

OGB partnership with DHH facilitates access to health care for Louisiana children



Effective June 1, Louisiana children whose families sign up for the expanded Louisiana Children's Health Insurance Program -

known as the LaCHIP Affordable Plan - can now access the same statewide network of doctors, hospitals and other medical providers available to state employees enrolled in the state Office of Group Benefits' PPO health plan.

The LaCHIP Affordable Plan utilizes an innovative partnership between the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals and OGB to deliver health benefits to Louisiana children under age 19 in families with annual incomes between 200 and 250 percent of the federal poverty level.

"We knew DHH was looking for a third-party administrator with a comprehensive in-state provider network, good customer service, low overhead and fast claims payments," noted OGB chief executive officer Tommy D. Teague. "We are proud that our PPO platform was chosen to deliver this important program to Louisiana children who otherwise might not have access to health care."

Benefits for children enrolled in the LaCHIP Affordable Plan are tied to OGB's familiar PPO plan of benefits. Enrollees are mailed LaCHIP Affordable Plan ID cards to present to providers and pharmacies. Provider reimbursement is the same as OGB's PPO plan contracts and providers can access claim, eligibility and benefit information exactly as they do for PPO plan members.

Additional information about the LaCHIP program is available online via the DHH website at www.lachip.org.