

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 16, 2013

\$2.1 Million Navigator Grant Will Help Georgians Access Health Insurance

Help is on the way to Georgians in need of assistance enrolling in health insurance through the new Health Insurance Marketplace, thanks to a \$2.1 million grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

A consortium of 15 partners, led by Seedco, will conduct outreach and education activities to help make Georgians aware of new health insurance options and of the benefits of being insured. The funding from HHS will support approximately 20 “navigators,” who will be trained to provide consumers with in-person assistance in a culturally competent manner, to inform consumers about the Health Insurance Marketplace, qualified health plans, Medicaid and the PeachCare for Kids and to help consumers select the health insurance option that is best for themselves and their families. In addition, navigators will assist consumers in determining if they are eligible for federal tax credits to subsidize the cost of health insurance.

Seedco is a national non-profit organization that advances economic opportunity for people, businesses and communities in need. “We are pleased to have this opportunity to build on our long history of connecting people in Georgia with health insurance,” said Seedco Senior Vice President Ben Thomases. “With our strong network of partners and an ambitious outreach strategy we are ready to reach people throughout Georgia with the information they need to get insured.”

The following organizations are members of the consortium that received the grant award:

- Boat People SOS
- Center for Black Women’s Wellness
- Emory-Grady Urban Health Initiative
- Georgia Equality & The Health Initiative
- Georgia Refugee Health and Mental Health
- Georgia Watch
- Georgians for a Healthy Future
- Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies Coalition
- Jewish Family & Career Services
- Latin American Association
- Mental Health America of Georgia
- Parent to Parent
- Quality Med-Care Inc.
- Spring Creek Health Cooperative

As the leader of the consortium, Seedco will directly employ several navigators and oversee all aspects of the program, providing technical assistance, financial oversight, privacy and compliance protocols and strategic coordination for the partners. Each member of the partnership has a strong history of providing services to populations in Georgia that are likely to be uninsured. The partners will build on their current programs, services, community relationships, and expertise, to make sure that the consortium will have the broadest possible reach.

Georgians for a Healthy Future will support the consortium's success by drawing upon its strengths as a healthcare advocacy leader, its knowledge of the Affordable Care Act, its experience building and managing coalitions, and its state-wide presence. Georgians for a Healthy Future will be working to make sure that the consortium's activities are coordinated with a wide array of organizations in Georgia that are committed to helping people access affordable health insurance.

"Georgians for a Healthy Future is excited to collaborate with Seedco and this strong and diverse group of partners to reach our shared goal of maximizing health insurance enrollment in Georgia," added Georgians for a Healthy Future Executive Director Cindy Zeldin.

Seedco has also recently been awarded Navigator grants in Maryland, New York, and Tennessee, and will be working with its networks of partners across all four states to share best practices.

Contact for Seedco:

Brian Robinson
Senior Vice President, External Affairs
646-688-7280
brobinson@seedco.org

Contact for Georgians for a Healthy Future:

Amanda Ptashkin
Outreach & Advocacy Director
(404) 890-5804
aptashkin@healthyfuturega.org