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The Affordable Care Act is working in New York, says new publication featuring stories from New Yorkers.

(New York, NY) – The Affordable Care Act is working in New York, according to a new publication by Health Care For All New York, a coalition of more than 160 groups dedicated to affordable, quality health insurance for all New Yorkers.

The ACA is Working: New Yorkers Tell Their Stories shares stories from New Yorkers like Karen, a single mother from Ulster County, who was uninsured for six years before the Affordable Care Act came along. Karen paid out-of-pocket for her care and her son's, and delayed care when money was tight. Thanks to the ACA and enrollment help from a Navigator, Karen now pays \$108 monthly, after a \$222/month federal tax credit, for family health coverage she can afford.

"The Affordable Care Act gave me a chance and ended my six year nightmare of living without health insurance," said Karen. "It was way more simple and affordable than people think."

Nearly one million New Yorkers enrolled during the first Open Enrollment period in the NY State of Health Marketplace, and more than 80 percent of enrollees did not have insurance when they applied. For many like Karen, health plans are more affordable — nearly 75 percent of enrollees got financial help to enroll in the form of federal subsidies. Over half of enrollees got free or low-cost public coverage through Medicaid.

The Health Care For All New York publication features twelve consumer stories and quotes from New Yorkers in all regions of the State who enrolled in private Qualified Health Plans, Medicaid, Child Health Plus, and small business plans, all through the NY State of Health Marketplace during the first Open Enrollment period. Many got help to enroll from Navigators, who offer free, unbiased, in-person enrollment help.

"The most compelling proof that the ACA is working is in the stories of real New Yorkers who now have affordable health insurance from the NY State of Health Marketplace," said Lois Uttley, Director of Raising Women's Voices New York and Health Care For All New York Steering Committee member. "The ACA is giving New Yorkers the security and peace of mind of health insurance, saving them money, and providing more access to care."



The <u>ACA is Working; New Yorkers Tell Their Stories</u> is available for free download from the Health Care For All New York website: <u>www.hcfany.org/publications</u>.

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