

Dear Editor:

Some people in Congress believe I am “lazy.” That’s because I rely on Medicaid to live my life.

But I am not lazy. I am a person with developmental disabilities. That means I have had trouble doing some things that others take for granted.

I do not accept Medicaid because I want something for free. I accept Medicaid because I have no other choice. Medicaid pays for supports that help me live a good life. Doesn’t everyone deserve that?

I need Medicaid to stay alive and healthy. I need Medicaid so that I can work and do other activities. Medicaid also makes life easier for my family and friends.

I am worried that Medicaid will be cut. If it loses money, I don’t know what will happen to me. And politicians who want to get rid of Medicaid say mean things about people like me. They think I’m bad or lazy. But they just don’t get it.

Medicaid cannot be cut. It is just too important, to 352,000 people with disabilities in New Jersey. I hope that Congress realizes this soon. If they do harm Medicaid, they could destroy my life.