



Mark B. Carter
Chief Executive Officer
Passport Health Plan
Press Conference, July 7, 2011

Remarks

On behalf of the provider community, members, advocates and employees that make up Passport Health Plan, we are pleased to have been selected to continue to provide health care services to more than 170,000 members in our region. Bill Wagner, Chairman of the Board and Executive Director of Louisville's largest safety net provider, Family Health Centers, is here today representing the Passport community.

Like the other Plans represented here today, we have worked closely with the Cabinet for Health and Family Services to find ways to reduce the cost of care funded by the citizens of the Commonwealth and the nation. The terms of our contract, representing \$36.7 million in savings, are clear evidence of our commitment to be part of the solution sought by Governor Beshear.

At the same time, Passport is unique as a provider-sponsored health plan that has been operating in the Commonwealth of Kentucky for over 13 years. It was created in 1997 with two goals in mind: to improve health outcomes for members and to control rising costs in the Medicaid program. Let me make three very important points about Passport:

- First, Passport, a Kentucky-based non-profit corporation, represents a collaboration of providers numbering in excess of 3,000 stretching across a 16 county region. Those providers play a role in the Plan's governance and quality initiatives, member satisfaction, and cost control as evidenced by our high national ranking from the National Committee on Quality Assurance. This collaboration is clearly aligned with federal initiatives focused on "accountable care".
- Second, our provider sponsors are committed to maintaining a robust medical safety net and a financially viable medical school; two underappreciated and under-funded health care provider groups that play the most prominent role in the access of care to the poor in the greater Louisville area.
- Finally, we have made many changes at Passport recently, including restructuring the Plan's governance, management and daily operations to better meet the evolving requirements of our contract and the needs of our members and providers.

The quality of care provided to our members and our service to our providers are two things that have never been questioned about Passport. That commitment remains steadfast and all of us, with our provider partners making up Passport Health Plan, look forward to working with the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Thank you.

