

July 2016 Stakeholder Update



Wave 2 Passive Enrollment Effective July 1st!

On July 1, health plan coverage began for over 7,500 members who were enrolled in Wave 2 of passive enrollment. Passive enrollment is the auto assignment of eligible members who had not previously selected a Healthy Connections Prime plan. With the two large waves of passive enrollment complete, passive enrollment will now continue on a monthly basis for newly eligible individuals. A map of all counties participating in Healthy Connections prime can be found on the [Program Data](#) section of our website.

Transition of Advicare Advocate

Due to WellCare Health Plans, Inc.'s acquisition of the Advicare Corp. Medicaid managed care plan but not the Medicare-Medicaid plan, Advicare Advocate will terminate its contract effective with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) and the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS), and will no longer participate in the Healthy Connections Prime program. However, existing Advicare Advocate members will have new health insurance effective September 1, 2016 and there will be no gap in coverage for Medicaid, Medicare or Medicare Part D prescription drugs. What will happen to each member depends on the county the member lives in. For more information, please see the [recent FAQ](#) posted about this topic in the Announcements section of our website.

Balance Billing Prohibition Notice

In mid-May, CMS released a [notice to Medicare providers](#) reminding that it is unlawful for providers to "balance bill" any patient who is a member of Healthy Connections Prime for any covered services. Balance billing is the practice in which providers bill dually eligible beneficiaries enrolled in the Qualified Medicare Beneficiary (QMB) program for Medicare cost-sharing. Healthy Connections Prime members are considered QMBs. The provider must accept payment in full from the Medicare-Medicaid plan (MMP) and should not deny any services to members for non-payment. For more information, please see the [recent notice](#) posted about this topic in the [Announcements](#) section of our website.

July Senior Resources Fair

SC Thrive is hosting a Senior Resource Fair on July 27 from 10 a.m.–12 p.m. at the Academy for Careers and Technology. The goal is to share information about the Healthy Connections Prime program and provide application assistance. The address is 2694 US-76 in Marion. Invitations will be mailed by SC Thrive. For more information, please call SC Thrive at (800) 726-8774, Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m. TTY users call 711. This call is free.

Other Updates

- [June enrollment reports](#)
- [Map displaying participation in Healthy Connections Prime by county](#)
- [Plan coverage by county \(updated to reflect Advicare Advocate's transition\)](#)

For More Information and the Latest News

Please visit our website at <http://www.scdhhs.gov/prime> or call the SC Thrive Customer Service Center at (800) 726-8774, Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m. TTY users call 711. This call is free.