

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## <u>UCare</u> expands <u>UCare Connect + Medicare plan</u> to 62 counties in 2020

## New supplemental benefits added to 2020 Special Needs Plans

MINNEAPOLIS, Nov. 14, 2019 — <u>UCare</u> is expanding the reach of its market-leading UCare Connect + Medicare plans that integrate Medicaid and Medicare benefits for people with disabilities. In 2020, the 62-county service area (see map) will match the UCare Connect (Special Needs BasicCare) service area. UCare Connect is a plan for people with disabilities enrolled in Medicaid. The service area expansion of UCare Connect + Medicare will ease the transition of eligible members to this integrated plan.

<u>UCare</u>, a community-based, nonprofit health plan, currently offers three types of Special Needs Plans (SNPs): UCare Connect, UCare Connect + Medicare and UCare's Minnesota Senior Health Options (MSHO) (HMO SNP). The health plan serves the most SNP plan members in the most counties of any health plan in Minnesota.

New 2020 supplemental benefits for UCare Connect + Medicare include:

- **Dental** scaling and planing coverage
- Vision Anti-glare lens coating
- **Foot care** monthly visit with a podiatrist (with no diagnosis requirements)

New 2020 supplemental benefits for MSHO include:

- **Dental** two crowns/year
- Transportation rides to Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)/Narcotics Anonymous
   (NA) meetings for members with substance use disorder
- Vision Anti-glare lens coating
- Safety \$450 annual bath safety equipment allowance and Independent Living Skills training for members with Elderly Waivers

"As the state's largest Special Needs Plan provider, we are pleased to extend our services and people power to more counties, and help people access the health care they need," said Ghita Worcester, Senior Vice President of Public Affairs and Chief Marketing Officer.

## **About UCare**

<u>UCare</u> is an independent, nonprofit health plan providing health care and administrative services to more than 430,000 members throughout Minnesota and parts of western Wisconsin. UCare partners with health care providers, counties, and community organizations to create and deliver Medicare, Medicaid and Individual & Family health plans.

The health plan addresses health care disparities and care access issues through a broad array of community initiatives. UCare has received Top Workplaces honors from the Star Tribune for ten consecutive years since the rankings began in 2010.

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