Community Council Shares Health Care Enrollment Extension
U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services Extends Sign-Up Deadline to Dec. 31

DALLAS (Dec. 15, 2017) – Dallas-based nonprofit Community Council is sharing an important update for residents of Dallas and Tarrant counties. According to the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, those wishing to purchase health insurance plans through the health care law enrollment exchanges now have an extra two weeks to do so. However, in order to take advantage of the extension, consumers must contact the Marketplace Call Center for prior review and approval.

The U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services determined that 53 Texas counties qualified for an extension to enroll in the Affordable Care Act health care exchanges. This was directly due to the lasting effects of hurricane Harvey, which displaced many residents. Dallas and Tarrant counties were included, along with several others, for any disruptions caused through offering public assistance and relocation of evacuees.

“The health care sign-up extension offered to residents living in Dallas and Tarrant counties is a welcome announcement,” stated Ken Goodgames, CEO of Community Council of Dallas. “The additional two weeks provided, which runs through Dec. 31, will hopefully allow us to assist many more consumers who were unable to complete their application by the original deadline.”

The Community Council of Dallas devotes a division of its organization, Community Health Services, to educating, navigating and signing up consumers on the health care exchanges. Its staff consists of several certified Medicaid, Medicare and Children’s Health Insurance Program advisors. To date, it is estimated that the Community Council helped over 8,000 North Texas families and over 10,000 children sign up for coverage.

The Community Council’s health care navigators set appointments at a time and location convenient for consumers. Appointments are available during daytime hours, evenings and weekends. Bilingual navigators are also available.

Consumers looking to secure health care coverage during the special enrollment period beginning Dec. 16 and ending Dec. 31 should make an appointment with a certified Community Council Health Care Navigator by calling toll-free 1-844-831-9600 or by visiting www.ccadvance.org.

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About Community Council
Since its founding in 1940, the Community Council has identified services that are needed in the community, assessed how best services could be delivered to meet social issues, and mobilized and implemented action plans working in concert with its member agencies and public sector resources. The
nonprofit agency is primarily dedicated to specific causes that affect the youth, seniors and working families of North Texas. For more information, please visit [www.ccadvance.org](http://www.ccadvance.org).

OUR MISSION REMAINS THE SAME: The Community Council serves the community by providing leadership in: (1) determining solutions for priority issues in the human services arena; (2) convening partners to significantly impact service delivery; and (3) increasing awareness of and access to services.

**Community Council Media Contact:**
Jeffrey Cheatham  
Account Supervisor  
TrizCom PR  
Office: 972-247-1369  
Mobile: 972-961-6171  
jeffc@trizcom.com