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**CONTACT: Georgians for a Healthy Future** Amanda Ptashkin (404) 890-5804

## Health Insurance Starts Working Better for Georgia Children and Families

## New Provisions of the Affordable Care Act Place Children and Families at the Forefront

Atlanta, GA. – Provisions of the Affordable Care Act that are meant to curb the worst excesses of the insurance industry, particularly those relating to children, take effect on September 23, 2010. In response, Georgians for a Healthy Future and community partners have organized *Care Beyond College*— a public forum that will highlight how provisions in the Affordable Care act specifically will benefit children and young adults across the state.

Amanda Ptashkin, Outreach and Advocacy Director for Georgians for a Healthy Future had this to say: "Starting Thursday, health insurance will better serve Georgia families. Parents can keep their kids covered under their family health insurance plans through age 26. Within the first year of implementation, this translates to approximately 43,500 young adults in Georgia who will gain coverage who otherwise would have gone uninsured."

In addition to helping young adults, other provisions will go into effect specifically to benefit children. Sick children no longer can be denied coverage. Restrictions will be in place to prevent lifetime caps and rescissions. To describe the benefits that young adults and families will start to see as a result of the Affordable Care Act, Georgians for a Healthy Future invites you to attend the *Care Beyond College* public forum:

Where:	Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University Room 2001, Claudia Nance Rollins Building
When:	12 pm to 1 pm, Thursday, September 23
Contact:	Amanda Ptashkin, 404-890-5804, aptashkin@healthyfuturega.org

Parking: Click here for campus map and parking instructions

One of the local experts slated to speak at the event is Joann Yoon, Associate Policy Director for Child Health at Voices for Georgia's Children. In stressing the importance of the impending changes, Yoon stated: "Stable health coverage is essential to ensure a healthier outlook for children and young adults as they transition into adulthood and become part of the Georgia workforce. The changes in policy that go into effect September 23 provide a tangible benefit to children and families throughout our state."

For more information about Georgians for a Healthy Future please visit <u>www.healthyfuturega.org</u>.

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Georgians for a Healthy Future is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization with a mission to build and mobilize a unified voice, vision and leadership to achieve a healthy future for all Georgians.