THANK YOU FOR A GREAT OPEN ENROLLMENT!

MNsure Open enrollment ended on 1/15/2022. This does not mean that insurance is unavailable to everyone. In fact, there are many situations where individuals and families can qualify for access to health insurance outside of open enrollment. You can help those you encounter by asking them some simple questions:

- **Eligibility for public programs:** Does the person you are working with have a low household income? MA and MNcare eligible households can enroll any time of year.

- **Qualifying Life Events:** Did the person get married, have a baby, get divorced, adopt? Did the person who covered the insurance recently lose access to the insurance due to a job change?

- **Enrollment as a Native American or Native Alaskan:** Is the person you are working with enrolled with a federally recognized tribe?

At CRC we assist consumers with identifying access to health insurance throughout the whole year, not just during open enrollment! We hope to hear from your friends, family and clients too!

**MNsure**

**At CRC:**

**Assistance by Telephone:** Our navigators will assist with applications over the phone. Due to continuing Covid restrictions, our staff continue to work remotely. In person appointments ARE available by appointment and require masking.

**Contact:**

MNsure Navigators at CRC 218-333-0880

Depending on your Special Enrollment Period type, you may have 60 days before or 60 days following the event to enroll in a plan.
January 28 is the last day to apply.

Submit applications by 9:00 p.m.

Call Community Resource Connections for assistance: 218-333-0880
The American Red Cross – Serving the Bemidji Area and Beyond

The Red Cross is known across the nation and world as an organization that helps people when they are in need. Indeed, the Red Cross has had a presence serving the communities around Bemidji since 1917. The Chapter that covers our area is based in Duluth and serves a large geography including; Roseau, Lake of the Woods, Beltrami, Clearwater, Mahnomen, Hubbard, Wadena, Cass, Crow Wing, Aitkin, Itasca, Koochiching, Saint Louis, Carlton, Lake and Cook counties in Minnesota; as well as seven sovereign Native American communities. They serve the people in our communities with just 5 paid staff, but over 160 dedicated volunteers.

Recent house fires and personal tragedies brought reassurance that the work of Red Cross in our area continues today. Since January of 2019, the Red Cross has provided direct assistance to 132 families (381 individuals) impacted by home fires in Beltrami, Cass, Clearwater, Hubbard, and Itasca Counties alone. In addition, the Red Cross has strong partnerships with many fire departments in the area, and through those partners and Red Cross volunteers has installed nearly 2,000 free smoke alarms those same 5 Counties in the last three years. For the last 5 years, the Bemidji Fire Department has been one of the Red Cross’ most important partners in the state in the Red Cross ‘Home Fire Campaign’.

The Red Cross provides other services as well: blood Drives, supports for military families and Veterans (including the 2-1136 A Company in Bemidji), and classes for CPR. Recently, CRC staff visited with a Red Cross volunteer to learn what happens when a family is impacted by a home fire:

- When a call is made to Red Cross at 218-722-0071 to request assistance, a quick review of the emergency is reviewed, and contacts are made to verify and get details of the situation. Then the case is assigned to a volunteer responder.
- The volunteer responder will reach out to the individual(s) experiencing the tragedy, making a personal visit when possible - to meet with the family and identify their needs.
Things that Red Cross can potentially offer families can include:

- Pre-paid debit card that can provide for hotel stay, food, clothing, essentials. Assistance depends on family size, home damage, and other factors.
  - Referral to local resources, such as other non-profits and government resources.
  - The assistance of a Red Cross nurse who can help replace medications and medical equipment lost in the fire.
  - Counseling from qualified mental health counselors as well as Spiritual counseling if needed.

Volunteers are a constant need, particularly for local disaster responders. To inquire about volunteering email mndakvolunteer@redcross.org or call 612-871-7676 extension 5. More information? www.redcross.org/local/mn-nd-sd or contact Northern Minnesota Red Cross Executive Director Dan Williams at dan.williams@redcross.org or Disaster Program Manager Owen Fifield at owen.fifield@redcross.org