



1383 Veterans Memorial Highway, Suite 26  
Hauppauge, NY 11788  
631-435-3000 Fax: 631-435-2343  
www.nshc.org

*The collective voice of Long Island's  
not-for-profit and public hospitals*

Contact: Janine Logan, Director of Communications; 631-963-4156; Cell: 631-334-8321

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## ***Health Insurance Marketplace Opens for Season Two***

### ***NSHC Navigator Agency staff service consumers at community health fair***

(Hauppauge, NY . . . November 18, 2014) Applicants clamored around the Nassau-Suffolk Hospital Council's (NSHC) enrollment table at a community health fair held at Suffolk County Community College, November 15, 2014, eager to speak with a state-certified navigator about insurance options available in season two of the New York State of Health insurance marketplace. November 15<sup>th</sup> marked the official opening of the 2015 enrollment season. The "Healthy U" fair was organized by John T. Mather Memorial Hospital.

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

Nearly 100 community residents were serviced by NSHC navigators during the four-hour November 15th open enrollment session. NSHC enrollers are available for in-person assistance at select sites and dates throughout the duration of the marketplace's open enrollment season, which ends February 15, 2015. Go to the NSHC 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. Enrollment is on a first come, first serve basis – no appointments necessary. Many sites are open non-traditional hours. Applicants can also enroll by phone through the marketplace's customer service center 1-855-355-5777 or online at [www.nystateofhealth.ny.gov](http://www.nystateofhealth.ny.gov). NSHC's enrollment office direct phone line is 631-656-9783.

"We expect to see a steady stream of applicants throughout the next three months," said Stacy Villagran, who directs the NSHC Navigator Program. "Our goal is to ensure that those eligible for re-enrollment complete the process and that remaining uninsured individuals secure coverage that is right for them and their family situation."

New this year is an online Plan and Compare Guide that allows consumers to shop for plans and get a personalized quote without having to enter personal information and complete an application. Four metal tier levels – Bronze, silver, gold, platinum – continue. Monthly premiums, deductibles, and co-insurance amounts vary between tiers and plans.

***(MORE – See Photos Page 2)***

*Health insurance enrollment . . . page 2*



**ENROLLMENT IN ACTION . . . NSHC navigators answer questions, review health plan choices, and enroll individuals on-the-spot at the November 15, 2014 “Healthy U” community health fair held at Suffolk County Community College. November 15<sup>th</sup> marked the opening day of season two of the New York State of Health insurance marketplace. The 2015 enrollment season ends February 15, 2015.**

###