



NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Michelle Davidson
Tel: 215-863-6364
mdavidson@amerihealthcaritas.com

**AmeriHealth Caritas Honored for Supporting Local and Disadvantaged Businesses
By Pennsylvania-Delaware-New Jersey Minority Supplier Development Council**

*National Leader in Health Care Solutions for Those Most In Need
Recognized for its Supplier Diversity Program*

Philadelphia, Pa. —As it has grown into a national leader in Medicaid managed care and other health care solutions for those most in need, AmeriHealth Caritas Family of Companies has remained committed to growing and improving the individual communities it serves, including its financial and professional support of local and disadvantaged businesses. AmeriHealth Caritas was recently recognized for this commitment when it received the 2013 Regional Corporation of the Year award from the Pennsylvania-New Jersey-Delaware Minority Supplier Development Council (MSDC).

The Corporation of the Year award recognizes a company's exemplary achievements in the area of minority supplier development. This award is regarded as the most significant honor to a major corporation for the utilization of Asian, Black, Hispanic and Native American suppliers. In winning the award, a company demonstrates exceptional strength in areas critical to maintaining a solid minority supplier development process.

Companies were nominated for the award by MSDC-member suppliers. AmeriHealth Caritas was chosen from among four finalists, judged by a nomination panel on four criteria: policies, procurement, minority business development and leadership.

"Thriving businesses can turn around even our most disadvantaged communities. This award recognizes companies in the region who advance this cause," said Wade Colclough, president of the Pennsylvania-New Jersey-Delaware MSDC. "We applaud AmeriHealth Caritas for its efforts to build healthy, strong communities through its support of minority-owned businesses."

Since its founding as Mercy Health Plan in 1982, AmeriHealth Caritas has a proven track record of purchasing from and mentoring local businesses, in particular those owned and operated by often overlooked populations. These initiatives make up its supplier diversity program, which has benefitted the family of companies and the markets served by its lines of business.

AmeriHealth Caritas has spent more than \$100 million since 2007 in corporate purchasing from businesses owned by women, minorities and disabled veterans. AmeriHealth Caritas leaders also donate time to counsel numerous small businesses. This professional support helps small “protégé” companies to develop the management expertise they need to grow, which, in turn, produces new jobs and other economic benefits for the communities they serve.

“Our mission to build healthy communities is reflected in every aspect of our operations, including the vendors we buy from,” said Tim Cronin, vice president, sourcing for AmeriHealth Caritas. “Supporting local and disadvantaged businesses that are often overlooked provides great returns for the cities and towns we serve, and we are honored that MSDC has recognized us for this effort.”

The Pennsylvania-New-Jersey-Delaware MSDC is one of 37 regional councils of the National Minority Supplier Development Council (NMSDC), which aims to better connect corporate America and minority-owned businesses.

About AmeriHealth Caritas

AmeriHealth Caritas is one of the nation’s leaders in health care solutions for those most in need. AmeriHealth Caritas operates in 15 states and the District of Columbia, and serves more than 4.8 million Medicaid, Medicare and CHIP members through its integrated managed care products, pharmaceutical benefit management services, behavioral health services and other administrative services. Headquartered in Philadelphia, AmeriHealth Caritas is a mission-driven company with 30 years of experience serving low-income and chronically ill populations. For more information, visit www.amerhealthcaritas.com.

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