


# THE RHODE ISLAND STATE BUDGET

*(Part 2: What Does “Federal Match” Mean?)*




## THE RHODE ISLAND STATE BUDGET



*(What Does “Federal Match” Mean?)*



## What is Medicaid?

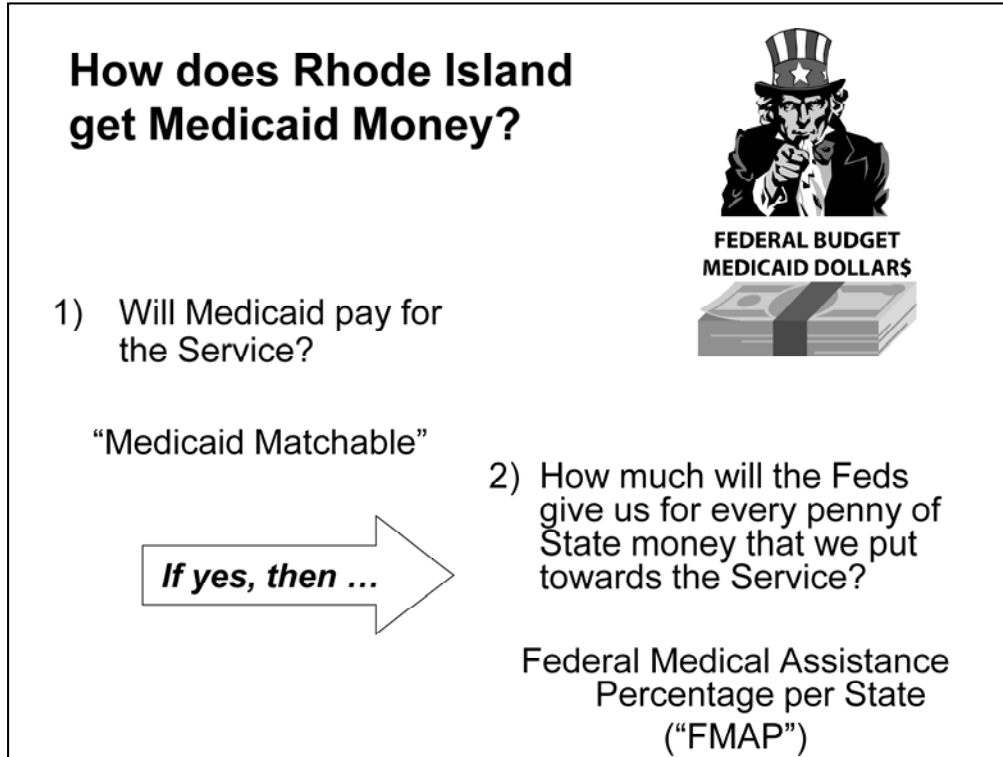


- Health Coverage for some people who cannot afford it.
  
- Federally Funded
  - CMS: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
  
- State Run
  - State Guidelines under Federal Rules



Medicaid is a federal program. It provides health coverage and support services for people who qualify because they have a need and they cannot afford or find medical coverage on their own.

Even though Medicaid is funded by the federal government, each state uses its own guidelines to determine which residents are eligible for what. The federal government must approve these guidelines.



Medicaid Matchable means that if the state uses some of its own money to pay for things that are covered by Medicaid, then the federal government will pay for some of those things, too.

The amount of money that the federal government will match a state that spends its own money depends on how many people in that state are below poverty and the unemployment rate.

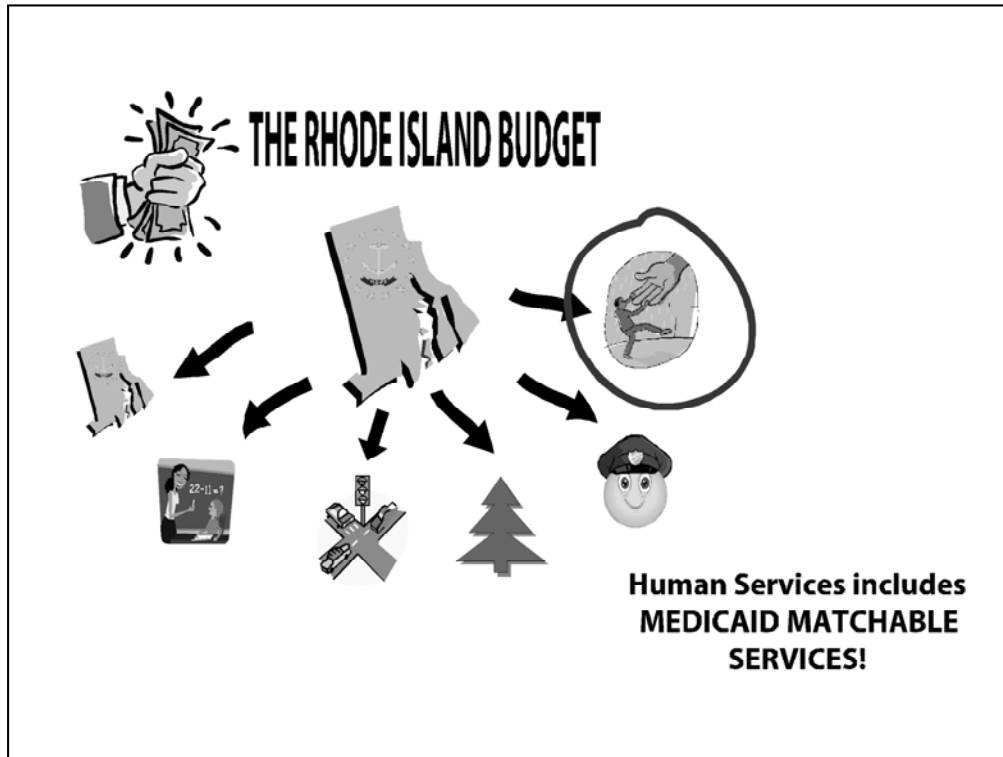
## Is It Medicaid Matchable?



