



Utah's Uninsured

**SPEAK UP**

*Grandson's social security check disqualifies Grandmother for badly needed Medicaid ...*

### **Bridget Bingham, Age 49**

Bridget is trying to work part-time, raise her grandson, and avoid becoming homeless again. Bridget had Medicaid for a short time period but couldn't afford the \$507 payments on her \$428 monthly income. She was then told she makes too much money because of her grandson's social security check, which she won't use for her own medical insurance.



### *Dental coverage important for long-term oral health...*

Bridget had no dental coverage for many years, so she never saw a dentist for routine check-ups. This resulted in her losing all of her teeth about 5 years ago, as they had rotted and decayed. When she was on Medicaid she was fitted for dentures, which broke shortly thereafter, and she is too embarrassed to get another set. Bridget can't eat anything hard (and nutritious) like carrots or peanuts, and she has difficulty eating anything at all.

### *Physical ailments add up along with outstanding hospital bills...*

Bridget has over \$2,400 in outstanding hospital bills that she can't afford to pay off at all. Bridget has many medical issues, like arthritis, that permit her to work only a few days a week. Because she can't work as much as she'd like, her debt keeps piling up.