

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE December 8, 2020

## Open Enrollment Final Deadline of December 15th Approaching One Week Left to Enroll for 2021 Coverage

**DALLAS** – This year has brought lots of uncertainty, and for many, health and safety is top of mind. Signing up for health insurance coverage is one way for individuals to prepare for the year ahead. This is the final week to sign up for health insurance coverage on a Marketplace plan for 2021 through Open Enrollment. The sign-up period began on November 1, 2020 and ends December 15, 2020. If you need to renew your coverage, or sign up for the first time, you have one week until the deadline.

For those previously enrolled through the Marketplace, now is the time to check your coverage and shop plans to make sure you have the best fit for your needs going forward in 2021. For those new to the Marketplace, please visit Healthcare.gov to learn about your options and what financial assistance may be available to help you with coverage. Almost 80% of people who signed up for coverage last year, qualified for financial assistance last year, making coverage affordable and accessible.

North Texas has many plans available from multiple companies, including new companies in the area. Local enrollment assistance in multiple languages is available to help individuals find the best coverage option. Please do not delay checking out your options by visiting Healthcare.gov. You must complete the enrollment by December 15.

"It's critically important that individuals check their coverage options and complete enrollment before the deadline on the 15<sup>th</sup>. If you are newly uninsured and new to the Marketplace, North Texas has numerous assisters available to assist you with this process. Don't delay, get covered today," said Dallas County Judge Clay Jenkins.

## 5 Facts About Signing Up For Coverage at HealthCare.gov:

**#1: Sign up by December 15.** Open Enrollment started on November 1 but you must take action by December 15, no matter if this is your first time getting covered or if you are returning to shop and save. Beat the rush and sign up early.

**#2: Coverage could be cheaper than you think.** Last year, nearly 8 out of 10 people qualified for financial help to make their monthly premiums more affordable. In fact, most people found plans available between \$50 to \$100 per month.

**#3: Shop and save.** If you had coverage through <u>HealthCare.gov</u> for 2020, you should come back to update your information and compare your options for 2021. Every year, plans and prices change, you could save money by switching to a new plan that still meets your needs.

**#4: Free help is available.** If you have questions about signing up or want to talk through your options with a trained professional, free help is just a call or quick away. Call **1-800-318-2596**, visit <u>localhelp.healthcare.gov</u> or <u>https://www.dallascounty.org/government/comcrt/jenkins/marketplace.php</u> for local North Texas enrollment assisters.

**#5: HealthCare.gov offers coverage you can count on.** Only at HealthCare.gov or a state based marketplace will you know that your plan offers comprehensive coverage that will be there when you need it the most. You

can't be denied care because of a pre-existing condition or have to pay more. HealthCare.gov plans cover everything from your prescription drugs and check-ups to maternity coverage and hospitalizations.

## CONTACT:

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