CMS Snapshot
January 5-12, 2023

Delivered to you by the Partner Relations Group in the Office of Communications

All releases below are from 2pm Thursday, January 5 through 2pm Thursday, January 12, 2023

News Releases

*January 6- CMS Statement on FDA Accelerated Approval of Lecanemab. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is releasing the following statement from Administrator Chiquita Brooks-LaSure, with accompanying background information, in response to the action by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to grant accelerated approval to a new product designed to treat Alzheimer’s disease.

*January 9- CMS Awards 200 New Medicare-funded Residency Slots to Hospitals Serving Underserved Communities. First of Five Awards, New Positions Target Primary Care and Mental Health. Today, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) took a critical step to advance health equity and access to care, awarding the first 200 of 1,000 Medicare-funded physician residency slots to enhance the health care workforce and fund additional positions in hospitals serving underserved communities. Approximately three-quarters of the new positions will be for primary care and mental health specialties.

*January 9- HHS Awards Nearly $245 Million to Support Youth Mental Health and Help the Health Care Workforce Meet Families’ Mental Health Needs. Bipartisan Safer Communities Act Funding Will Help Communities Across the Country. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has awarded nearly $245 million in Bipartisan Safer Communities Act funding – $185.7 million from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and nearly $60 million from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) – to support youth mental health, help the health care workforce address mental health needs, and fund other critical mental health supports. Addressing the mental health crisis is a top priority of the Biden-Harris Administration, as part of President Biden’s Unity Agenda. The bipartisan legislation signed into law by President Joe Biden in June provided HHS with vital resources to help children and families across the country.

For more information, please email partnership@cms.hhs.gov
*January 11- Nearly 16 Million People Have Signed Up for Affordable Health Coverage in ACA Marketplaces Since Start of Open Enrollment Period. This record-breaking enrollment represents a 13% increase over last year, including over 3 million people new to the Marketplaces. Open enrollment continues through January 15. ACA Marketplace National Enrollment Snapshot. Today, the Biden-Harris administration announced that about 15.9 million people have selected an Affordable Care Act (ACA) Marketplace health plan nationwide since the start of the 2023 Marketplace Open Enrollment Period (OEP) on November 1. This represents activity through January 7, 2023 (Week 10) for the 33 Marketplaces using HealthCare.gov and through December 31, 2022 (Week 9) for the 18 State-based Marketplaces (SBMs) in 17 states and the District of Columbia that are using their own eligibility and enrollment platforms.

*January 11- HHS Announces Key Dates for the First Year of the Inflation Reduction Act’s Medicare Drug Price Negotiation Program. In 2023, the Biden-Harris Administration will begin the negotiation process to lower drug prices for people with Medicare. Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced key dates for the first year of the Medicare Drug Price Negotiation Program under the Inflation Reduction Act, which will lower drug costs for millions of Americans. For the first time in history, because of the Inflation Reduction Act, Medicare will have the ability to negotiate prescription drug prices. That process begins in 2023, and the first negotiated prices will go into effect in 2026.

*January 12- Biden-Harris Administration Proposes Restoring Protections for Beneficiaries of Federally Funded Social Services. Today, nine federal agencies are further advancing President Biden’s call for religious freedom and equity for all by proposing a new rule to restore religious liberty protections for beneficiaries of federally funded social services, such as job training and job search assistance, academic enrichment opportunities, and housing services. These protections were rescinded by the previous Administration.

Fact Sheet

*January 11- Marketplace 2023 Open Enrollment Period Report: National Snapshot #3. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) reports that nearly 15.9 million Americans have signed up for 2023 individual market health insurance coverage through the Marketplaces since the start of the 2023 Marketplace Open Enrollment Period (OEP) on November 1. This includes 11.9 million plan selections in the 33 Marketplaces using the HealthCare.gov platform for the 2023 plan year, through January 7, 2023 (Week 10), and 4.0 million plan selections in the 18 State-based Marketplaces (SBMs) in 17 states and the District of Columbia that are using their own eligibility and enrollment platforms, through December 31, 2022 (Week 9). Total nationwide plan selections include 3.1 million consumers (20% of total) who are new to the Marketplaces for 2023, and 12.8 million consumers (80% of total) who had active 2022 coverage and made a plan selection for 2023 coverage or were automatically re-enrolled.

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Blogs

*January 11- Giving Blood Saves Lives. By: Rachel Levine, M.D., Assistant Secretary for Health (ASH). Summary: During National Blood Donor Month, we can all make a difference by giving blood and encouraging others to do the same. Someone in the United States needs blood every 2 seconds. Heather, who lives in Dallas, Texas, has needed many blood transfusions to treat sickle cell disease. This disease, which affects more than 100,000 people nationally, can cause pain and other serious complications. Sometimes Heather had to wait a long time for the right blood. Once, she even came close to dying when it took more than 48 hours to get the blood she needed.

*January 12- Last chance: Open Enrollment ends soon! There are only a few days left to get health coverage for 2023. Open Enrollment for Marketplace health plans ends January 15. Act now to enroll in health coverage that meets your needs and budget. Coverage starts February 1.