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For Immediate Release

As New York Not-For-Profits Respond to Rising Health Costs, Workmen's Circle Organization Launches New Low Cost Plan for Members

www.HealthyCircle.org

New York, NY June 8, 2010 -- With health insurance costs continuing on an upward spiral, one resourceful not-for-profit, Workmen's Circle, is responding to the needs of millions of New York City residents with the introduction of high-quality, lower-cost health coverage through Atlantis Health Systems.

The new offering, exclusively available to Workmen's Circle members, provides access to more than 15,000 private practice physicians and many hospitals at savings of up to 30 percent over comparable plans. Doctor office visits under the plan require co-pays as low as \$10. Currently, the plan is only available to members who live in New York City.

Offering private medical coverage to its members is nothing new for the Workmen's Circle organization. Early in the twentieth century, it was the first Jewish organization to offer new immigrants direct medical care and health benefits at low costs, helping the organization grow to more than 100,000 members. Even today, basic membership dues remain as low as \$82.

According to Ann Toback, the organization's Executive Director, "Our members, like all New Yorkers, are under siege, facing some of the highest healthcare premiums in the nation in the midst of a difficult economy. This plan offers a powerful benefit to both current and new members. We see it as an opportunity to continue our work of providing affordable, high quality health coverage to our members." Ms. Toback continued: "Progressive New Yorkers who are committed to equitable and affordable healthcare can directly benefit from this new coverage as they join together to support the mission of Workmen's Circle."

Workmen's Circle, which expects to attract new members through the plan, is one of several not-for profits that are responding to the current crisis in health care insurance costs, According to the Commonwealth Fund, a private foundation, 60 percent of all Americans find it difficult or impossible to locate a health insurance plan they can afford. In New York, healthcare premiums are among the highest in the nation, with 2.5 million residents living with no health coverage at all.

"Workmen's Circle holds to the conviction that adequate healthcare coverage is one of our rights as Americans," said Ms. Toback. "Consistent with the heritage of this organization, we are doing what we can to make it affordable for all."



New York Not-For-Profits Respond to Rising Health Costs

The new Workmen's Circle Health Plan is provided through Atlantis Health Systems, an insurance firm founded by New York physicians with the goal of advancing the cost-effective delivery of high quality health care in New York City.

For a quick and simple online quote, visit www.healthycircle.org. For more information on the plan and becoming a member of Workmen's Circle, please visit www.circle.org.

The Workmen's Circle/Arbeter Ring

In 2010 The Workmen's Circle announced the launch of a new educational movement to develop the next generation of progressive American Jewish activists. Workmen's Circle enters its second century with a vision and mission promoting progressive American Jewish identity through a new education model for life-long learning, Jewish culture and social justice activism. For updates on the latest developments, visit www.circle.org.
