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*The collective voice of Long Island's  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **NSHC Navigators Help Individuals/Businesses Shop the New Insurance Marketplace**

(Hauppauge, NY . . . October 1, 2013) Uninsured Long Islanders and small businesses (fewer than 50 employees) beginning today can call the **Nassau-Suffolk Hospital Council (NSHC) Navigator Agency Office** (631-435-3000 or 631-656-9783) to inquire about health insurance offered on the new marketplace and/or stop by NSHC's Navigator Office today between the hours of 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. and meet with an in-person navigator. Go to the NSHC's dedicated enrollment website – [www.coverage4healthcare.com](http://www.coverage4healthcare.com) – for a calendar listing of other dates and sites scheduled throughout Nassau and Suffolk counties. Many sites are open non-traditional hours.

NSHC is one of three lead Navigator Agencies appointed by the New York State Department of Health to provide individuals and businesses on Long Island with enrollment assistance in the new marketplace. State-trained navigators will assist individuals, businesses, and families in understanding insurance options offered on the marketplace and in purchasing insurance. Navigators, some of whom are bi-lingual, will assist individuals in completing the application for coverage, and will determine whether their income levels and family size qualify them for subsidized insurance premiums, Medicaid coverage, or Child Health Plus enrollment. The navigators will also help small business owners determine if they are eligible for any tax credits.

**NSHC President/CEO, Kevin Dahill** - *"Our enrollment staff is ready and well-trained to assist individuals and businesses in comparing insurance options and plans and to help them select a plan that best meets their health needs and budget. Because of the marketplace, Long Island's nearly 400,000 uninsured will have the chance to purchase affordable health insurance for the very first time."*

**NSHC Navigator Program Director, Stacy Villagran** – *"I am optimistic about the success of our enrollment program. The NSHC Navigator Agency staff has 13 years of enrollment experience with the state's Facilitated Enrollment Program. They will seamlessly transition their skills and knowledge to serve as in-person navigators for the new marketplace."*

Individuals and business owners also can shop the exchange online at [www.nystateofhealth.ny.us](http://www.nystateofhealth.ny.us) or call the state's customer service line at 1-855-355-5777.

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