

CONTRA COSTA CARES

A New Program For Uninsured Contra Costa Residents

Contra Costa CARES is a new organized system of care to provide comprehensive primary health care coverage and medical homes to low income, uninsured adults residing in Contra Costa who do not qualify for full-scope Medi-Cal or Covered California. The program will take full advantage of PRUCOL and other state funded programs. It is anticipated that Contra Costa CARES will provide medical homes to an estimated 3,000 uninsured residents living in Contra Costa County out of an approximate 19,000 uninsured individuals who might qualify for this program.

Contra Costa CARES has been developed through an extensive planning process representing many local stakeholders over the last year with leadership provided by Contra Costa Health Services Agency, Hospital Council of Northern & Central California and the Contra Costa Community Clinic Consortium. The Contra Costa Health Services Agency Director along with representatives from Kaiser Permanente Community Benefits, Sutter-Delta Medical Center Community Benefits, John Muir Health Community Benefits and La Clinica de la Raza, LifeLong Medical Care and Planned Parenthood were very active in the discussions. The planning process was funded by grants from the Blue Shield of California Foundation and John Muir/Mt. Diablo Community Health Fund.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

- Uninsured adults 19 years of age or older living in Contra Costa County
- Not eligible for full-scope Medi-Cal or Covered California
- Household gross income does not exceed 138% of the Federal Poverty Level (Household of 1 individual = \$16,105; Family of 4 = \$32,913 annual income).

PROVIDER NETWORK:

Participating community health centers listed below will be designated as the medical homes and provide primary care services to the participants:

- La Clinica de la Raza with sites in Pittsburg, Oakley and Monument Corridor
- LifeLong Medical Care with sites in Richmond and San Pablo
- Axis Health with sites in Pleasanton and Livermore to serve south county residents
- Brighter Beginnings with sites in Antioch and soon in Richmond.

Planned Parenthood of Northern California with sites in Antioch, Central Richmond, Hilltop Richmond, Pittsburg, San Ramon, El Cerrito, Walnut Creek and Concord will provide limited primary care services for selected primary care conditions. Planned Parenthood will refer clients for more extensive services and complicated conditions to other participating comprehensive primary care providers in the CARES network.

EASY ACCESS AND ON-SITE ENROLLMENT:

The community health center sites that are participating as primary care providers and medical homes for these individuals have committed to providing easy access to services as a result of participation. Enrollment will be done at the participating community health center sites at the time of care and enrollment will continue for up to one year.

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continued

PRIMARY CARE SERVICES WILL INCLUDE:

- Assignment of a medical home at one of the participating community health centers
- Physician services and medical office visits at the community health centers
- Integrated mental health services for patients with mild and moderate conditions
- Nurse advice line and member services through Contra Costa Health Plan
- Health evaluations, as well as diagnosis and treatment services
- Adult immunizations
- Basic laboratory services related to primary care
- Basic radiology (x-ray) services at locations contracted with community health centers
- Health education and chronic disease management services
- Pharmacy services and medications provided at certain pharmacies affiliated with the community health centers' 340B program and Patient Assistance Programs.

The program will include primary care services only. Specialty care, dental, vision, emergency care and hospitalization are not covered benefits of the program. Participants needing emergency care or hospitalization may go to any hospital. Most hospitals will screen participants for all eligible programs, including Medi-Cal, charity care and other health insurance and coverage programs, and make referrals to participating community clinics for enrollment in CARES as appropriate.

Certain specialty care services will be provided pro bono by local hospital systems where programs currently exist including Contra Costa Health Services, and by Operation Access.

Mental health services to participants with serious mental illness will be provided by Contra Costa Health Services.

Care and services provided by state coverage programs are not provided under this program and eligible participants must apply for these state programs such as FamilyPACT, Every Woman Counts, and Breast Cancer Early Detection Program.

Program Impact: Contra Costa CARES will measure its impact on the following indicators over a two year period:

- number of individuals enrolled in primary care and with a designated medical home;
- reduction in unnecessary or inappropriate emergency room utilization for enrollees;
- effective hospital transitions to a primary care medical home; and
- other quality measures already in place for Medi-Cal and Covered California.

Program Administrator: The Contra Costa Health Plan (CCHP) will be the fiscal agent and manage the program at no additional charge to the program. CCHP issue membership cards to participants so that they can easily be identified for services, educate new enrollees about the benefits of the program and the use of their medical home, provide nurse advice services and link information electronically between the primary care providers and hospital emergency rooms.

Provider Payments: Primary care providers will be paid on a capitated basis estimated at \$28.00/per participant/per month for a total annual cost of \$336.00/per year per participant to cover primary care services as well as basic laboratory and radiology services. The program anticipates enrolling up to 3,000 individuals for an annual cost in its first year of less than \$1,000,000. Planned Parenthood will be paid on a fee-for-service basis for their limited primary care services. Because participants will have incomes at or below 138% of federal poverty level, no co-payments will be charged for primary care services. There is a co-payment for 340B pharmacy services.

Start Date: The program is anticipated to begin by **NOVEMBER 2015**, pending funding availability