

CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER OF MARYLAND HEALTH BENEFIT EXCHANGE NAMED ONE OF TOP 100

Technology media publisher IDG Communications selects Venkat Koshanam in second individual award for state's insurance marketplace in 2019

BALTIMORE (MAY 1, 2019) – Venkat Koshanam, chief information officer for the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange, has been selected as one of the 2019 CIO 100 award winners by International Data Group Inc.

He was chosen from more than 400 applicants by a panel of industry judges for Boston-based IDG, whose technology media titles include CIO, Computerworld, PCWorld and Macworld. The award will be presented at the 32st annual CIO 100 Symposium and Awards Ceremony in August in Colorado Springs, Colo.

It is the second individual award won by leaders of the Maryland exchange this year. Executive Director Michele Eberle was named one of Maryland's Power 10 CEOs by the *Baltimore Business Journal* in January.

For 2019, Maryland had the eighth-best enrollment growth in the nation. After a "reinsurance" program was approved by Governor Hogan, the Maryland General Assembly and the federal government, average premiums in Maryland fell by \$77 per month, becoming the 17th least expensive in the nation. And Maryland's uninsured rate is its lowest ever, 6.1 percent, according to the U.S. Census.

"I'm grateful for the recognition for myself but more so for our entire team," Koshanam said. "The award is further proof of the amazing turnaround the Maryland exchange has been able to accomplish. We're proud, with our partners, to fulfill the aspiration to successfully build an online marketplace to help the uninsured get health coverage."

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About the [Maryland Health Benefit Exchange](https://marylandhbe.com): The Maryland Health Benefit Exchange (MHBE), a public corporation and independent unit of state government established in 2011, administers Maryland Health Connection.

About [Maryland Health Connection](#): Maryland Health Connection (MHC) is the state-based marketplace for Marylanders to shop and enroll in health insurance, as well as determine eligibility for Medicaid and other assistance programs. It is the only place where Marylanders can access financial help such as tax credits to make coverage more affordable. More than 1 million Marylanders – one of every six – receive health insurance through Maryland Health Connection.

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