



healthy is for everyone

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**Local Health Plan Graded A+
in Service to Kids and Teens
from Birth to Age 19**

South San Francisco, Calif.—For the second year in a row, the Health Plan of San Mateo (HPSM), San Mateo County’s community health plan for publicly funded health coverage programs, has been awarded an A+ for Superior Performance in its Healthy Families Program by California’s Managed Risk Medical Insurance Board (MRMIB). HPSM is one of seven health plans receiving this high honor for preventive programs conducted in 2011.

The awards are based on HEDIS® data on immunizations, regular check-ups at various ages, appropriate use of asthma medication, treatment for respiratory infections, testing for Pharyngitis (inflammation of the throat), and screenings for Chlamydia. HEDIS is an annual program conducted by the National Committee on Quality Assurance (NCQA)—an independent not-for-profit organization dedicated to assessing and reporting on the quality of health plans. Used by more than 90% of America’s health plans, HEDIS analyzes 71 performance measures across eight domains of care.

“This recognition is a powerful acknowledgement of the efforts we make every day to ensure our child members get the quality care they need,” said Dr. Mary Giammona, HPSM’s medical director. “Whether it’s immunizations, well-child visits, medications, or screenings, we’re making sure the children in our plan have the foundation they need to have an active, healthy life and future.”

Healthy Families is California’s version of the federal State Children’s Health Insurance Program (SCHIP). Healthy Families offers medical, dental, and vision coverage to children and teens from birth to age 19 whose families have low incomes but do not qualify for Medi-Cal. Legal residency is required. HPSM serves 6,000 Healthy Families children in San Mateo County.

“Health care today can be confusing—and getting care can be a challenge—for anyone” said CEO Maya Altman. “We fight to make this difficult process easier for our members by providing materials that stress the importance of preventive care: regular check-ups, screenings, and exams, and the importance of a healthy diet and exercise. We also have tools for our providers—posters, fliers, and brochures—in English, Spanish, Chinese, Tagalog, and Russian, to help them meet the needs of our members.”

HPSM administers seven public health coverage programs: CareAdvantage, a Medicare Advantage plan; HealthWorx, for specific groups of County and City of San Mateo employees; Healthy Families; Healthy Kids; Medi-Cal, California’s Medicaid program; and San Mateo County ACE and MCE programs, for adults who do not qualify for Medi-Cal. Materials for each program are provided in both English and Spanish, and HPSM has bilingual staff to ensure questions are answered in the member’s primary language. HPSM staff members also speak Chinese, Tagalog, and Russian, and use a phone interpreter service for other languages.

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We fight to make a difference in our community.

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About MRMIB and Healthy Families

The Managed Risk Medical Insurance Board (MRMIB) was formed in 1990 to advise the Governor and the Legislature on strategies for reducing the number of uninsured people in California. MRMIB currently has three programs: Access for Infants & Mothers (AIM), the Major Risk Medical Insurance Program (MRMIP), and the Healthy Families Program (HFP). Learn more online at www.mrmib.ca.gov.

About NHQA and HEDIS

The National Committee on Quality Assurance (NCQA) is an independent not-for-profit organization dedicated to assessing and reporting on the quality of managed care plans, managed behavioral healthcare organizations, preferred provider organizations, new health plans, physician organizations, credentials verification organizations, disease management programs and other health-related programs. The NCQA's Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS) measures 71 performance measures across eight domains of care. The data make it possible to compare health plans on an "apples-to-apples" basis. HEDIS is an annual program. Learn more at www.ncqa.org.

About HPSM

The Health Plan of San Mateo (HPSM) is a local public health plan that provides health care benefits to San Mateo County's historically underserved residents. Current membership is approximately 100,000. Members of HPSM receive benefits through Medi-Cal, CareAdvantage, Healthy Families, Healthy Kids, HealthWorx, and San Mateo County ACE/MCE programs. HPSM is governed by the San Mateo Health Commission. Members of the Commission represent community advocates, physicians, pharmacists, hospitals, and elected officials who serve on the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors. At HPSM, we fight to make a difference in our community, to turn our vision of better health into a reality. Learn more at www.hpsm.org.