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AFFORDABLE CARE ACT (ACA) OPEN ENROLLMENT STARTS TOMORROW

Consumers can receive free, unbiased, in-person assistance in signing up for 2019 ACA health insurance

Greenville, N.C. – Open Enrollment for 2019 ACA health insurance starts tomorrow, with preexisting-condition coverage, and other popular ACA provisions, still very much a part of ACA plans.

Despite recent government approvals of non-ACA insurance plans, and heated talk from political candidates regarding different health-insurance protections, ACA Marketplace Open Enrollment begins its sixth year with the same important features in place as in previous years. With an ACA plan:

- ◆ You cannot be denied coverage for preexisting conditions.
- ◆ Coverage is guaranteed; there is no lifetime maximum benefit. Your plan cannot be cancelled should you get sick.
- ◆ Substance-abuse and mental health treatments are covered.
- ◆ Maternity benefits are included.
- ◆ Financial help with premiums is available to most consumers; in North Carolina, nine out of 10 people receive assistance paying for their ACA plans.

Despite significant decreases in Federal Navigator Grants, funding from the Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust has enabled Greenville-based nonprofit Access East, Inc.'s Certified Marketplace Navigators program to again this year provide free, unbiased ACA assistance to consumers seeking health-coverage across 27 eastern North Carolina counties.

ACA Navigators help consumers to determine which plan best fits an individual or a family's needs, and to outline insurance seekers' eligibility for federal subsidies to offset the cost of premiums. Navigators receive no commissions, regardless of what insurance plan is chosen.

Consumers can schedule an appointment with a Certified Marketplace Navigator by calling (252) 847-3027, or visiting www.NCNavigator.net.

Consumers who currently have coverage through the ACA Marketplace should also contact an ACA Navigator to ensure they still have the plan that best fits them and their families.

ACA Open Enrollment offers eastern North Carolinians not just the opportunity to gain access to quality affordable health care, but also the assurance that they will not face bankruptcy if a catastrophic health event should occur.

HOURS FOR ASSISTANCE:

ACA Open Enrollment is short again this year, from Nov. 1- Dec. 15. Navigator assistance is available weekdays and Saturdays during those 45 days; appointments are best:

- ◆ **Mondays, Wednesdays:** 10 a.m.-7 p.m.
- ◆ **Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays:** 10 a.m.- 5 p.m.
- ◆ **Saturdays:** 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

CURRENT ENROLLMENT EVENTS:

Walk-ins welcome at enrollment events.

- ◆ **Nov. 1 | Thursday, 9 a.m.- 5 p.m.:** *Enfield, Jireh Church & Outreach Ministries, 307 Nash St.*
- ◆ **Nov. 10 | Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.:** *Greenville, Access East, 2410 Stantonsburg Road, Stanton Square Shopping Center*
- ◆ **Dec. 1 | Saturday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.:** *Rocky Mount, Golden East Crossing Mall, 1100 N. Wesleyan Blvd.*
- ◆ **Dec. 8 | Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.:** *Kill Devil Hills, KDH Library, 400 Mustain Ave.*
- ◆ **Dec. 14 | Friday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.:** *Rocky Mount, Braswell Library, Wiley Room, 727 Grace St.*
- ◆ **Dec. 15 | Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.:** *Greenville, Access East, Stanton Square*

BRING WITH YOU TO EVENTS:

1. Social Security numbers, or document numbers for legal immigrants
2. Employer name and phone number
3. Income information for every member of a household who is working, or who has income and needs coverage
4. Policy numbers for current health-insurance plans covering all household members