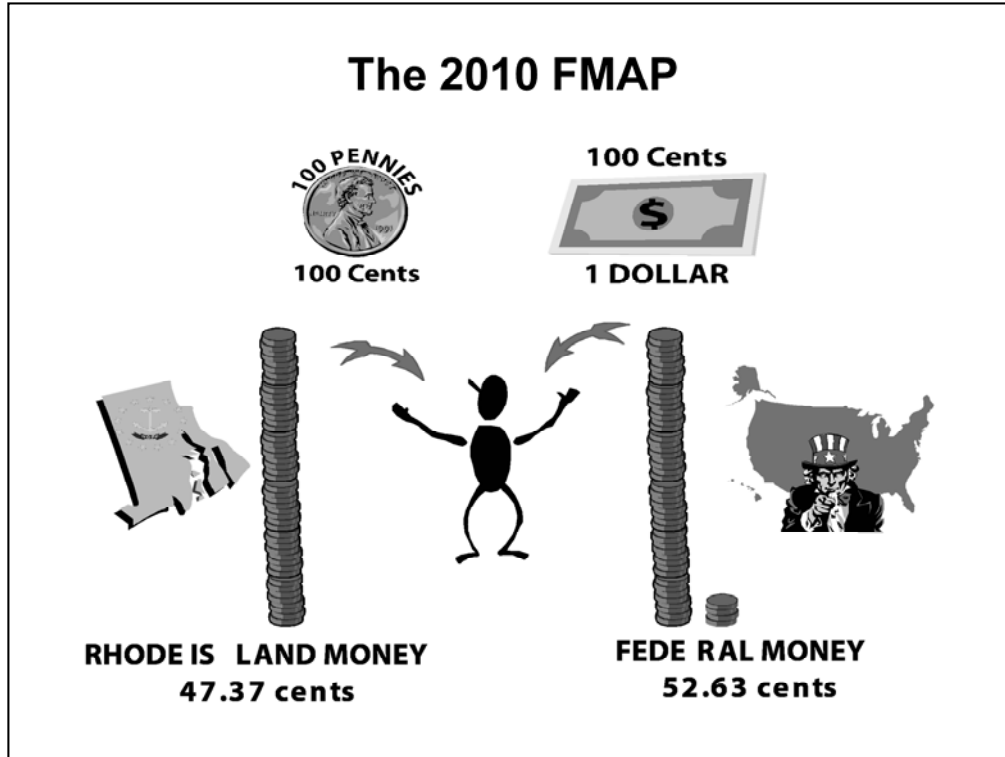
### **Medicaid Rules to get Federal Money for Services:**

- ✓ The Provider needs to be qualified by Medicaid
- ✓ The Service needs to be something on Medicaid's list of things they will pay for (ie: doctor visit = YES ... Trip to Hawaii = NO)
- ✓ The person who gets the service needs to be eligible to be on Medicaid

A service provider needs to be qualified to get paid for providing medicaid services. In Rhode Island, providers must be licensed.



Remember the things that the RI government spends money on? Human Services is an area of spending that qualifies for federal matching medicaid funds.



Most of the money that Rhode Island budgets to spend to support people who have a Developmental Disability is for services that are covered by Medicaid. This means that the money Rhode Island spends on these services will get MATCHED by the Federal Government through the Medicaid program.

The amount of money that is matched is set by Federal Government and change in different years.

In the 2009 Fiscal Year, for every .48 cents that Rhode Island spends, the Federal Government will give us another .52 cents to spend on services covered through Medicaid.

