Healthcare.gov Tech Issues Impacting Utah

SALT LAKE CITY – President Barack Obama's pledge to fix the technical issues plaguing healthcare.gov will help Utah and several other states.

Obama is promising to improve functionality on the website where Americans are trying to enroll in the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

Jason Stevenson, education and communications director at Utah Health Policy Project, urges users to be patient and resilient when on healthcare.gov.

He's also hopeful that the president's technology team will make the website easier to use.

"They didn't design it to be as nimble as it could have been in terms of the number of java scripts on the opening page and the number of lines of computer code and things like that,” Stevenson says. “It became more like an RV than a race car, once they were finished with it."

The first health insurance policies obtained through the ACA take effect Jan. 1.

Stevenson says despite the challenges on healthcare.gov there are several success stories.

"There's a family of five, small business owners here in Salt Lake City, that signed up for insurance in early October,” he recalls. “For a family of five, they're paying $123 a month for their insurance with the subsidized rate."

Open enrollment in the ACA started Oct. 1 and continues through March 31.

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