

Branch-Hillsdale-St. Joseph Community Health Agency

April 1, 2014

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Healthy Michigan Plan Is Here!

(Coldwater, MI). Looking for health care coverage that works for your health and your budget? As of today, April 1st, there's a new option to help working people like you get healthy — at a cost that works in your budget. It's the Healthy Michigan Plan. According to Steve Todd, Health Officer for the Branch-Hillsdale-St. Joseph Community Health Officer “We are excited to see the start of the Healthy Michigan Plan, which expands Medicaid to adults who have incomes up to 133% of poverty. For single individuals, this means an annual income up to \$16,000. For a family of four it means an annual income up to \$33,000. People shouldn't have to choose between taking care of their health and taking care of their bills.”

The Healthy Michigan covers everything from doctor visits to hospitalizations to prescriptions at a low cost. To apply, there are four options for tri-county residents of Branch, Hillsdale and St. Joseph Counties:

- Apply online at www.HealthyMichiganPlan.org
- Apply by phone at (855) 789-5610.
- Visit your local Department of Human Services office.
- Make an appointment with trained staff at your local county health department office.

The Healthy Michigan Plan includes most benefits associated with traditional health insurance plans at a more affordable cost, based on household income. Those who make between 100 and 133 percent of the federal poverty level will contribute up to 2 percent of their income to a health savings account, which can be used to pay for out-of-pocket medical expenses. The plan offers incentives for healthy behaviors, such as losing weight, quitting smoking, and preventive measures, such as getting a flu shot.

The 10 Essential Health Benefits covered in the Healthy Michigan Plan are: ambulatory patient services, emergency services, hospitalization, maternity and newborn care, mental health and substance use disorder treatment services, including behavioral health treatment, prescription drugs, rehabilitative and habilitative services and devices, laboratory services, preventative and wellness services and chronic disease management, and pediatric services, including oral and vision care. The Healthy Michigan Plan will cover other medically necessary services as appropriate.

How Do I Qualify?

You may be eligible for the Healthy Michigan Plan if you are:

- Between the ages of 19-64 years;
- Have income at or below 133% of the federal poverty level* (\$16,000 for a single person or \$33,000 for a family of four);
- Do not qualify for or are not enrolled in Medicare or other Medicaid programs;
- Are not pregnant at the time of application;
- Are residents of the State of Michigan.

*Eligibility for the Healthy Michigan Plan is determined through the Modified Adjusted Gross Income methodology

Steve Todd adds “If an individual doesn’t qualify for Healthy Michigan Plan, it doesn’t mean that they or their family member doesn’t qualify for Medicaid. If you have questions concerning your eligibility, please schedule an appointment with our staff so we can assist you in finding the health care coverage that best meets your family’s needs.” For more information about what the Healthy Michigan Plan covers, who is eligible, and to apply, visit www.bhsj.org and click on the Healthy Michigan Plan button located on the left side.

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