



# **Implementation of the Affordable Care Act: Opportunities for Collaboration and Partnership**

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# Priorities of HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius

## Strategic Initiatives

- Transform Health Care
- Implement Affordable Care Act
- Implement the Recovery Act
- Promote Early Childhood Health and Development
- Help Americans Achieve and Maintain Healthy Weight
- Prevent and Reduce Tobacco Use
- Protect the Health and Safety of Americans in Public Health Emergencies



# Priorities of HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius Strategic Initiatives

- Accelerate the Process of Scientific Discovery to Improve Patient Care.
- Implement a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Food Safety Program.
- Ensure Program Integrity and Responsible Stewardship.



# Inter-Agency Collaboration & Transparency

- **Web Portal –**  
**[www.healthcare.gov/www.cuidadodesalud.gov](http://www.healthcare.gov/www.cuidadodesalud.gov)**  
Comprehensive one-stop: Updated with valuable information on an ongoing basis.
- **Community Health Data Initiative (CHDI)**  
Putting Data and Innovation to Work to Help Communities and Consumers Improve Health.  
Massive collections of data will be made available in accessible formats that allow and encourage the fullest use of data, ensuring greater transparency of programs and greater accountability for results.



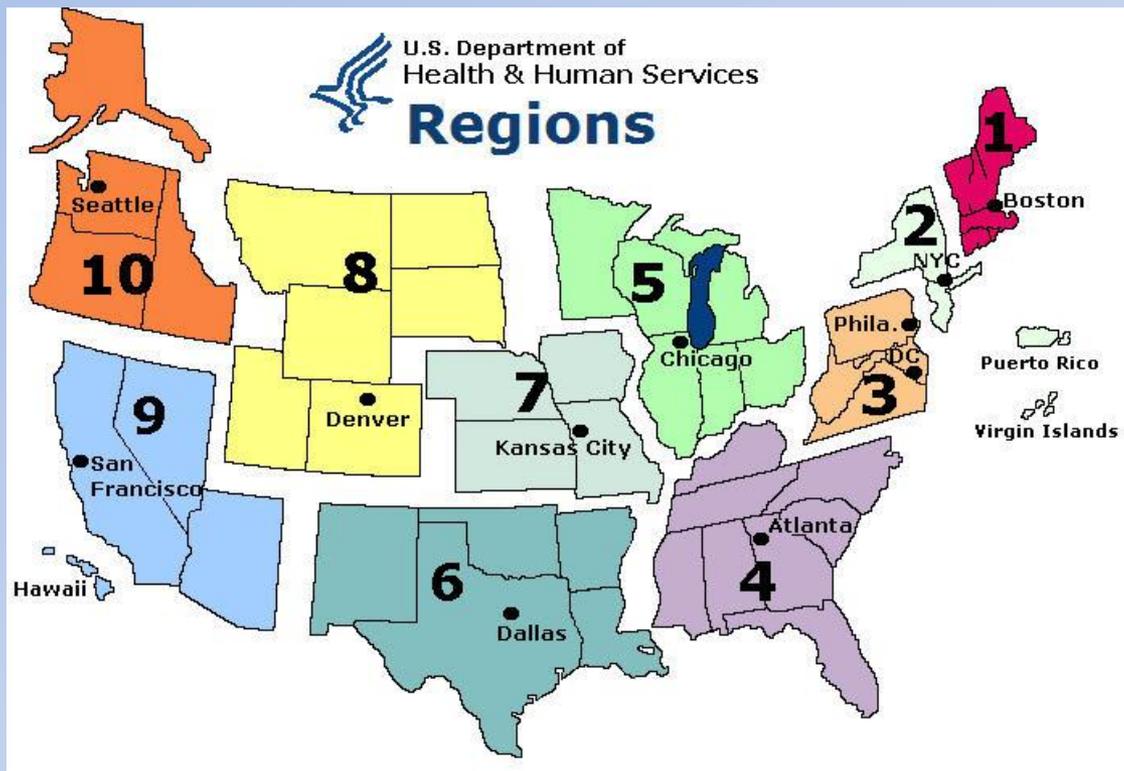
# A New Reality

*“After a year of striving, after a year of debate, after a historic vote, health care reform is no longer an unmet promise. It is the law of the land.”*

President Barack Obama  
March 23, 2010



# HHS Regional Offices





# Office of the Regional Director

- Role of the Regional Director
  - Implementation of health care reform is the number one priority in Region IX (Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, American Samoa, Guam, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, and Republic of Palau).



