

## NEWS RELEASE

Sherlita Amler, MD, Commissioner, Dept of Health

Ned McCormack, Communications Director

Contact: Caren Halbfinger (914) 813-5013 / after hours: 813-5000

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 2, 2017**

### **FREE HELP WITH HEALTH INSURANCE ENROLLMENT IS AVAILABLE Open Enrollment for NY State of Health, the Official Health Plan Marketplace Now Underway**

Free assistance is available to help residents and small businesses enroll or renew their health coverage with NY State of Health, the official health plan Marketplace. The Westchester County Department of Health Navigator Program offers in-person assistance in multiple languages at no charge.

The 2018 Open Enrollment period for the Marketplace began yesterday, November 1<sup>st</sup> and runs through January 31<sup>st</sup> for all new applicants. For health coverage to begin on January 1<sup>st</sup>, residents must enroll in a plan by December 15<sup>th</sup>.

Residents who are currently enrolled in the Marketplace should receive information about renewing their coverage for 2018 directly from NY State of Health. Open Enrollment for individuals renewing their health coverage begins on November 16<sup>th</sup>.

County residents wishing to enroll in a Qualified Health Plan (QHP) can do so during the Open Enrollment period. Enrollment in Medicaid, Child Health Plus, the Essential Plan and the Small Business Marketplace is available all year round.

The public can meet with Navigators at 24 sites across the county including health department offices, libraries, community based organizations and government agencies. Weekday, evening and weekend hours are available. For more information on navigator services, locations or to schedule an appointment, call (914) 995-6350 or email [hnav@westchestergov.com](mailto:hnav@westchestergov.com).

To learn more about health coverage, go to [www.nystateofhealth.ny.gov](http://www.nystateofhealth.ny.gov) or call 1-855-355-5777. The NY State of Health customer service hours are Monday to Friday, 8am-8pm, and Saturday, 9am-1pm.

For more health information, like us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/wchealthdept](http://www.facebook.com/wchealthdept), follow us on Twitter @wchealthdept or visit us at [www.westchestergov.com/health](http://www.westchestergov.com/health).