HHS Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs News Bulletin: Friday, May 10th, 2013

*Visit **HealthCare.Gov** and **CuidadodeSalud.Gov**, two consumer-focused health care websites to: **find insurance options**, **learn about prevention**, **compare care quality**, and **learn about the law**. How is the Affordable Care Act helping you? Share your story **here**.*

Secretary's Corner

➢ **May 9, 2013**
Secretary Kathleen Sebelius announced new funding to help more uninsured Americans enroll in new health insurance coverage options made available by the Affordable Care Act. Approximately $150 million will help community health centers provide in-person enrollment assistance to uninsured individuals across the nation. About 1,200 health centers operate nearly 9,000 service delivery sites nationwide and serve approximately 21 million patients each year. View the full release here.

➢ **May 8, 2013**
Secretary Kathleen Sebelius announced a three-part initiative that for the first time gives consumers information on what hospitals charge. This is part of the Obama administration's work to make our health care system more affordable and accountable. New data released today show significant variation across the country and within communities in what hospitals charge for common inpatient services. Also today, HHS made approximately $87 million available to states to enhance their rate review programs and further health care pricing transparency. In an example of how these data might be used, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) is planning a data visualization challenge which will further the dissemination of these data to larger audiences. View the full release here.

➢ **May 7, 2013**
Secretary Kathleen Sebelius released a statement on National Asthma Awareness Month. "It has been over 30 years since asthma emerged as a growing public health threat. During this time, we have made important progress through clinical, environmental and community health interventions. May is National Asthma Awareness Month, a time for us to renew our dedication to improving health outcomes for the 26 million Americans living with asthma, including 7.1 million children. It is also a time to call attention to where we can and must do more." View the full statement here.

➢ **May 6, 2013**
Secretary Kathleen Sebelius released a statement on National Foster Care Month. "May is National Foster Care Month, a time to recommit ourselves to ensuring a better future for the more than 400,000 children in foster care throughout our nation. This year's theme, "Supporting Youth in Transition," helps remind us of the important role offering support plays in helping all vulnerable, at-risk children." View the full statement here.

➢ **May 6, 2013**
Secretary Kathleen Sebelius released a statement on National Nurses Week. "National Nurses Week gives us a chance to recognize the contribution of the health care providers at the heart of our health care system. Every day, nurses provide leadership, innovation and advocacy to meet the health care needs of Americans." View the full statement here.

Affordable Care Act News

➤ **May 9, 2013**
The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) posted online Pre-Existing Condition Insurance Plan (PCIP) Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on the revised contract issued to the 27 state-based PCIPs on April 26, 2013. View the FAQs here.

➤ **May 8, 2013**
The Department of Labor released guidance on the notice to employees of coverage options under FLSA §18B and updated the model election notice under COBRA. View the guidance here and the model notice for employers who offer a health plan to some or all employees here, and the model notice for employers who do not offer a health plan here.

Health Care Blog Posts

➤ **May 3, 2013**
Mayra Alvarez, Director of Public Health Policy, Office of Health Reform recently wrote an op-ed for NBC Latino encouraging her younger sister Alejandra and others to register for the Health Insurance Marketplace, which opens in October 2013. View the full op-ed here.

Brochures & Educational Materials
Below you'll find brochures and materials related to the implementation of the Affordable Care Act. For other brochures and resources visit: http://www.healthcare.gov/news/brochures/index.html.

➤ ACA Educational PowerPoints

The Top Five Things You Need to Know

➤ Families with Children (PDF – English 7.27 MB, Spanish 1.23 MB)

➤ Health Care Providers (PDF – English 2.71 MB, Spanish 517 KB)

➤ People with Disabilities (PDF – English 2.56 MB, Spanish 930 KB)

➤ Seniors (PDF – English 11.3 MB, Spanish 1.54 MB)

➤ Small Business Owners (PDF – English 4.22 MB, Spanish 646 KB)

➤ Young Adults (PDF – English 6.56 MB, Spanish 919 KB)

Information for Consumers and Small Businesses

➤ The Health Care Law & You (PDF – 8.99 MB)

➤ Information for Small Businesses (PDF – 763 KB)

MyCare: Videos and Stories
Find videos and stories related to how the Affordable Care Act has helped individuals across the country.
http://www.healthcare.gov/mycare/stories.html

State by State Fact Sheets

Choose your state to learn more about the immediate benefits of the Affordable Care Act.

- ➢ State By State Fact Sheets

- ➢ Learn the facts and statistics about how the Affordable Care Act will benefit each state.

Regulations and Guidance

Regulations and guidance are used to implement many of the Affordable Care Act provisions that address both private and public health insurance.

- ➢ Standards Related to Reinsurance, Risk Corridors and Risk Adjustment

- ➢ Eligibility Changes under Affordable Care Act

- ➢ Certain Preventive Services under Affordable Care Act

- ➢ Student Health Insurance Coverage

Grants

The Affordable Care Act creates a number of new grant opportunities. Below, you will find links to the grant centers for the agencies administering these grants. There, and at Grants.gov, you can search for relevant grant opportunities.

- ➢ CDC National Public Health Improvement Initiative (NPHII) Grants

- ➢ Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight Grants

- ➢ Administration for Children and Families Grants

- ➢ Administration on Aging Grants

- ➢ Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

- ➢ Health Resources and Services Administration Grants

- ➢ Indian Health Service Grants

- ➢ National Institutes of Health Grants

- ➢ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Grants

Special Programs

Several new programs across the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services support the work of the Affordable Care Act. You will find information about these programs on this page.

> - [Partnership for Patients: Better Care, Lower Costs](#)

Councils & Groups

The Affordable Care Act establishes a number of councils and groups to carry out provisions in the law. To learn more about the organizations, click on a link below:

> - [Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight](#) (CCIIO)
>
> - [Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation](#)
>
> - [Interagency Working Group on Health Care Quality](#)
>
> - [National Prevention, Health Promotion and Public Health Council](#)