# Office of the Regional Director

- Agency Collaboration
  - Work across regional office and among all regions to:
    - **Collaborate and coordinate on issues;**
    - **Troubleshoot potential problems;**
    - **Partner on events and public affairs; and**
    - **Educate the public on the benefits of healthcare reform**
      - **Healthcare.gov**
      - **CuidadodeSalud.gov (Spanish)**
  - Represent & communicate health care policies.
    - **Work to implement reforms with State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Officials and Non-Governmental External Stakeholders.**
  - Notification of grants and other funding opportunities.



# Promoting Prevention and Improving Public Health

- Invests in a national prevention and public health fund and strategy.
- **Prevention and Public Health Fund (\$1.25 Billion)** in 2010 and 2011 for prevention and to expand primary care workforce.
- Removes financial barriers to preventive care and encourage prevention.
- Promotes prevention and wellness for Seniors and older Americans.
- Nutrition labeling.



# Promoting Prevention and Improving Public Health

- Educates individuals and communities on disease prevention and health promotion.
- Awards grants that promote individual community health.
- Promotes workplace wellness.
- Improves access to preventive services for Medicaid participants.
- Other individual incentives.



# Investing in Our Nation's Health Care Workforce

- Invests in the National Health Service Corps.
- Reauthorizes and improves scholarship and loan repayment programs.
- Increases workforce diversity.
- Develops workforce planning and analysis.
- Incentivize primary care and practice in underserved areas.



# A New Focus on Education and Worker Training

- Increasing access to providers in underserved areas.
- Focus on career training.
- Expanding tax benefits to health professionals working in underserved areas.
- Building primary care capacity through Medicare and Medicaid.
- Providing financial assistance for students.
- Making health care education more accessible.



# Planning for Exchanges

- 2010: Exchange planning grants, IT systems & federal policymaking.
- 2011: States enact legislation & federal rules issued.
- 2012: States notify HHS of intent to run exchanges and begin to qualify plans.
- 2013: Exchanges bring IT systems online and ensure operation before enrollment.
- January 1, 2014: Exchange-provided coverage is in effect, tax credits begin.



# Essential Benefits

- Department of Labor – “Typical” Employer
  - March 2011 to Department of Health and Human Services
- Department of Health and Human Services - Institute of Medicine
  - February 2011 and On-Going
- Department of Health and Human Services – Notice of Proposed Rulemaking
  - Fall 2011



# Immediate Benefits for California

- 503,000 small businesses in California can be helped by the new small business tax credit.
- 382,000 Medicare beneficiaries in California that hit the donut hole, or gap in Medicare Part D coverage, will receive or have received the \$250 rebate check.
- 430,000 people from California retired before they were eligible for Medicare that could now be covered by the Early Retiree Reinsurance Program.
- 19 million residents in California with private insurance will no longer have lifetime coverage limits.
- 196,000 individuals in California can now have quality affordable coverage through their parent's insurance policy.
- \$761 million federal dollars are available to California to provide coverage for uninsured residents with pre-existing medical conditions.



# *Let's Move!* Campaign

- The Regional Offices of Health and Human Services are working with cities and towns to join the First Lady's Office to eliminate childhood obesity in a generation
- Pillars of Campaign:
  - Help Parents Make Healthy Family Choices
  - Create Healthy Schools
  - Provide Access to Healthy and Affordable Food
  - Promote Physical Activity



# Contact Information

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