



**Executive Office of the Mayor  
Vaughn D. Spencer**

*Contact Information:*

Jessica Didow  
610-655-6234  
media@readingpa.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Mayor Spencer Says The Affordable Care Act is Working for Reading**

Reading, PA – March 20, 2015 – By the close of this year’s Open Enrollment, 14, 143 consumers from the Reading, PA area had selected plans or were automatically re-enrolled through the Health Insurance Marketplace.

These citizens, along with about 11.7 million other Americans who got covered during this year’s Open Enrollment sent a powerful message: The Affordable Care Act is working, and the health coverage offered on the Health Insurance Marketplace is a product that consumers need, want and like.

This year’s Marketplace offered quality insurance plans—and the financial and health security that comes with coverage—at a price they could afford. Here in Pennsylvania, 80 percent of those who signed up on the Marketplace qualified for an average tax credit of \$226 per month and 51 percent paid \$100 or less per month after tax credits. In Pennsylvania, 81 percent of individuals with a Marketplace plan selection had the option of selecting a plan for \$100 or less per month.

Mayor Spencer said, “The Affordable Care Act is now an important part of the everyday lives of Pennsylvanians. They finally have the financial and health security that comes with affordable health coverage.”

One week out from the five-year anniversary of the signing of the Affordable Care Act, HHS is announcing that about 16.4 million uninsured people have gained health coverage since the law’s passage – the largest change in the uninsured in four decades.

Altogether, the Affordable Care Act is not just about a new way to buy insurance; it’s about a health system that prioritizes access, affordability and quality for everyone.

Open Enrollment in the Marketplace ended on Feb. 15. Consumers should visit [HealthCare.gov](http://HealthCare.gov) to see if they qualify for a Special Enrollment Period because of a life change like marriage, having a baby or losing other coverage. Enrollment in Medicaid and the Children’s Health Insurance Program is also open year round. To apply, visit your local County Assistance Office or apply online using [COMPASS](#).

In addition, a Special Enrollment Period is being offered to Pa. consumers who are subject to the fee for not having health care coverage in 2014, but who were unaware of or didn’t understand the implications of the new requirement. Visit [www.HealthCare.gov](http://www.HealthCare.gov) to learn more. Find local help at: [Localhelp.healthcare.gov](http://Localhelp.healthcare.gov) or call

the Marketplace Call Center at 1-800-318-2596. TTY users should call 1-855- 889-4325. Translation services are available. The call is free.

To read the monthly Marketplace enrollment report visit:

[http://aspe.hhs.gov/health/reports/2015/MarketPlaceEnrollment/Mar2015/ib\\_2015mar\\_enrollment.pdf](http://aspe.hhs.gov/health/reports/2015/MarketPlaceEnrollment/Mar2015/ib_2015mar_enrollment.pdf)

# # #