

## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

For Immediate Release: Sunday, March 23, 2014

Contact: Linda Wharton Boyd: 202.351.9777, Ph.D.: linda.wharton-boyd@dc.gov

Mahlori Isaacs: 202.741.0920: mahlori.isaacs2@dc.gov

# "The Body is a Temple and it Must Be Insured," is the Local Faith Based Message During This National Faith Weekend of Action

Local Places of Worship Open Their Doors to Uninsured DC Residents

During the Final Enrollment Push

#### WHAT/WHO:

With only 8 days left before the health insurance deadline, DC Health Link (DCHL) and local places of worship help celebrate President Obama's *National Faith*Weekend of Action (March 22-23) initiative to enroll residents, small businesses and their employees in health insurance coverage.

In the spirit of President Obama's nation-wide faith effort, DCHL continues to partner with the faith based community to provide opportunities for enrollment in health coverage this Sunday at places of worship throughout the city.

More than 100 faith based institutions and organizations in the District have joined DCHL in ensuring that District consumers do not miss the March 31<sup>st</sup> deadline and are not subjected to tax penalties.

Today, residents will have the chance to avoid the tax penalty, get information about health insurance plans, find out if they quality for special rates to reduce insurance premiums, and get assistance with the enrollment process. DC Health Link certified assisters and licensed health insurance brokers will be available at each faith based enrollment event.

Residents can also enroll next Sunday, March 30 from 9:30 am – 3:00 pm, the last day before the March 31 deadline at the DC Health Link Faith's Faith Based Final Curtain Call Enrollment Event at Nineteenth Street Baptist Church – 4606 16th Street, NW. A special service and enrollment opportunity will take place.

#### WHEN/WHERE:

Upcoming Faith in Action Events:	
Union Temple Baptist Church	Sunday, March 23: 11:00 am (Enrollment
Enrollment Center	following service)
1225 W St., SE (Ward 8)	

Good Success Christian	<b>Sunday, March 23:</b> 9:00 am – 1:00 pm ( <i>Service</i>
Church and Ministries	and enrollment times)
4401 Sheriff Rd, NE (Ward 7)	,
Allen Chapel AME Church	Sunday, March 23: 11:00 am (Education and
2498 Alabama Ave., SE (Ward 8)	outreach)
Mt Jezreel Baptist Church	<b>Sunday, March 23:</b> 10:00am – 1:00pm (Service
420 University Boulevard, East	and enrollment)
Silver Spring, MD 20901	
New Bethel Baptist Church	Sunday, March 23: 11:00 am (Service and
1739 S St., NW (Ward 2)	enrollment)
Calvary Baptist Church	Sunday, March 23: 11:00 am (Service and
802 Rhode Island Ave., NE (Ward 5)	enrollment)
DC Health Link Laundromat Sunday at Mama's Laundromat 4528 Benning Road, SE (Ward 7) BenCo Shopping Center (Corner of Benning Road & East Capitol Street) Contact: Kishan Putta; 202-320-0058	Sunday, March 23: 2:30pm – 5:30pm (Service and enrollment)
Upcoming Faith in Action Events:	
DC Health Link "Artful Sounds of Faith"	Friday, March 28: 7:30pm
Enrollment Gospel Concert	
Union Temple Baptist Church	
1225 W Street, SE (Ward 8)	
DC Health Link "Health Insurance Enrollment	<b>Saturday, March 29:</b> 11:00am – 2:00pm
Education Summit"	
Enroll America/Brown Memorial AME Church	
130 14th Street, NE (Ward 6)	
DC Health Link at CVS	<b>Sunday, March 30:</b> 2:00pm – 6:00pp
5227 Georgia Avenue, NW (Ward 4)	
Quality Wash Laundromat	<b>Sunday, March 30:</b> 2:00pm – 5:00pm
6201 Georgia Ave, NW (Ward 4)	
DC Health Link Final Call: Enrollment Faith Day	<b>Sunday, March 30:</b> 9:30 am – 11:30 am
	<b>Sunday, March 30:</b> 9:30 am – 11:30 am

### **BACKGROUND:**

The new health law provides individuals, families, and small businesses in the of Columbia with new options for quality, affordable health insurance. DC Health Link is the District's online health insurance marketplace that allows visitors to shop, compare, and buy coverage that fits their needs and budgets.

Eligible residents have until March 31, 2014, to enroll in a health insurance plan through <a href="DCHealthLink.com">DCHealthLink.com</a>. Those who enroll by March 31, 2014, will have benefits effective May 1, 2014. Small businesses can enroll through DCHealthLink.com at any point.

The local faith based community has been an integral part of DC Health Link's outreach efforts to educate and enroll District residents, small businesses and their employees in quality, affordable health insurance plans. The active engagement of the faith community has inspired hundreds of District consumers to heed the call for health insurance and enroll in health insurance plans. Faith leaders are being asked to share information from their pulpits about the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and quality, affordable health plans offered through DCHealthLink.com.

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