

CONTACT: Margaret A. Murray
Tel: (202) 204-7509
E-mail: mmurray@communityplans.net

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

States Increasingly Turn to Medicaid-focused Health Plans, New Data Shows

Washington, DC (March 5) Enrollments in Medicaid-focused health plans have risen by 14.2 percent over the past year, says the new fact sheet “[Medicaid-focused Health Plans Continue Growing Amid Overall Decline in Medicaid Managed Care Enrollment](#).” The fact sheet, released by the Association for Community Affiliated Plans (ACAP), draws on recent data from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

The fact sheet points out that Medicaid-focused health plans now cover more than 11 million lives, over half (53 percent) of the Medicaid-eligible individuals enrolled in full-risk managed care. Medicaid-focused health plans provide services in 32 of the 50 states to enrollees in Medicaid, SCHIP and other public insurance programs for low-income individuals. They do not generally serve commercial populations.

“We are an increasingly critical component of the health care safety net, providing high-quality health care to low-income populations,” said Margaret Murray, CEO of ACAP. “All of our members are mission-driven plans that work to establish a reliable, constant presence for the needs of the growing Medicaid population.”

The data used for this fact sheet comes from the “2007 Medicaid Managed Care Enrollment Report” that CMS composes each year. It includes statistics as of June 2007 on the number of plans and beneficiaries, plus information on individual states’ managed care programs. This report is available on Managed Care Data Page of the ACAP Web site (www.communityplans.net).

The Association for Community Affiliated Plans (ACAP) is a national trade association representing 42 nonprofit safety net health plans in 23 states. ACAP’s mission is to represent and strengthen these plans as they work in their communities to improve the health and well-being of vulnerable populations. The typical ACAP plan was founded by a community health center, community hospital or another community-based organization that serves safety net populations. Collectively, ACAP plans serve 6 million enrollees, over 50 percent of individuals enrolled in Medicaid-focused health plans.

###