



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Medica Foundation Provides \$100,000 Grant to Portico Healthnet

Funding will help provide access to health coverage through MNsure

Minnetonka, Minn.—The Medica Foundation today announced a \$100,000 grant to Portico Healthnet, a nonprofit organization working to reduce the number of people without coverage for health care services.

Portico has MNsure-certified navigators on staff to help individuals and families apply for coverage on the MNsure website. The Medica Foundation grant will be used to provide skilled navigator support to help more than 7,000 vulnerable Minnesotans submit applications for health care coverage through MNsure.

Since MNsure's rollout, demands for Portico's navigator and application assistance have increased dramatically. As a result, Portico expects to serve over 17,000 people annually through various stages of the screening and enrollment process. The goal is to improve the health of families and children in the metro area and also build a statewide infrastructure to increase access to consistent, on-going sources of care.

“Organizations like Portico play a critical role in helping reduce the number of uninsured people in Minnesota,” said Rob Longendyke, executive director of the Medica Foundation. “The Medica Foundation is providing this grant to support the important work that they do, which helps improve access to health care and improves the health of the individuals served by Portico.”

“Portico Healthnet is delighted with this generous commitment of support from the Medica Foundation, said Debra Holmgren, President of Portico Healthnet. “Medica's grant support at this critical time will help a great deal as Portico works to become the Center of Excellence for outreach and enrollment services in the Twin Cities and greater Minnesota.”

About the Medica Foundation

The Medica Foundation is a nonprofit, charitable grant-making foundation. It is an affiliate of Medica Health Plans, a Minnesota-based nonprofit HMO. The Medica Foundation generally seeks to fund community-based programs and initiatives that can provide sustainable, measurable improvements in the availability, access and quality of healthcare. Email: foundation@medica.com; Phone: 952/992-2060.

About Medica

Medica is a health services company headquartered in Minneapolis and active in the Upper Midwest. With approximately 1.5 million members, the non-profit company provides health care coverage in the employer, individual, Medicaid, Medicare and Medicare Part D markets in Minnesota and a growing number of counties in North Dakota, South Dakota and Wisconsin. Medica also offers national network coverage to employers who also have employees outside the Medica regional network.

Medica's vision is to become the community's health plan of choice, trusted for its integrity, respected for its service, and admired for its commitment to innovation and efficiency.

About Portico Healthnet

Portico Healthnet is a nonprofit health and human services organization that helps uninsured Minnesotans access affordable health coverage and care. Since 1995, over 10,000 uninsured children and adults have accessed health care services through Portico's safety-net coverage program, and nearly 17,000 others have been enrolled in public coverage programs with assistance from Portico Healthnet.

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