



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**BeWellnm Announces Increased Financial Assistance and
Reduced Health Insurance Premiums with New Federal Law**

Many New Mexicans Qualify for Federal Premium Subsidies, which can Provide Health Insurance at No Cost through the Affordable Care Act (ACA) Insurance Marketplace

Albuquerque, N.M. (March 15, 2021) – BeWellnm, the New Mexico Health Insurance Exchange, announces the increase in financial assistance on the federal health insurance premium subsidies for the Affordable Care Act (ACA) insurance marketplace, part of American Rescue Plan (ARP). The additional subsidies provide uninsured and insured New Mexicans with a new opportunity to find affordable coverage.

“As a result of the relief package becoming law, starting April 1 thousands of uninsured New Mexicans can receive greatly reduced health insurance premiums and many will qualify for premiums at no cost,” said Jeffery Bustamante, CEO for beWellnm. “BeWellnm encourages all New Mexicans to take advantage of our free local help and begin the enrollment process as soon as possible. This includes people already signed up for coverage with beWellnm, who should also contact us to explore their options. The special enrollment period is only open for a limited time.”

Individuals who make less than \$20,000 per year could have their monthly payments eliminated completely. BeWellnm’s team of certified assisters are available to help explain the health insurance options and find the most affordable plan available.

“If you are considering taking advantage of the reduced premiums and enrolling in health insurance, call 1-833-862-3935 for assistance or visit beWellnm.com and schedule a virtual appointment. All plans cover the 10 essential benefits such as doctor visits, hospital stays, maternity care, emergency room care, prescriptions, and more,” said Bustamante. Federal law and regulations provide protections against preexisting condition exclusions in health insurance coverage. Health plans must permit New Mexicans to enroll regardless of health status, age, gender, or other factors that may predict the use of health services.

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New Mexicans who were laid off from work due to the pandemic can also find new affordable coverage by enrolling in the health insurance marketplace. They may be eligible to receive the increased financial assistance or can remain on their former employer's health insurance plan through COBRA.

The beWellnm team of certified enrollment counselors, agents, brokers and staff services are free. They are always available to help those in need review and explain their health insurance options through telephone assistance or virtual appointments at (833) 862-3935 or online by visiting beWellnm.com.

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About beWellnm, New Mexico's Health Insurance Exchange

BeWellnm was created to help individuals and small businesses get access to affordable health insurance plans. BeWellnm helps consumers compare health insurance plans and choose the plan that works best for their health needs and budget. BeWellnm also helps individuals determine whether they are eligible for premium assistance and if so, at what level. Through beWellnm for Small Business, small businesses are able to purchase competitively priced health insurance plans and offer their employees the ability to choose from an array of plans. Enrollment Counselors and insurance agents are available throughout the state to help with signing up for health insurance.

To find more information on beWellnm, New Mexico's Health Insurance Exchange, visit www.beWellnm.com or call us at 1-833-ToBeWell.