Vista Community Clinic Offers Enrollment Assistance
More than 2,400 Sign-Ups in Two Months

VISTA—In the months of October and November, since the debut of the Affordable Care Act on Oct. 1, Vista Community Clinic assisted more than 2,400 uninsured and underinsured patients and area residents apply for health insurance under Medi-Cal, the Low Income Health Program (LIHP) and Covered California, the state’s health insurance marketplace.

“The response from the community has been overwhelming,” said Nannette Stamm, Director of Vista Community Clinic’s Health Promotion Center. “We’ve tripled the number of consumers we help apply for Medi-Cal and Covered California. In addition, we answer hundreds of calls from community members and educate them on their options. Many have never had insurance before and they are grateful for the guidance and assistance we can provide.”

Vista Community Clinic is a Certified Enrollment Entity designated by Covered California to provide health insurance enrollment assistance under Medi-Cal and Covered California. The clinic expanded its team of Certified Enrollment Counselors in August to meet an anticipated surge in demand for assistance. The counselors are trained and have gone through rigorous background checks.
Noemi Luttmers is among the 15 Certified Enrollment Counselors at Vista Community Clinic. With patience and a calm demeanor, she walks new applicants through the enrollment process.

“They want to know if they can get prescription coverage, if their college-age children are covered, if they can go to urgent care,” Luttmers said. “They have questions about premiums and subsidies. When they come in, their shoulders are scrunched up with worry. A lot of them are bewildered. When we give them all the information and explain their options, they start to calm down.”

In the past two months, Vista Community Clinic has held health fairs at clinic sites and community events, and used social media to educate consumers about their health insurance options under Covered California. Bilingual Certified Enrollment Counselors are available at all five clinic locations in Vista and Oceanside. For appointments, call (760) 631-5000, ext. 7320.

About Vista Community Clinic: With five locations in the cities of Vista and Oceanside, Vista Community Clinic provides high-quality, low-cost healthcare to more than 57,000 uninsured and low- to moderate-income members of the North County community. One in four Vista residents and one in eight in Oceanside receive care from Vista Community Clinic. For more information, please call (760) 631-5000 ext. 0 or visit www.vistacommunityclinic.org.