



NEWS RELEASE
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COMMUNITY HEALTH OPTIONS RECEIVES 2017 MARKETPLACE CERTIFICATION

Lewiston, ME – The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has approved Community Health Options (Health Options) as a Qualified Health Plan Issuer to provide health insurance coverage on the Health Insurance Marketplace in Maine for 2017.

This certification signals that Health Options’ plans fulfill all state and federal rate, benefit, and network standards.

“We are pleased with the expressed confidence and stamp of approval of this recertification for Open Enrollment,” stated Kevin Lewis, president and chief executive officer of Health Options. “Federal approval secures our position on the Marketplace and our continued ability to provide high-quality benefits that promote health and wellbeing.”

Shoppers on the Marketplace who have a household income between 100% and 400% of the federal poverty level may be eligible for Advanced Premium Tax Credits (APTC) that reduce monthly premium costs for Qualified Health Plans purchased through the Marketplace. To estimate the APTC, people are encouraged to go to www.HealthOptions.org and click on “Compare & Quote Plans” to utilize the calculator and other tools to assist in decision making.

“We encourage Members who currently receive an APTC to plan ahead by updating their information on the Marketplace prior to Open Enrollment and to enroll by December 15, 2016 to avoid a gap in coverage,” noted Michael Gendreau, director, outreach, education and communications. Open Enrollment for individual and family plans starts November 1, 2016 and ends January 31, 2017.

In addition to the individual market, Community Health Options continues to support businesses with coverage solutions through small and large group sales. For more information on group coverage, see <https://www.healthoptions.org/employers>.

***About Community Health Options** – Community Health Options (Health Options) is a non-profit, Member-led health plan providing comprehensive, Member-focused health insurance benefits for individuals, families, and businesses. Health Options is a Consumer Operated and Oriented Plan (CO-OP) licensed in Maine and New Hampshire that is dedicated to providing affordable, high-quality health benefits through productive partnerships with Members, businesses, and a broad network of providers. For more information about Health Options, visit the website: HealthOptions.org.*