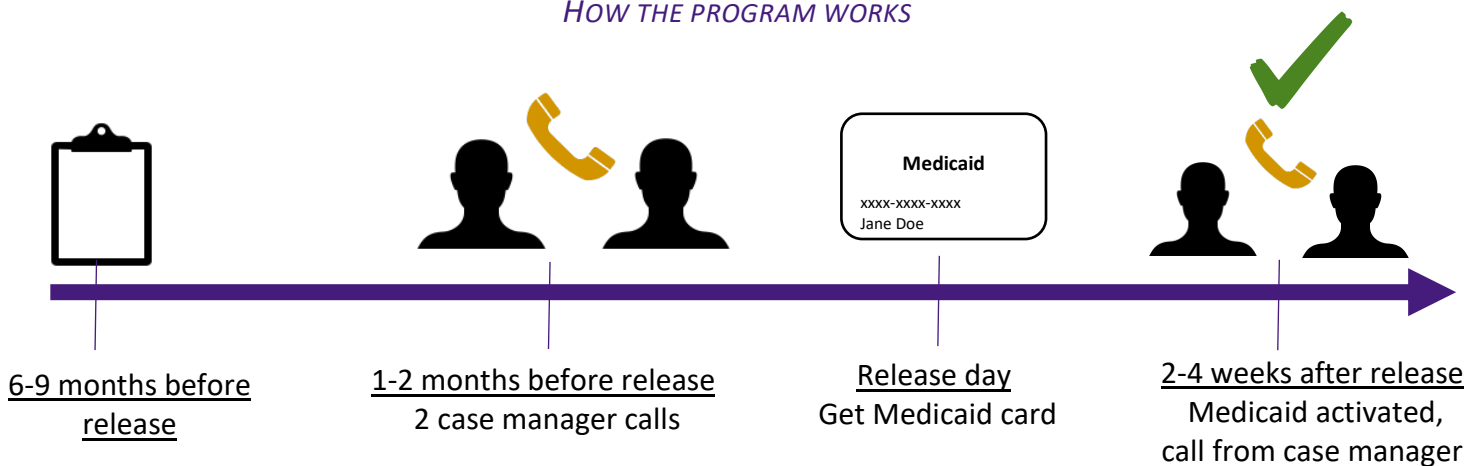
## FROM THE PRE-RELEASE MEDICAID ENROLLMENT PROGRAM EVALUATION

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### WHAT IS THIS PROGRAM?

- In 2016, Louisiana expanded Medicaid. Now more people can get health care through Medicaid than before.
  - In 2017, the Louisiana Department of Corrections (DOC) and Department of Health worked together to make a new program that:
    - Helps people sign up for Medicaid before they get out of prison if they want it.
    - Gives people with more health needs a case manager from their Medicaid insurance company before they get out. A case manager can help someone getting out of prison make appointments, get medication, and help with other health-related concerns.
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### HOW THE PROGRAM WORKS



### WHAT WE WANTED TO KNOW

1. Did the Pre-release Medicaid Enrollment Program work?
  2. How many people got Medicaid benefits after prison because of the Program?
  3. What parts of the Program worked well?
  4. What parts of the Program do not work as well?
  5. How can we make the parts that did not work well better?
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### WHAT WE DID

1. We used Medicaid information to compare how many people had Medicaid when they got out of prison before and after the Program started.
  2. We did focus groups with formerly incarcerated people to learn about their experiences with the Program and with Medicaid.
  3. We did interviews with DOC staff and case managers who carry out the Program.
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## WHAT WE FOUND OUT

- The Program works
  - More people had Medicaid when they got out of prison after the Program started than before.
- People like case management
  - Most people did not have a case manager, but the people who did said they liked the extra help.
  - More people might need case management than we thought.
  - Doing case management with video conferences into the prisons instead of by phone might help build trust between Program participants and case managers.

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## WHAT DIDN'T WORK SO WELL

- A lot of people lost Medicaid after they got out because
  - They had old contact information so Medicaid staff could not reach them to make sure they were still eligible.
  - They did not have a working phone number.
- Some people did not get to apply for Medicaid or finish case management before they got out because
  - They got out early because they made parole or got good time.
  - They could not get into a pre-release class.
- Did not know they were being offered Medicaid for free because
  - The Program was not explained to them.
  - They got a lot of other information at the same time.

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## WHAT COULD MAKE THE PROGRAM BETTER FOR PARTICIPANTS

- Find new ways to contact people after they get out so they do not lose their Medicaid.
- Start the application and case management earlier.
- Add video meetings or make in-person visits in prison an option for case management.
- Make sure people get into case management who need it by
  - Adding to the list of health concerns and conditions that qualify a person for case management.
  - Making solid guidelines and rules for DOC staff to follow to figure out who needs case management.

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A huge thank you to those people who participated in focus groups. A special thanks to Dolfinette Martin and VOTE for their help making all of this happen. If you want to know more about the evaluation, please contact:

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