

# HealthChoice

**HealthChoice** is Maryland's statewide managed care program that began in 1997. The *HealthChoice* program provides healthcare to most Medicaid enrollees.

## Who is eligible for HealthChoice?

The *HealthChoice* program is for Medicaid eligible individuals. Approximately 75% of Medicaid members are in *HealthChoice*.

## What Services are covered by HealthChoice? Covered services include:

- ✓ inpatient and outpatient hospital care
- ✓ physician care
- ✓ laboratory and x-ray services
- ✓ nursing home and home health care
- ✓ medical supplies
- ✓ services for children under early and periodic screening, diagnosis, and treatment program (EPSDT)
- ✓ clinic services
- ✓ prescription drugs
- ✓ dental care

## How do I enroll in the HealthChoice Program?

If you qualify for Medicaid because you receive payments from either Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Temporary Cash Assistance (TCA), or as a result of the Medicaid application process, you would likely be eligible for *HealthChoice*. If eligible for *HealthChoice*, you will be sent materials regarding each Managed Care Organization (MCO) available in your county of residence so that you can choose your own provider. The information packet that you receive will include:

- the names and addresses of participating providers;
- a schedule of the benefits offered, including any benefits offered beyond the basic required package;
- a narrative description of the clinical expertise and experience of the MCO's network for special needs populations;
- any forms necessary to select an MCO (including a health risk assessment form), and;
- the toll-free telephone number of the enrollment unit.

## How soon do I have to choose an MCO?

When you are found eligible, you have 21 days to select an MCO from the day the Department of Health & Mental Hygiene mails the eligibility notification and information packet to you. You will be issued a fee-for-service Medical Assistance card to use until you are actually enrolled in the MCO that you select. Use this card until you receive your **HealthChoice** card with a new member enrollment packet. If the recipient is a child in foster care or kinship, you have 60 days. **If you do not pick an MCO, the State will pick one for you.** If you select a specific primary care provider when you choose your MCO, the MCO is advised of this choice. Within 10 days of the effective date of enrollment, an MCO will notify the enrollee of their Primary Care Provider (PCP) assignment. **HealthChoice requires** you to reapply every year.

**For more information, please call: (410) 649-0512**

