

THE CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10007

EXECUTIVE ORDER No. 51

August 29, 2001

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE OFFICE OF HEALTH INSURANCE ACCESS

WHEREAS, the City of New York has a strong commitment to increasing access to and improving health insurance coverage for New Yorkers;

WHEREAS, there are an estimated 900,000 New York City residents eligible for but not enrolled in current or recently enacted public health insurance programs;

WHEREAS, through the City's HealthStat initiative more than 140,000 New Yorkers have been enrolled in available public health insurance programs;

NOW, THEREFORE, by the power vested in me as Mayor of the City of New York, it is hereby ordered:

Section 1. Office Established

(1) There is hereby established within the Office of the Mayor the Office of Health Insurance Access ("the Office").

(2) The Mayor shall appoint a City employee to be the Executive Director of the Office of Health Insurance Access, and such other staff as in his judgment shall be necessary to carry out the functions of the Office.

Section 2. Purpose and Functions of the Office.

(1) In collaboration with other City agencies, other governmental entities, not-for-profit corporations and persons and businesses from the private sector, the Office shall develop policies and initiatives promoting and improving health insurance coverage in New York City through programs provided by both public and private sector organizations.

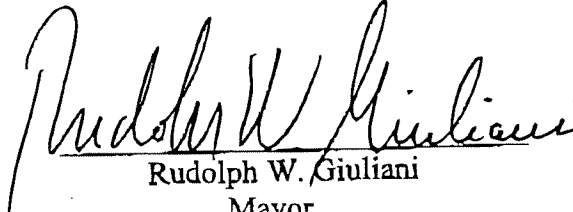
(2) In collaboration with City agencies, other government agencies, not-for-profit corporations and persons and businesses from the private sector, the Office shall educate New York City residents about the availability of public health insurance programs, refer potentially eligible residents to enrollers, and/or enroll eligible residents into public health insurance programs.

(3) In cooperation with City agencies and other government agencies, the Office shall work to streamline and simplify the application and re-certifying processes for these programs with the goal of increasing enrollment in these programs while at the same time increasing governmental administrative efficiency.

(4) The Office shall coordinate the administration of the New York Health Purchasing Alliance, a small business purchasing cooperative, established with seed money from the City and offering HealthPass, an insurance option for small businesses. The Office shall explore opportunities for HealthPass to be used as a vehicle for providing additional health insurance access solutions.

Section 3. Agency Assistance. All agencies shall cooperate in providing to the Office such personnel, facilities, information and other assistance as is appropriate and may be required by the Office to carry out its responsibilities.

Section 4. Effective Date. This order shall take effect immediately.


Rudolph W. Giuliani
Mayor