

# Rep. Hesselbein: Chippewa Falls residents echo state support of Medicaid expansion

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MADISON – On Thursday, April 18, Representative Dianne Hesselbein (D – Middleton) and Representative Jodi Emerson (D – Eau Claire) hosted a town hall on the Medicaid expansion proposal in Chippewa Falls. Attendees heard about the many benefits and cost savings associated with Wisconsin accepting the federal funds for the Medicaid expansion. This town hall was one in a series hosted around the state for residents to learn more about the Medicaid expansion.

**“Throughout the state, we’ve consistently found widespread support for accepting our Medicaid money. Even more importantly, people continue to ask why Wisconsin has not already accepted the federal funds,”** said Representative Hesselbein.

Accepting the expansion proposal makes sound fiscal sense, saving Wisconsin taxpayers about \$325 million while providing needed medical care. Inexplicably, Republicans have blocked the Medicaid expansion at every turn. The nonpartisan Legislative Fiscal Bureau estimates the Republican refusal has cost Wisconsin taxpayers over \$1 billion in spending since the funding was available.

**“Wisconsin taxpayers have waiting long enough to take full advantage of the benefits and savings of the Medicaid expansion. I urge Speaker Vos and legislative Republicans to put politics aside and allow their constituents access to affordable health care,”** said Representative Hesselbein.