FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 20, 2021

Pennsylvanians Can Now Receive Significant Savings When They Enroll in Health Coverage through Pennie

Uninsured Pennsylvanians will be able to receive savings in health coverage by enrolling in a plan through Pennie

Harrisburg, PA – April 20, 2021 – As a result of the recent American Rescue Plan, also known as the COVID-19 relief package, provisions specific to the Affordable Care Act have impacted the way health insurance is available in Pennsylvania. These provisions include savings for Pennsylvanians seeking individual market coverage and those already enrolled through Pennie.

"We are extremely excited that the premiums savings created by the American Rescue Plan are now available through Pennie and believe they will bring coverage to those who are uninsured but could not previously afford it," said Pennie Executive Director Zachary W. Sherman. "Overall, these savings provide a huge opportunity for many in Pennsylvania. If you ever thought that health insurance was out of your reach or something you could never afford, think again. Having health coverage has never been more affordable or more within your grasp."

The American Rescue Plan results in an increase in the amount of premium tax credits through Pennie for eligible Pennsylvanians at *all* income levels during the 2021 and 2022 plan years. This will result in additional savings to the more than 270,000 Pennie customers currently receiving financial assistance. In some cases, lower-income enrollees will have their premiums eliminated entirely.

In addition, those who earn more than 400 percent of the federal poverty level, about \$51,000 for an individual and \$104,800 for a family of four, are newly eligible for financial assistance. Roughly 110,000 Pennsylvanians who were previously ineligible for financial assistance, because their income was too high, can now receive financial assistance to find the coverage that best meets their needs at a price they can afford through Pennie.

"These savings will provide real relief to Pennie's current customers and can be a game changer for thousands of Pennsylvanians who are uninsured. As we enter this new, groundbreaking stage of financial assistance eligibility, we hope that many uninsured Pennsylvanians will take advantage of this opportunity. We hope to provide the peace of mind that comes with having health insurance to more Pennsylvanians than ever before, especially during the economic fallout of this pandemic. Anyone who is uninsured should head to pennie.com and enroll in affordable coverage today," said Pennsylvania Insurance Department Commissioner Jessica Altman.

pennic connecting Pennsylvanians to health coverage

Pennsylvanians receiving, or simply eligible for, unemployment compensation in 2021 will receive the most financial assistance possible through Pennie, resulting in access to quality plans with low, or zero-dollar, premiums and very low deductibles and out-of-pocket expenses.

These provisions are available as real relief from the economic repercussions of the COVID-19 pandemic and are now available to new and existing Pennie customers. Pennsylvanians can enroll in coverage starting as soon as May 1 through Pennie's COVID-19 Enrollment Period. To give people plenty of time to take advantage of these new opportunities, the deadline to apply through this enrollment opportunity has been extended through August 15.

"While stopping the spread of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and getting vaccinations are at the forefront of everyone's minds, it is also important for all Pennsylvanians to remain consistent in receiving routine health care, including physical exams, wellness visits and vaccinations to stay in good health," Acting Secretary of Health Alison Beam said. "Pennie's goal is, and will always be, making sure Pennsylvanians have a reliable marketplace to purchase quality health and dental insurance; and access to the financial assistance to help pay for the cost of coverage and care. I encourage all Pennsylvanians interested in learning about the insurance available for you and your family through Pennie, to explore your affordable health care options online at pennie.com."

Those interested in having affordable, quality health coverage should visit pennie.com, use the Savings Calculator to get a quick quote, and enroll in health insurance to receive these new savings. To get covered, all one needs to do is apply for coverage and enroll in the current "COVID-19 Enrollment Period" that is open to all Pennsylvanians and runs until August 15. Pennie can also link customers to free certified experts to assist with the application or plan selection process. Pennie encourages anyone who is uninsured and is seeking coverage to visit pennie.com for more information.

About Pennie

Pennie is Pennsylvania's state-affiliated health insurance marketplace created to reduce costs and better support the needs of customers purchasing health coverage. For more information, visit pennie.com or follow us on social at fb.com/PenniePA and Twitter.com/PennieOfficial.

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