Dia de la Mujer Latina launches the Navigator Program in San Antonio

According to the White House, the Affordable Care Act’s (ACA) coverage provisions have provided 17.6 million Americans an opportunity to gain coverage, and, since 2010, the uninsured rate in this country has dropped by 45 percent.

Each year, the average Texan spends about $5,900 on health care costs (e.g., doctor or clinical visits, prescription drugs, hospital care, dental services). About 2 in 10 people who are 18-44 years old will make a trip to the emergency room each year. 20.8% of 18-24 year olds and 17.7 % of those 25 to 44. More than 1 of 4 uninsured Americans will make a trip to the emergency room each year (26.6% across all ages).

Unfortunately, as the nation’s uninsured rate now stands at its lowest level ever, those in many of our underserved and underrepresented communities across the country, remain uninsured. Why?

Dia de la Mujer Latina, Inc (DML), as a national advocacy organization since 1997, dedicated to navigating our vulnerable populations to health and wellness, has expressed concern over this data.

DML was contracted to train, certify and hire Navigators in Houston and San Antonio, to provide education, plus in-person application assistance to individuals, families and small businesses in our Latino community for insurance of plans, including Medicaid and CHIP in Texas. Both of the 10 Navigators in Houston and 6 Navigators in San Antonio are also trained Promotores/Community Health Workers, dedicated to removing language barriers for their clients. They also provide service in community settings at non-traditional hours (evenings and weekends). Although mistrust continues to play a major role in impeding our medically underserved and underinsured populations from accessing health care, our navigators are available to help those understand the ACA and the specific criteria they must meet in order to qualify for a plan. These trusted members of the community work tirelessly to be accessible and accountable to our Latino community with amazing results.

DML is committed to removing barriers to affordable care and opening doors to improved health outcomes. For more information on the sites and dates for these enrollment events, please contact Venus at 281-489-1111.

Venus