



Black Health Coalition of Wisconsin

3020 West Vliet Street • Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53208

Phone : (414) 933-0064 • Fax: (414) 933-0084



BHCW's Affordable Care Act (ACA) Advocacy

(Current as of September 25, 2013)

Organizational Background

The Black Health Coalition of Wisconsin, Inc. (BHCW) is a group of local organizations and individuals whose collaborative goal is to address the health problems of African Americans. The primary objective of the Coalition is to improve the health status of African Americans in the State of Wisconsin and to ensure equitable and comprehensive healthcare for all people. BHCW has been working toward this end since October 1988. The organization has been successful at providing culturally appropriate services through its community driven programs. Current programs include the Milwaukee Healthy Beginnings Project (MHBP) which has been providing services to pregnant and post partum women in the Milwaukee County Jail since 2000; the African American HIV/AIDS Project, and the Wisconsin African American Eliminating Health Disparities Institute

BHCW's Affordable Care Act Activity

Black Health Coalition of Wisconsin (BHCW) is one of the few organizations in the Milwaukee area that received an Affordable Care Act (ACA) Navigator grant from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services through the National Healthy Start Association. This grant allows BHCW to provide ACA related outreach, education and enrollment assistance to anyone in Milwaukee County. BHCW is focusing, however, on the Inner City North which has the highest numbers of people below the poverty level and the highest uninsured populations for the City of Milwaukee.

Proposed Use of Milwaukee County ACA Funding

The Navigator grant only allows for two FTEs to provide services to all of Milwaukee County. It has been estimated that between 100,000 to 120,000 people in Milwaukee County will need assistance to enroll in the ACA Marketplace Exchanges. With this in mind, BHCW like to expand its training and educational sessions to a larger portion of the Milwaukee County organizations and residents. These efforts have already begun, but resources are needed to expand our efforts. These funds will also allow us to expand our overall enrollment assistance, but will specifically allow us to focus on the inner city south side of Milwaukee which has a large Hispanic population. BHCW will contract with a Hispanic community based organization to provide these services.
