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**FirstCare Health Plans renews canceled health plans through 2014**

**AUSTIN, Texas** (Dec. 12, 2013) – Today, officials at [FirstCare Health Plans](#) announced that FirstCare’s individual and family members may keep their current coverage through Dec. 31, 2014. FirstCare will automatically renew coverage on Jan. 1 for those customers whose plans were canceled under the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

The company’s decision comes after the U.S. House of Representatives passed the [Keep Your Health Plan Act of 2013](#) and President Obama announced a revised policy that would allow insurance companies to extend non-compliant health insurance plans for another year.

“We’re encouraged by the administration’s flexibility and willingness to adopt a transitional policy to help individuals keep their quality health plans as originally promised,” said FirstCare President and CEO Darnell Dent. “We have a dedicated team ready to help our members explore their options and secure the coverage they need.”

FirstCare is notifying individual and family health plan members this week that their policies will be extended through 2014. FirstCare members will have the option to keep their current plan, enroll in one of FirstCare’s [Marketplace plans](#), or choose coverage from another carrier.

If members choose to move to a new Marketplace plan, they must make the change by Dec. 23, 2013, to avoid a lapse in coverage. If they need assistance to select a new plan or have questions about their options, they should contact FirstCare at 1-855-572-7238 Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. or talk to their local health insurance broker.

“We made this decision because we believe that Texans and our communities should be healthy, and having insurance is critical for customers' health,” said Dent. “Restoring coverage for our customers is a step in the right direction. We are glad we are able to do it.”

**About FirstCare Health Plans**

At FirstCare Health Plans, we believe that Texans and our communities should be healthy. As a result, we find ourselves working with premier doctors and hospitals to provide Texans access to affordable, high-quality care.

Since 1985, we've been serving the health care needs of members across North, West, and Central Texas. FirstCare offers a wide range of HMO, PPO, HSA and ASO products through a variety of programs, including: small and large employer plans; state, federal and teacher plans; government programs; and the Health Insurance Marketplace.

With the support of our owners—Covenant Health in Lubbock and Hendrick Health System in Abilene—we now serve approximately 165,000 members. Our corporate headquarters are located in Austin, Texas. We also have offices in Abilene, Amarillo, Lubbock and Waco.

For more information, please visit [www.firstcare.com](http://www.firstcare.com)