PRESS RELEASE



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CAHP Applauds Covered California, DHCS Actions to Address COVID-19 Crisis

Sacramento, CA – The California Association of Health Plans (CAHP) today applauded the critical steps taken by state leaders at Covered California and the Department of Health Care Services to extend the open enrollment period and make it easier for people to access coverage during the COVID-19 crisis.

"California's health plans are fully committed to helping Californians through the COVID-19 emergency and ensuring people are able to get the care they need during this crisis," said CAHP's President and CEO Charles Bacchi. "We applaud these leaders for taking extraordinary and necessary actions during this critical time and we will work closely with the state to ensure they are implemented."

With the unprecedented disruption in people's lives and the significant increases in those who are experiencing unemployment, it's now more crucial than ever that these individuals are aware that, as always, they are eligible for health care coverage through Covered California or Medi-Cal. Increased financial subsidies are also available for many low and middle-income Californians who sign up for coverage through Covered California.

California's health plans have also stepped up to ensure that all screening and testing for COVID-19 is free and to expand access to telehealth services so people can avoid in-person visits as much as possible in order to reduce the spread of the virus.

For more information on the actions taken today by Covered California and the Department of Health Care Services, please click <u>here</u>.

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CAHP is a statewide association representing 46 full-service health plans. Through legislative advocacy, education and collaboration with other member organizations, CAHP works to sustain a strong environment in which our member plans can provide access to products that offer choice and flexibility to the more than 25 million members they serve. For more information, please visit www.calhealthplans.org or call (916) 552-2910.