April 1, 2022

The Honorable Charles Schumer Majority Leader United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi Speaker United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Mitch McConnell Minority Leader United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy Minority Leader United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Dear Majority Leader Schumer, Speaker Pelosi, Minority Leader McConnell, and Minority Leader McCarthy:

On behalf of the Partnership for Medicaid, we urge you to address an urgent issue in the Medicaid program—the potential loss of coverage for millions of beneficiaries at the end of the federal public health emergency (PHE). While we believe ending the PHE would be premature at this time, we are writing to ensure the unwinding is handled in a prudent manner that will minimize unintended consequences. The Partnership—a nonpartisan, nationwide coalition made up of organizations representing clinicians, health care providers, safety net plans, and counties—has supported many of the federal initiatives that protected the Medicaid program and

beneficiaries during the unwinding period. We encourage Congress to institute additional protections to prevent massive coverage loss.

We also ask that any savings realized from any unwinding legislation be reinvested into the Medicaid program to strengthen it for beneficiaries. The Partnership has outlined several of these priorities in a <u>recent letter</u> and include initiatives to close the coverage gap, provide for continuous eligibility for children, invest in home-and community based services (HCBS), ensure adequate and equitable payment rates for Medicaid providers, provide sustainable Medicaid financing solutions for the U.S. territories, address health disparities and expand postpartum care for mothers and babies in all states.