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NEWS RELEASE

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Rocky Mountain Health Plans Expands Into Wyoming

Health Plan to Serve Customers Outside of Colorado for the First Time

Grand Junction, CO (August 10, 2005) – Rocky Mountain Health Plans (RMHP) is expanding its operations outside of Colorado for the first time. This week, the organization is announcing a unique collaboration with Cheyenne-based WINhealth Partners to offer a new Medicare health plan in 10 Wyoming counties effective September 1, 2005.

The new Medicare health plan is the first of its type in Wyoming history. The product, called the WINhealth Partners Medicare Health Plan Offered Through Rocky Mountain Health Plans, provides additional benefits beyond Original Medicare such as limited prescription drug coverage and services to help members make the most of their Medicare benefits.

The partnership is a service area expansion for RMHP, a Medicare contractor since 1977. The expansion is made possible through an agreement with WINhealth Partners, which will deliver Medicare benefits to members exclusively through the WINhealth provider network.

“This is a significant step in the history of our organization,” said John Hopkins, president and CEO, Rocky Mountain Health Plans. “We have a proven history of providing excellent customer service to our members, which includes more than 23,000 senior citizens, throughout Colorado. Our organization is strong, stable, and well respected in the Rocky Mountain Region. This has put us in a great position to expand our business model into Wyoming.

(more)

“This arrangement is a good fit for both organizations,” said Beth Wasson, chief executive officer, WINhealth Partners. “RMHP and WINhealth Partners share many organizational similarities. We are both independent, not-for-profit, provider-oriented health plans. The expansion of managed coverage through RMHP’s Medicare contract will create new, affordable benefit options for Wyoming beneficiaries and is consistent with the organizational missions of both RHMP and WINhealth Partners.” Managed care Medicare benefit options currently do not exist for Wyoming Medicare beneficiaries. Until recently, they have only had access to Original Medicare or Original Medicare supplemented by a MediGap plan.

Hopkins added, “We applaud the provider community in Wyoming for their close relationship to WINhealth. Many doctors, hospitals, and other health care providers who currently work with WINhealth Partners have contracted to participate in this new Medicare health plan, and we are very pleased by this show of support.”

The Standard Plan, with a monthly premium of just \$49, gives consumers all their Original Medicare benefits plus more. The Gold Plan includes limited prescription drug coverage and more. An estimated 30,000 Medicare beneficiaries in WINhealth Partners’ 10-county service area are eligible to enroll. The service area includes the following counties: Big Horn, Carbon, Goshen, Hot Springs, Laramie, Niobrara, Park, Platte, Uinta, and Washakie.

Applications are being accepted for a September 1, 2005, effective date. Informative Town Hall meetings are scheduled. The first Town Hall meeting will take place this Friday, August 12, at 1:30 p.m. in the Cheyenne Depot, located at 121 West 12th Street. Sales representatives will be present with information and applications. For any questions, or accommodation of persons with special needs, please call 307-638-7700, Ext. 241 Monday — Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Persons who are hearing impaired and use TTY equipment may call 800-704-6370.

To be eligible, individuals must be qualified for Original Medicare. Members will pay the monthly plan premium, in addition to their Medicare Part B premium, and applicable deductibles and coinsurance. For more information or to request an information packet by mail, call 800-840-2211, Monday through Friday between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

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About Rocky Mountain Health Plans

Rocky Mountain Health Plans provides medical benefit plans and services to nearly 122,000 members in Colorado. The organization offers a wide range of medical benefit options, including PPO, HMO, shared-funding, and self-funded medical plans. RMHP serves a broad cross-section of Coloradans, including commercial groups, individuals, Medicare and Medicaid eligible persons, and children who receive care under the state's Child Health Plan Plus program.

About WINhealth Partners

WINhealth Partners offers group insurance to employer groups of two employees or more. WINhealth Partners is provider capitalized and governed and offers its 11,000 members an open-access system of delivering health care benefits and services. The organization received its health care license in 1996 and continues to be a leader and driving force in Wyoming's health care market.