For Immediate Release: For More Information, Contact:

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**New Grant from Biden-Harris Administration Aims to Reduce Uninsured in Iowa**

*Iowa Navigator Receives Three Year Grant, $245,350 Per Year*

Iowa Navigator, a federally funded non-profit organization providing free help to get uninsured Iowans enrolled in Marketplace insurance under the provisions of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), has received a significant boost in funding. The organization has operated the program since 2019. The Biden-Harris Administration recently announced that the organization would receive *$245,350* per year for the next three years.

Anyone who is not eligible for insurance through Medicare, Medicaid, or employer-based insurance is eligible to purchase insurance under the ACA’s provisions. Iowa Navigator assists people with the process of selecting a plan and applying for subsidies. About nine in ten of those who enroll receive subsidies to make the insurance more affordable. New provisions have increased subsidies and made it possible for even most high-income earners to qualify for the lower-cost plans. Four in ten people who sign up get a plan for less than $10 per month.

Jeremy Smith, Director of Iowa Navigator, says the new funding will enable them to reach many more people, including typically underserved populations such as those struggling with substance use disorder, minorities, LGBTQ+ people, and those in rural areas. This new round of funding more than doubles the program’s budget and will lead to more staffing and increased awareness about the kind of free help the program can provide.

Open enrollment for ACA-subsidized Marketplace insurance will be November 1, 2021, through January 15, 2022. Outside of those dates, those who experience a significant life event like losing health coverage, moving, getting married, having a baby, or adopting a child, may qualify to enroll through a Special Enrollment Period. Iowa Navigator assistors can be reached by calling 1-877-474-NAVI (6284) or chatting online at [www.acanavigator.com](http://www.wvnavigator.com).

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