



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: (Wednesday, August 7, 2013)

The *Enroll Dallas County Partnership* Holds 1st Meeting at New Parkland Hospital About New Healthcare Marketplace!!

[Dallas, TX] – [The *Enroll Dallas County Partnership* will hold its first stakeholder meeting between Dallas County, Dallas officials, regional leaders and Marjorie McColl Petty, Regional Director of the US Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) tomorrow, Thursday, August 8th at the **new Parkland Hospital expansion** to discuss the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) and the Health Insurance Marketplace for Texas. This meeting will follow up on the ideas and strategies discussed in July when Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius visited. The event is designed to develop a strategic system of communication and education to the public at large about the Healthcare Marketplace and assist local organizations with enrollment efforts.]

The ACA, which passed into law in 2010 and was upheld by the US Supreme Court in 2012, is coming into full effect. One of its provisions, a Health Insurance Marketplace, which will allow individuals, families, and small businesses to compare plans and purchase health insurance, is scheduled to open on October 1, 2013. In addition to the Health Insurance Marketplace, the ACA allows for many individuals and families to receive a **tax credit** that can help them pay their premium costs.

The leaders of Dallas County and the City of Dallas believe that all citizens deserve health care through access to health insurance. Right now about 50 million Americans do not have health insurance, and Texas has the highest uninsured rate in the country. According to a recent Rice University report, in Dallas County there are about 600,000 people (25% of the population) without health insurance.

WHO: County Judge Clay Lewis Jenkins, Marjorie McColl Petty (DHHS), City leaders, faith community and business leaders

WHEN: Thursday, August 8, 2013 | 4:00pm – 5:00pm

WHERE: **New Parkland Hospital Cafeteria | 5200 Harry Hines Boulevard, Dallas TX**

Paid Parking is available in the Tower Parking Garage (2021 Medical District Drive) adjacent to the new Parkland hospital. Guests may enter the garage by taking Medical District Drive to Tex Oak Avenue.

NOTE: Media please be advised that you will be shooting from the NEW PARKLAND building! It is not yet wired for broadcasting so, although there is electricity you should be prepared to treat this as you would a remote!

MEDIA CONTACTS

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