

# NAVIGATOR NEWS



We hope you've been enjoying the longer days and the approach of summer. There's a lot going on in the world, so remember to carve out a little time each day to take a deep breath, relax, and be thankful for all the good around you.

Your work makes a profound difference. This Navigator Newsletter is our way of sharing important updates, events, and resources to support you in providing your clients with the best possible service.

In this edition, we touch on several key areas where CHPW is working to support you and our members—many of whom are also your clients:

- **Upcoming Apple Health (Medicaid) eligibility changes** and how to prepare
- **Preventive care education** to help members stay healthy
- **The role of CHPW's Community Health Workers**

## Looking ahead to Medicaid eligibility changes (H.R. 1)



There's a lot to unpack in [H.R. 1](#), the new federal law that adds new eligibility and renewal requirements and limits to Medicaid. Federal and state agencies are still working out many implementation details, but here's a high-level snapshot of three important changes your Apple Health clients should be aware of—and when they take effect:

### 1. Work requirements (January 2027)

People enrolled in **Apple Health for Adults** must meet **80 hours per month** of work, job training, or community engagement to keep coverage (with exemptions available for individuals with disabilities, caregiving responsibilities, and students). *Note this change **only applies to Apple Health for Adults**, Other Apple Health categories, such as Apple Health for Kids and Apple Health for Families, are not affected.*

### 2. More frequent eligibility checks (January 2027)

People on Apple Health for Adults will have to renew their coverage **every six months** instead of twelve months. *This change **only applies to Apple Health for Adults**.*

### 3. Immigrant eligibility changes (October 1, 2026)

Many immigrants who currently qualify—including refugees and asylees—will no longer be eligible for federally funded Medicaid coverage. Only three immigrant groups will remain eligible:

- Green card holders
- Cuban/Haitian entrants
- COFA islanders

This change applies to all federally funded Medicaid programs, not just Apple Health for Adults.

Nothing is changing immediately. **The most helpful step your clients can take today** is to log in to [Washington Healthplanfinder](#) and verify that their mailing address, phone number, and email are up-to-date, so they do not miss crucial paperwork and notifications down the road.

The Health Care Authority (HCA) has an [overview of the changes](#) and frequently asked questions on its website.

At CHPW, we're preparing a host of educational materials and events—including digital toolkits, flyers, videos, FAQs, webinars, and in-person presentations—to help guide members, providers, navigators, and community organizations through these changes.

We'll be sure to share more details as they become available.

## Preventive care: The importance of annual visits, vaccines, and screenings



Annual checkups, recommended vaccines, and routine cancer screenings go a long way in keeping people healthy. At CHPW, we've been reminding our members of the importance of preventive care through a series of educational newsletters, videos, and articles, including this blog post: [Be Well: Annual physical, annual checkup, wellness visit: What's the difference?](#)

As a reminder, CHPW members can earn gift cards for completing preventive visits and key cancer screenings through our [MemberFirst™](#) and [ChildrenFirst™ Well-Child](#) rewards programs.

As a health care navigator, you are uniquely positioned to remind Apple Health clients that preventive care costs them \$0, help them schedule appointments, and overcome barriers like language or transportation. Your guidance can make a big difference in someone's life!

Don't forget to check out our [Navigator Center](#) for easy access to forms, tools, flyers, and brochures related to our preventive care rewards programs and other benefits.

## CHPW team highlight: Community Health Workers (CHWs)

Care doesn't stop at the doctor's office. Our dedicated team of Community Health Workers assists members in all sorts of "everyday life" ways—finding food, lining up a ride to the pharmacy, applying for SNAP benefits, and more.

All our CHWs live and work in the same communities they serve, helping bridge the gap between the health care system and a member's daily life. They often have office hours at local Community Health Clinics and community-based organizations to assist members directly.

Recently, a CHPW CHW in King County helped a young man turn his life around. The member had been living mostly out of his car and struggling to find steady work due to chronic pain from an old injury.

The CHW met with the member, helped him apply for Supplemental Security Income (SSI), and assisted him in enrolling at a nearby technical college to study automotive technology. The CHW also helped the member fill out financial aid forms and connected him to student housing.

The member was ecstatic. He shared that before meeting the CHW, he had no idea where to turn for help.

Want to find out more about how our CHWs can assist you in helping CHPW members? Call CHPW Community Support Services at [1-866-418-7006](#) or email them at [CSSRequests@chpw.org](#).

Our CHWs aren't the only ones helping members right in their communities.

Our team of regional Account Executives also spend a lot of their time supporting members over the phone or in person. They are available to partner with you one-on-one or at events and workshops to help clients retain coverage as new Apple Health eligibility rules roll out.

If you're interested in collaborating, reach out to them at [Outreach@chpw.org](#)

## And lastly...

Check out our latest CHPW Connections articles:

[How to help children build healthy digital habits](#)

[What is a doula? A guide to doulas for expecting or new parents](#)

[Annual physical, annual checkup, wellness visit: What's the difference?](#)

Thank you for all the important work that you do every day to support the health of our members and our communities. If you have questions, need resources, or want customized support, don't hesitate to reach out to your local CHPW contact—or stop by and say hello if you see us at your clinic!

Until next time,

**Your CHPW Team**

*Navigator News features important news, updates, and resources to help you and your clients get affordable, quality health care. Like what you see? Share this newsletter with your colleagues! You can subscribe (or unsubscribe) to this newsletter by emailing your request to [navigatornews@chpw.org](#).*

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