

NH Department of Health and Human Services  
129 Pleasant Street – Hugh Gallen State Office Park  
Concord, NH 03301

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
November 9, 2018

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**  
Public Information Office  
603-271-9389 or [pio@dhhs.nh.gov](mailto:pio@dhhs.nh.gov)

**NH DHHS Announces Public Forums to Introduce Granite  
Advantage Health Care Program**  
*~~Medicaid Expansion Population Transitions to Medicaid Care Management  
on January 1<sup>st</sup>~~*

**Concord, NH** – The New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) has announced a series of public forums across the State to introduce the Granite Advantage Health Care Program, the new health insurance program for people enrolled in expanded Medicaid.

In January 2019, Granite Advantage will replace the New Hampshire Health Protection Program's (NHPPP) Premium Assistance Program (PAP). During the public meetings, DHHS will engage and inform on Granite Advantage open enrollment, the transition to Medicaid Care Management, and a new community engagement and work requirement.

“When the Legislature created the Granite Advantage Health Care Program, it called on the Department to transition people receiving health care coverage through commercial insurance carriers to Medicaid Care Management and introduced a community engagement and work requirement,” said DHHS Commissioner Jeffrey A. Meyers. “The transition to Granite Advantage means changes for members, and the Department is holding these public forums to make it as seamless as possible for members to maintain their health insurance coverage and achieve healthy outcomes.”

Effective January 1, 2019, impacted individuals will receive health insurance through the New Hampshire Medicaid Care Management program, which uses two health plans to manage health care for members. All beneficiaries recently received a letter from DHHS regarding Granite Advantage open enrollment from November 1-December 28, when they can select one of the health plans to provide their health insurance coverage. These health plans cover the same services as the New Hampshire Medicaid program and also offer additional optional services, programs, and other extras to promote healthy behavior.

Granite Advantage also includes community engagement and work requirement for members between the ages of 19-64, unless otherwise exempted, to maintain their health insurance. Attendees at the public meetings will learn about the new requirement, the qualifying activities for meeting the 100 hours per month required to maintain eligibility.

The presentations will also cover Granite Workforce, a pilot work program for Granite

Advantage members to assist them in meeting the work and community engagement requirement. Granite Workforce is being offered by NH Employment Security (NHES) and the NH Department of Health and Human Services, and will provide job training, case management services and employment supports.

DHHS will hold the 11 Public Forums throughout the State to allow individuals enrolled in the NHHPP, community organizations, providers, and other stakeholders to engage with DHHS on the transition to Medicaid Care Management. The sessions are scheduled for 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm so that those who work during the day are able to attend. The following public forums have been scheduled:

***Rochester***

Monday, November 19, 2018  
Rochester Community Center  
150 Wakefield Street  
Rochester, NH

***Concord***

Monday, November 26, 2018  
DHHS Brown Building Auditorium  
129 Pleasant Street  
Concord, New Hampshire

***Nashua***

Tuesday, November 27, 2018  
Nashua Community College, Room 150  
505 Amherst Street  
Nashua, NH 03063

***Manchester***

Thursday, November 29, 2018  
Aldermanic Chambers, 3rd Floor  
One City Hall Plaza  
Manchester, New Hampshire

***Laconia***

Monday, December 3, 2018  
City Council Chambers  
45 Beacon Street East  
Laconia, NH 03246

***Conway***

Wednesday, December 5, 2018  
Conway Public Library Community Room  
15 Greenwood Avenue  
Conway, NH 03818

***Littleton***

Thursday, December 12, 2018  
Littleton Opera House  
2 Union Street  
Littleton, NH 03561

Public forums in Claremont, Colebrook, Exeter, and Keene will be announced when dates for those events have been determined.

If accommodations are needed for communication access such as interpreters, CART (captioning), assistive listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services, please contact Leslie Melby at [Leslie.Melby@dhhs.nh.gov](mailto:Leslie.Melby@dhhs.nh.gov) or 603-271-9074 no later than five business days prior to the scheduled Public Forum date. At least 5 business days advance notice is requested in order to assure availability; requests made fewer than 5 days prior to the event will attempt to be accommodated but cannot be guaranteed.

For more information about the Granite Advantage Health Care Program, please visit [www.dhhs.nh.gov/ombp/medicaid/granite.htm](http://www.dhhs.nh.gov/ombp/medicaid/granite.htm). To select a new Medicaid Care Management plan, please visit <https://nheasy.nh.gov/>.

###