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State gets \$35M federal grant for uninsured

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The Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) has received a grant that could be worth \$35.3 million over the next five years, funding it will use to increase access to health care for the uninsured.

DHS has partnered with three organizations that will offer preventative care to Minnesotans who aren't eligible for public assistance and don't have private insurance coverage. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services awarded the grant. The state will receive \$4.6 million for the first year and must re-apply for funds annually in order to access the full \$35 million.

The three partner organizations include: St. Paul-based **Portico Healthnet**, which services residents in Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey and Washington counties; **HealthShare**, based in Duluth, which services residents of St. Louis, Carlton, Cook, Lake, Itaska, Koochiching and Aitkin counties; and **PrimeWest Health**, which is developing a program for Beltrami, Big Stone and 11 other counties.

DHS estimates that 10,000 people will be covered through partnerships.

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