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September 9, 2014

## **\$2.1 Million Navigator Grant Will Allow Seedco to Continue to Help Georgians Access Health Insurance**

Seedco has been awarded a second-year \$2,188,392 grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to provide healthcare consumer assistance in Georgia.

Seedco will continue to lead a consortium of 12 partners that will conduct outreach and education activities to help make Georgians aware of new health insurance options and of the benefits of being insured. The second-year funding from HHS will support navigators throughout Georgia who will be trained to provide consumers with in-person assistance in a culturally competent manner, to inform consumers about the Health Insurance Marketplace, qualified health plans, Medicaid and the PeachCare for Kids. Navigators are trained to help consumers select the health insurance option that is best for themselves and their families and to help consumers understand how to use their insurance. In addition, navigators will assist consumers in determining if they are eligible for federal tax credits to subsidize the cost of health insurance.

Seedco is a national non-profit organization that advances economic opportunity for people, businesses and communities in need. Seedco operates Navigator programs in four states: Georgia, New York, Tennessee and Maryland. "Seedco is thrilled to continue its work to help Georgians access health insurance" said Seedco President and CEO Barbara Gunn, "With a strong and diverse group of partners, and screening locations throughout the state, we are prepared to connect an even broader array of consumers with health insurance during the second program year," said, Executive Vice President Ben Thomases.

The following organizations are members of the consortium that received the grant award:

- Boat People SOS
- Center for Black Women's Wellness
- Emory-Grady Urban Health Initiative
- Georgia Equality & The Health Initiative
- Georgia Legal Services
- Georgia Micro Enterprise Network
- Georgia Watch
- Georgians for a Healthy Future
- Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition
- Latin American Association
- Quality Med-Care Inc.
- Spring Creek Health Cooperative

As the leader of the consortium, Seedco will continue to directly employ several navigators statewide and oversee all aspects of the program, providing technical assistance, financial oversight, privacy and compliance protocols and strategic coordination for the partners. Each member of the partnership has a strong history of providing services to populations in Georgia that are likely to be uninsured. Seedco will



continue to build on the capacity of their vast network of strategically situated affiliates and will add new organizations and referral sources to its web of community –based organizations, academic institutions, government agencies, and private companies, ensuring a broad and deep coverage of target communities in its second year of the grant.

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