PRESS RELEASE November 14, 2014



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National Health Group Provides Additional Resources for Health Care Enrollment

Washington, D.C., November 14, 2014 – Starting Nov. 15, millions of Americans will once again be able to shop for, compare and enroll in new health insurance options in the Health Insurance Marketplace.

Individuals and families can shop for, compare and enroll in coverage that is affordable and meets their budget. Consumers can enroll in a new plan, renew their current plan or shop for a new one from Nov. 15 – Feb. 15, 2015. Depending on your income, financial assistance is available to help you afford coverage. Enrollment is open to U.S. citizens and lawfully present persons. Even if you are not eligible for coverage, you can still apply on behalf of other family members. Immigrants are encouraged to apply and their immigration information will only be used to verify eligibility.

Help is available for Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders (AAs and NHPIs) looking for coverage. Action for Health Justice (AHJ), a national coalition dedicated to ensuring AAs and NHPIs realize the benefits of the new health law, is operating in 22 states. AHJ partners include community-based organizations and health centers who are providing one-on-one assistance, in person, to those who need help navigating the enrollment process or require assistance in Asian and Pacific Islander languages. This work is crucial to reaching a community where one in three have difficulty, speaking, writing or reading English.

"Our efforts reaching AA and NHPI communities mean the difference between getting covered and not," said Priscilla Huang, senior director of impact strategies at the Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum, a member of AHJ. "With just half the time to get covered this year, we are doubling our efforts to reach communities most in need, providing on-the-ground help in 22 states and harnessing the collective power of our over 70 partners."

During the first Open Enrollment period, AHJ reached and enrolled over 600,000 AAs and NHPIs and provided assistance in 41 languages. This year, AHJ continues this work, leveraging the expertise of community-based organizations who employ multilingual assistors to help with outreach, education and enrollment efforts across the country.

AHJ will soon release a glossary of common health insurance terms, translated into the major Asian languages: Chinese (Traditional), Tagalog, Hindi, Vietnamese, Korean, Khmer, Laotian, Burmese, Tongan, Chuukese and Marshallese. The glossary will be a valuable resource for those working to enroll non-English speakers.

For more information about the glossary and health reform resources available in English and Asian and Pacific Islander languages, visit www.apiahf.org/healthcare4me.

Visit <u>www.healthcare.gov</u> for more information about the Marketplace and how to enroll. If you are not already enrolled in a plan, you have until Feb. 15, 2015 to get covered.

About Action for Health Justice

Action for Health Justice is a coalition of more than 70 Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander national and local community-based organizations and Federally Qualified Health Centers dedicated to educating, empowering and enrolling AAs and NHPIs in health coverage. AHJ's partner organizations are active in the following 22 states: Arizona, Arkansas, California, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Texas, Utah and Washington. For more information and health reform resources in English, Asian and Pacific Islander languages, visit www.apiahf.org/healthcare4me. Visit www.healthcare.gov for more information about the Marketplace and how to enroll.