

## June 2017 Stakeholder Update



### Passive Enrollment Update

South Carolina Healthy Connections Prime's 2017 passive enrollment commences in August and will continue on a monthly basis. Eligible individuals will be automatically assigned (passively enrolled) into a Medicare-Medicaid Plan (MMP). Passively enrolled individuals will receive a 60-day and a 30-day notice informing them of their upcoming enrollment into an MMP. Although enrollment in Healthy Connections Prime is not mandatory, the state encourages members to try out this new program for at least six months to experience the benefits of the program (such as \$0 copay for doctor visits, hospital stays, and prescription drugs). Individuals who enroll in Healthy Connections Prime can disenroll at any time.

- Please see the [What to Expect](#) document on our [Member and Advocate Materials page](#) to learn more about the passive enrollment process.
- Our [Coverage Area By Plan](#) chart lets you know what counties are participating in Healthy Connections Prime and what plans serving which counties.

### Save the Date: Healthy Connections Prime Provider Webinar Series

On July 11, 2017, Healthy Connections Prime and SC Thrive will kick-off a series of bi-monthly webinars tailored specifically to providers. The first webinar will cover a Healthy Connections Prime program introduction, program benefits for patients, and other important program topics. You do not need to be an existing in-network provider to participate. The first webinar will be a great introduction for new providers as well as quick refresher for existing providers. Future webinars will cover more in-depth topics of interest to providers. Please visit [this link](#) to register.

### Beneficiary Choice Notice for Providers

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) sent a notice to South Carolina Medicare providers on May 17, 2017 to remind them that patients and care recipients can choose the health plan they would like to join. The notice also reiterated that providers, including long-term care facilities, should not influence or try to tell patients to leave an MMP or Healthy Connections Prime. Please see a copy of the [notice](#) posted on our [Provider Toolkit page](#) for more information.

### Fresh Food for Seniors

The Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP) is available to low-income seniors over the age of 60 and allows them to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables at farmer's markets, roadside stands, and other community-supported agricultural programs. Participants receive \$25 in the form of five checks for \$5 to spend at authorized locations. The program, which is administered by the South Carolina Department of Social Services (SCDSS) and county Area Agencies on Aging, will run through mid-October in 37 counties across South Carolina. Checks are available on a first-come, first-served basis. More information about the program and where seniors can receive vouchers can be found on the [SC Thrive blog](#) or [SCDSS' webpage](#).

## Self-Directed Care Training for MMPs

The MMPs participated in a self-directed care training on May 22, 2017 led by the Healthy Connections Prime team and the Community and Long Term Care Division (CLTC). The plans learned about:

- The history of self-directed care in South Carolina
- Person-centered care and the guiding philosophies of self-directed care
- Federal and state program governance
- Delivery of South Carolina's self-directed attendant care and companion care services
- Prevention of fraud, waste, and abuse in self-directed care

Additional training and education opportunities for stakeholders will be available later this year. Stay tuned!

## Other Updates & Recently Posted Documents

- [May 2017 Enrollment Data](#)
- [April 2017 Enrollment Data](#)

## For More Information and the Latest News

Please visit our website at <http://www.scdhhs.gov/prime> and see our Member FAQs, Provider Toolkit, and Program Data pages. Our Member and Advocate Materials page also provides numerous resources, such as a plan comparison chart and an explanation of important terms.

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.