

## **Cheryl Pritchard Medicaid Committee Testimony**

**Thursday, May 15, 2025**

Chair Romanchuk, Vice Chair Huffman, Ranking Member Liston and the rest of the committee, thank you for your time.

My name is Cheryl Pritchard. I am a member Planting Positive Seeds and Retention 216. I am also a recipient of Medicaid Expansion. I am testifying in front of you today requesting that you remove the “trigger language” for Medicaid Expansion from the state budget.

I have fibromyalgia scleroderma. This is a chronic condition that causes me widespread pain, and fatigue, along with problems with other organs in my body. I also have consistent very high blood pressure.

Having Medicaid Expansion health insurance has been a life saver for me. It has enabled me to have regular doctor visits and receive critical medications and various therapies, including behavioral health therapies to manage my chronic pain.

Without my Medicaid Expansion health coverage, it would be very difficult for me to live day to day. As a result of having Medicaid Expansion and being able to manage my pain, I have generally been able to be gainfully employed consistently.

There are so many people in Ohio who are like me rely on Medicaid Expansion for critical health care to make it day to day as well as to be healthy enough to be employed.

Please remove the “trigger language” that could potentially eliminate Medicaid Expansion in Ohio.

Thank you for your time.