**\*\*Rhode Island**

FY 2004: 58.98%

FY 2005: 55.38%

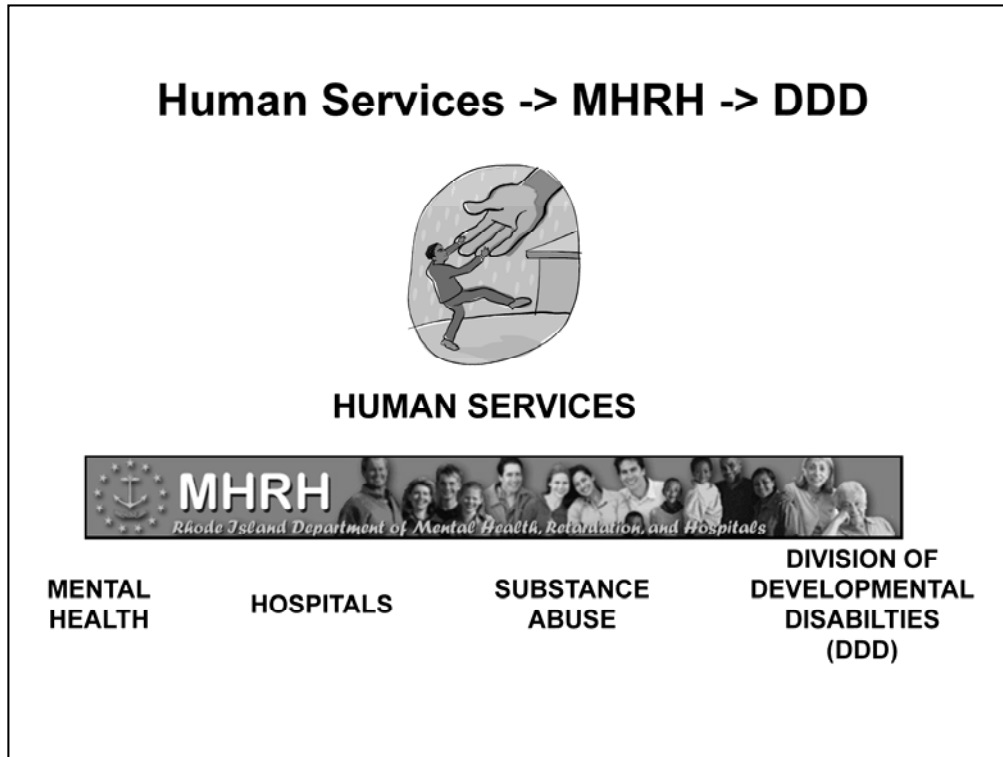
FY 2006: 54.45%

FY 2007: 52.35%

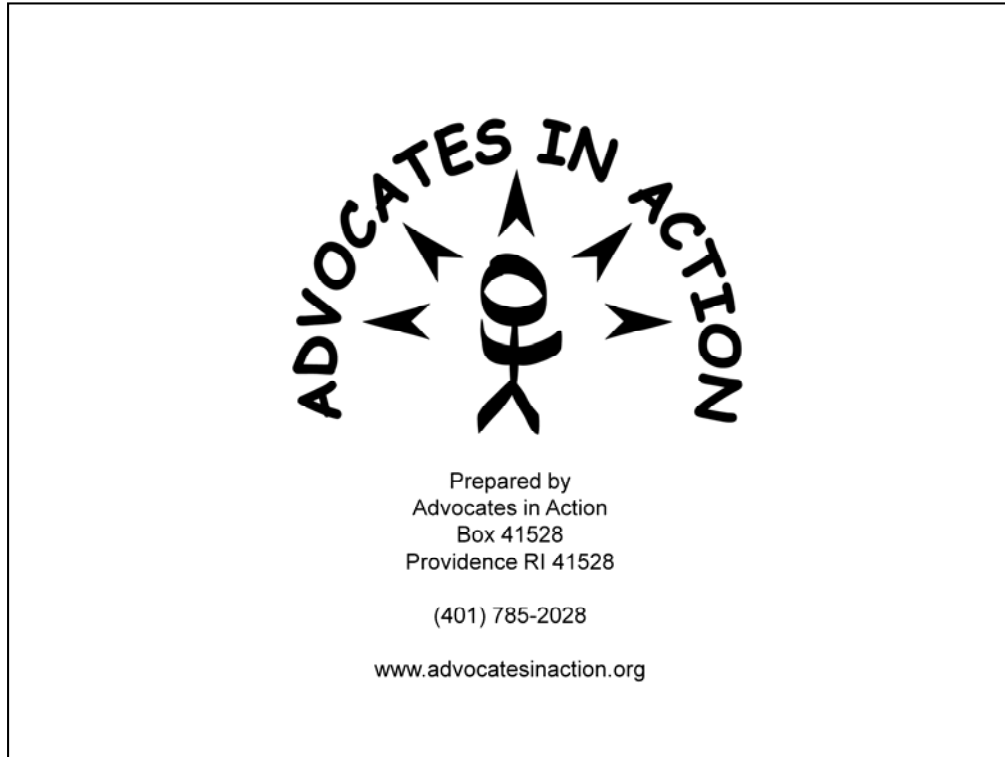
FY 2008: 52.51%

FY 2009: 52.59%

FY 2010: 52.63%



The part of the budget that we are talking about is in the HUMAN SERVICES category.



Prepared by Advocates in Action. Contact us with questions or comments.