



Utah Health Project: Governor's health plan better for recipients and doctors

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By Jennie Christensen

Governor Gary Herbert on Thursday laid out specifics for his alternative to expanding Medicaid, kicking off a campaign to get Utah's legislature to support his plan. On [KVNU's For the People program Thursday](#), RyLee Curtis of the Utah Health Policy Project talked about the plan, saying the same amount of tax dollars would be used for the same amount of population but it's different. Curtis said a major reason is that it is not giving out Medicaid Cards.

"Whoever offers an insurance plan, whether it be Blue Cross Blue Shield or Select Health or Arches, Molina, anyone can offer insurance to this group and it would be private health insurance," Curtis explained. "Doctors would be reimbursed at the private health insurance rate, not the Medicaid rate.



"There would be no disincentive for doctors to see these patients. Then there is also higher cost sharing for the population. So instead of this Medicaid rates of \$4, \$6, or \$8 there's actually like a \$15 premium for these folks."

Curtis said the plan includes a work benefit program and although the applicant is not required to work, all of them will get some help on how to go about applying for a job.