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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDICAID-ENROLLMENT EVENT BEING HELD WEDNESDAY FOR PEOPLE NEWLY QUALIFIED SINCE N.C. EXPANDED THE PROGRAM

Greenville – Access East’s [HealthAssist Uninsured Network](#) will host a free Medicaid Expansion enrollment event from 1-5 p.m. Wednesday, May 22, at the Carver Branch Library, 618 W. 14th Ave., in Greenville.

The event offers people newly eligible for NC Medicaid health coverage to get free expert assistance with enrolling in the program. Appointments are available to guarantee being seen, though walk-ins are welcome. Call **(252) 847-3027** to schedule an appointment.

Financial counselors with the ECU Health Central Billing Office will also be on hand to assist with enrollments.

Medicaid is a health-insurance program administered by the state for qualifying low-income individuals and families who cannot afford health-care costs.

Medicaid Expansion, which passed in N.C. on Dec. 1, 2023, raised the original income limit to qualify, allowing many more people the potential to enroll. Nearly 450,000 additional North Carolinians have already been able to sign up since the state expanded the program, with roughly 1,000 people now joining daily.

An estimated 200,000 more North Carolinians, ages 19-64, may still be eligible to enroll.

“With the high number of uninsured that we have in eastern North Carolina, getting more people enrolled helps greatly in improving their health outcomes,” noted Shantell Cheek, director of Access East Uninsured Programs.

“In a nutshell,” Cheek continued, “Medicaid Expansion means that many of those who have typically been underserved can now have access to providers that they once did not, and often to transportation assistance as well, offering patients with transportation issues a way to get to and from their medical providers’ offices.”

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