

MEDIA RELEASE / ENROLLMENT REPORT

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66,000 MARYLAND HOUSEHOLDS HAVE RECEIVED \$140 MILLION IN TAX CREDITS TO HELP THEM AFFORD HEALTH COVERAGE IN 2015

AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD HAS RECEIVED \$2,100 IN ASSISTANCE SO FAR THIS YEAR

BALTIMORE (Sept. 15, 2015) – About 66,000 Maryland households have received a total of nearly \$140 million in federal tax credits to help them purchase quality health coverage so far this year through MarylandHealthConnection.gov.

The average total credits per household enrolled in coverage were \$2,106 from Jan. 1 through Sept. 9, 2015. Nearly 94 percent of all Marylanders who have enrolled through Maryland's state-based insurance marketplace for coverage this year received financial assistance, either through a federal tax credit or Medicaid.

"We're pleased that with the help of sister state agencies, connectors, navigators, brokers and stakeholders who are interested in improving access to health care across the state, Maryland Health Connection has been able to help tens of thousands of Maryland families receive millions in federal tax credits to help them afford quality health insurance that too often was out of reach before," said Carolyn Quattrocki, executive director of the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange, which administers Maryland Health Connection.

"We hope they'll return and others will join them in shopping the many offerings from carriers when open enrollment for 2016 begins Nov. 1 on MarylandHealthConnection.gov."

Under the Affordable Care Act, Marylanders who are not eligible for qualifying health coverage, such as affordable employer-sponsored coverage or a government program such as Medicaid, may apply for an Advanced Premium Tax Credit, or APTC, to offset the cost of monthly insurance premiums. Individuals with an annual

income of less than \$47,080 or a family of four whose household income is less than \$97,000 may qualify for coverage that begins Jan. 1, 2016, for example. Tax credits are paid monthly directly to the health insurance carrier, or recipients can choose to receive them at the end of the year through their annual tax filing. It is important for enrollees to report changes in income or household size, which can impact eligibility and the amount of the tax credit. More information about eligibility and how to apply is available at MarylandHealthConnection.gov.

Region	Counties/City	Households Covered	Tax Credit Total Per Jurisdiction	2015 Tax Credits Avg. Per Household (1/1/15-9/9/15)
	Total	66,095	\$139,205,027	\$2,106
Capital	Montgomery	16,382	\$36,024,395	\$2,199
Capital	Prince George's	10,063	\$18,342,044	\$1,823
Central	Anne Arundel	5,132	\$10,881,192	\$2,120
Central	Baltimore City	5,893	\$10,495,519	\$1,781
Central	Baltimore County	9,368	\$20,569,422	\$2,196
Western	Allegany	603	\$1,303,576	\$2,162
Western	Carroll	1,375	\$3,058,642	\$2,224
Western	Frederick	2,263	\$4,646,025	\$2,053
Western	Garrett	455	\$1,042,190	\$2,291
Western	Howard	3,391	\$8,483,079	\$2,502
Western	Washington	1,350	\$2,896,675	\$2,146
Upper Eastern	Cecil	841	\$1,807,659	\$2,149
Upper Eastern	Caroline	363	\$826,825	\$2,278
Upper Eastern	Dorchester	333	\$753,611	\$2,263

Upper Eastern	Harford	2255	\$4,793,934	\$2,126
Upper Eastern	Kent	224	\$549,691	\$2,454
Upper Eastern	Queen Anne's	509	\$1,149,607	\$2,259
Upper Eastern	Talbot	525	\$1,259,863	\$2,400
Lower Shore	Somerset	224	\$606,289	\$2,707
Lower Shore	Wicomico	1,110	\$2,520,224	\$2,270
Lower Shore	Worcester	1,017	\$2,278,950	\$2,241
Southern	Calvert	670	\$1,330,961	\$1,987
Southern	Charles	1,143	\$2,340,531	\$2,048
Southern	Saint Mary's	606	\$1,244,123	\$2,053

675,000 covered by Maryland Health Connection so far for 2015

As of Sept. 9th, 675,207 Marylanders have enrolled in quality, affordable health coverage for 2015 through Maryland Health Connection. That includes 123,333 people enrolled in private Qualified Health Plans (QHP) and 551,874 people enrolled in Medicaid through the marketplace since open enrollment for the year that began on Nov. 15, 2014. Medicaid enrollment continues year-round. Marylanders can enroll in QHPs if they have had a qualifying "life change" event.

Net change in Medicaid enrollment up 228,000 since end of 2013

As of August 31, 2015, the total number of Medicaid and MCHP enrollment is 1,231,076. Compared to Dec. 31, 2013, the net change in Medicaid enrollment as of August 31, 2015 is +228,219. This figure takes into account that individuals lose Medicaid coverage because of changes in household, age and income, as well as redeterminations. Also, the total number of ACA Medicaid Expansion Adults is

220,698 as of August 31, 2015. This figure encompasses newly eligible childless adults up to 138 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) and newly eligible parents 116 percent to 138 percent FPL.

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About the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange: The Maryland Health Benefit Exchange (MHBE) is a public corporation and independent unit of the State government established in 2011 in accordance with the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 (ACA), responsible for administration of Maryland Health Connection. marylandhbe.com

About Maryland Health Connection: Maryland Health Connection (MHC) is the state-based health insurance marketplace for individuals and families to compare and enroll in health insurance, as well as determine eligibility for Medicaid and other assistance programs, federal tax credits and cost-sharing reductions. marylandhealthconnection.gov

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