Open Door Community Health Centers

Community Comment for April 20, 2015

Open Door Community Health Centers' Member Services department is available to assist community members in Del Norte and Humboldt counties with applications for Covered California, Medi-Cal, and CalFresh. Assistance is free and you do not have to be a patient at an Open Door clinic to request help. The health insurance marketplace for California is called Covered Ca, and Open Door Member Services teams are certified to assist with Covered California questions and applications. Though the official open enrollment period for signing up for insurance through Covered California has ended, some life circumstances called "qualifying life events" may mean you are eligible to enroll in health insurance. Covered California has established a special-enrollment opportunity for people who are just now learning of the tax consequences for not having health coverage. Although it's too late to avoid the tax penalty for being uninsured in 2014, consumers have until April 30 to minimize the financial penalty for being uninsured in 2015. Special Enrollment period for other qualifying events continues all year, and Medi-Cal and CalFresh enrollment continue all year. More information about getting covered and about the April 30<sup>th</sup> deadline can be found at <u>www.coveredca.com</u> . Open Door Member Services teams can be reached at 707-269-7073 for Humboldt County and 707-465-1988 for Del Norte County, or at www.opendoorhealth.com. 707-269-7073 for Humboldt County and 707-465-1988 for Del Norte County, or at www.opendoorhealth.com. This is Brea Olmstead, Open Door Community Health Centers' Member Services Director, for community comment on KINS.