



Utah Health Policy Project

Media Advisory For Immediate Release

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UHP, AUCH and United Way 2-1-1 Receive \$406,788 from HHS

With the new health law's enrollment period set to open on October 1st, the federal Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) awarded organization serving Utah \$806,046 to assist individuals and families enroll into public programs or buy quality, affordable health insurance.

The Utah Health Policy Project (UHP), and its partners—the Association for Utah Community Health (AUCH) and United Way 2-1-1—were awarded a competitive grant from HHS to be the nonprofit, community-based navigator in Utah. The three Utah nonprofits will receive \$406,788, part of Utah's share of the \$67 million made available to fund navigator programs across the country.

"Anyone who has shopped for health insurance knows that it is not a simple process," said Jason Cooke, Interim Executive Director of UHP. "Many people will benefit from a trained guide to help them find and understand their best options. Take Care Utah (TCU), the collaboration between UHP, AUCH, and United Way 2-1-1, will be there from day one to help Utahns access and retain the health insurance coverage they need."



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The three lead partners will team up with many other organizations around the State to organize and operate a navigator program to enroll Utah's more than 360,000 uninsured residents in new coverage. Navigators are people trained to help individuals and families apply for health insurance and to understand the new options that will be made available through the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Because health insurance will soon become more accessible and affordable, the navigator program was developed at the community level to help Utahns fill out applications, apply for tax credits, answer questions about coverage options to help them understand their new benefits.

"This partnership will connect hundreds of thousands of Utahns with information and resources to assist in selecting insurance coverage and accessing vital health care services," said Amy Bosworth, 2-1-1 Director. "United Way 2-1-1 and United Way of Salt Lake look forward to supporting this important project."

Take Care Utah's navigators will be ready to help Utahns get covered when the new marketplace opens October 1. "We are really looking forward to helping more Utahns access health insurance that fits their budget," said Randal Serr, TCU's director. "We have partnered with some fantastic organizations that are trusted by their communities to get the job done."

If you or your organization would like more information, please contact Randal Serr, Take Care Utah director, at randal@healthpolicyproject.org, or 801-433-2299, x. 4

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