

Accessible & Affordable Healthcare

The **Badger Bounceback** Live Session on Healthcare will cover topics such as expanding access to quality, affordable healthcare, protecting people who have pre-existing conditions, investing in mental health services, Medicaid/BadgerCare expansion, caregiving, and long-term care for aging and older adults and folks with disabilities.

This document provides a quick overview on how this agenda plans to address these topics.

Expanding BadgerCare & Improving Health Insurance Affordability

Governor Evers' Badger Bounceback agenda expands BadgerCare, which will provide coverage to tens of thousands of uninsured Wisconsinites and save more than **\$630 million** in state tax dollars. The governor also calls for Wisconsin to transition from a federal to state-based insurance marketplace to increase flexibility and improve enrollment efforts, create a premium assistance program to help make healthcare more affordable, and authorize the Department of Health Services and Office of the Commissioner of Insurance to design and develop a public option health plan.

Reducing Prescription Drug Costs

The Badger Bounceback agenda tackles skyrocketing prescription drug costs by controlling costs, increasing transparency and oversight, strengthening consumer protections, and bolstering programs designed to support Wisconsin's most vulnerable. Governor Evers is calling for the creation of the Office of Prescription Drug Affordability to provide oversight over the pharmaceutical supply chain, establishing a \$50 copay cap on insulin to ensure insulin is affordable, and providing **\$4 million** in increased funding for free and charitable clinics and community health center grants.

Investing in Mental Health & Substance Use Treatment

The Badger Bounceback agenda expands healthcare coverage for uninsured and underinsured Wisconsinites and provides more than **\$40 million** to increase access to critical mental health services, invests more than \$50 million in school and community-based mental health

programming and supports for school-aged children, and proposes **\$25 million** in targeted investments to support folks with substance use disorders. Governor Evers also calls for reforms and **\$25 million** to boost front-end preventative services, support regional crisis centers, and bolster alternatives to emergency detention like rapid response mental health teams.

\$630 MILLION

**IN STATE TAX SAVINGS
FROM BADGERCARE EXPANSION**

Expanding Telehealth Access

Telehealth services have become critical during the pandemic and are a valuable tool in expanding access to healthcare services. Governor Evers is working to reduce barriers to telehealth by making healthcare easier to access and more affordable, providing more flexibility and convenience in accessing healthcare, increasing availability of mental and behavioral health services, reducing challenges with accessing care caused by determinants of health like transportation, and allowing people to stay home and stay safe while still accessing care.

Supporting Our Caregivers & Long-Term Care Community

Wisconsin is currently experiencing a caregiving crisis. To address this challenge facing our state, Governor

Evers' Badger Bounceback agenda delivers on several policy recommendations proposed by the Governor's Task Force on Caregiving and invests more than \$600 million in Wisconsin's long-term care infrastructure, the direct care workforce, and family caregivers.

Promoting Health Equity & Addressing Disparities

The governor's budget proposal calls for a **\$25 million** investment in efforts to address determinants of health like housing, nutrition, and transportation. Governor Evers also proposes allocating more than **\$30 million** to promote community-based health equity initiatives, investing almost **\$30 million** in a Healthy Women, Healthy Babies Initiative aimed at improving women's health and birth outcomes, and investing more than **\$12 million** to comprehensively address childhood lead poisoning.

Strengthening Healthcare Infrastructure

The Badger Bounceback agenda continues to prioritize bolstering Wisconsin's healthcare infrastructure and strengthening the state's response to the crisis, investing more than **\$400 million** in hospitals, local health departments, and other public health initiatives. The governor's budget makes the largest public health investment in at least the last 20 years.

\$400 MILLION

IN HOSPITALS, LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS, & OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH INITIATIVES



FOLLOW GOVERNOR EVERS



Evers.WI.Gov



GovEvers



GovernorTonyEvers



GovernorTonyEvers

The Badger Bounceback Live Sessions series provides Governor Evers with opportunities to hear directly from Wisconsinites on the topics within the Governor's budget that impact them and their communities. Topics covered in these sessions include pressing issues facing Wisconsin families, including affordable healthcare, bolstering our state's economy, improving education for all Wisconsin students, and more. Wisconsinites can also share their questions about the Governor's budget on social media by posting using the "#BadgerBounceback" hashtag.

#BADGERBOUNCEBACK