



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

June 16, 2015

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**SAFETY NET HEALTH PLANS CALL FOR REFINEMENTS TO AFFORDABLE CARE ACT
TO INFORM CONSUMER CHOICE, ASSURE FAIR COMPETITION IN MARKETPLACES**

WASHINGTON— The Association for Community Affiliated Plans (ACAP) today issued a set of recommendations to improve the delivery of health coverage under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) in an effort to smooth the provisions of the Act and make it work better going forward.

“Millions of Americans have health coverage today thanks to the Affordable Care Act, and that alone is a giant step forward,” said ACAP CEO Margaret A. Murray. “But it’s not enough. Safety Net Health Plans have been on the forefront of delivering care to many of the millions of Americans receiving coverage, and have seen what’s worked well – which, to be clear, is quite a lot – and what needs improvement.”

Among the recommendations laid out today is a sustained call to enact a guarantee of 12-month continuous enrollment in Medicaid and CHIP to reduce gaps in Medicaid coverage, improve health outcomes, and lower administrative burden on states and providers. Two bills currently before Congress—H.R. 700 and S. 428, both named the *Stabilize Medicaid and CHIP Coverage Act*, would provide 12-month continuous enrollment.

Other recommendations are aimed at maintaining access through extension of the Primary Care Provider rate increase, refinements to Marketplace Web sites to better facilitate consumer choice, assure meaningful choice for consumers as they shop for coverage on the Marketplaces, and more.

“These recommendations, if implemented, would go a long way towards better realizing health reform’s goal of providing a stable, reliable source of coverage for people no matter their incomes,” added Murray. “Health reform doesn’t end with the ACA. We’re ready to work with Congress and the Administration to get the work done that needs to happen between now and then.”

Read the recommendations in full at www.communityplans.net.

About ACAP

ACAP represents 59 nonprofit Safety Net Health Plans in 24 states, which collectively serve more than fifteen million people enrolled in Medicaid, Medicare, the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP), and other health programs. For more information, visit www.communityplans.net.

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