



Office of Mayor Lawrence J. Morrissey
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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Community Action Agency Continues ACA Insurance Counseling

ROCKFORD – Affordable Care Act counselors remain available at the City of Rockford Human Services Department, a Community Action Agency, to enroll uninsured residents of Winnebago and Boone Counties who may still have options to get health care coverage. While Open Enrollment in the ACA Marketplace is closed for 2014, qualified residents can apply for Medicaid or the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) any time of year, as there is no limited enrollment period for these programs. Other residents can enroll in private coverage through the Marketplace if they have a qualifying life event or a documented complex situation related to applying in the Marketplace.

Examples of qualifying life events include:

- Marriage, having a baby, adopting a child or placing a child for adoption or foster care, moving outside your insurer’s coverage area, gaining citizenship, leaving incarceration
- For people already enrolled in Marketplace coverage: Having a change in income or household status that affects eligibility for premium tax credits or cost-sharing reductions
- Losing other health coverage—due to losing job-based coverage, divorce, the end of an individual policy plan year in 2014, COBRA expiration, aging off a parent’s plan, losing eligibility for Medicaid or CHIP, and similar circumstances. Important: Voluntarily ending coverage doesn’t qualify you for a special enrollment period. Neither does losing coverage that doesn’t qualify as minimum essential coverage.
- Gaining status as member of an Indian tribe. Members of federally recognized Indian tribes can sign up for or change plans once per month throughout the year.

You can call the Community Services Division of the City of Rockford Human Services Department at 815-987-5711 to speak to an ACA counselor or to make an appointment to apply for coverage for any of the above programs. Counselors will also see walk-ins Monday through Friday from 10:00am to 3:00pm at the City Plaza, 555 N. Court St. Suite 301 in Rockford.

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