



people powered health plans

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA CONTACT:

Wendy Wicks

612-306-3698

[wwicks@ucare.org](mailto:wwicks@ucare.org)

**UCare expands \$0 premium Medicare plan options  
and introduces new \$26 Aware plan with Part D in 2021**  
*Stable or lower premiums, enhanced benefits and lower copays boost value*

MINNEAPOLIS, Oct. 5, 2020 — In 2021, [UCare's](#) market-leading, individual Medicare Advantage plans offer an attractive, wide-ranging portfolio – including new \$0 premium and low-cost plans statewide, new supplement plans, and additional benefits for the same or lower premiums on existing plans.

[UCare](#), a community-based, nonprofit health plan, currently serves more than 105,000 Medicare Advantage members across Minnesota and in western Wisconsin. UCare Medicare Plans\* feature an extensive provider network with 96% of providers in Minnesota, including large care systems Allina Health, CentraCare, Essentia Health, M Health Fairview and others.

Every year UCare evaluates opportunities to enrich coverage and provide more value for its Medicare members. For 2021, the following changes offer significant value:

- **Reduced** primary care and specialist **copays**, and **no-cost labs** on all plans
- **Dental, vision and hearing** coverage available on all plans
- Basic to comprehensive dental included, or the option to add **supplemental dental riders** available for all plans
- **Increased** coverage for extra benefits, including **eyewear allowances, hearing aids** and **over-the-counter** allowance from on most plans
- **Fixed insulin costs** at \$30-35/month for covered insulin and **SHINGRIX\*\* vaccine** moved to Tier 1 low-cost pricing
- **\$0 premium Prime plan expanded** to new counties; and **new plans** introduced including **\$0 premium Value Plus statewide plan, \$26 Aware plan including Part D** and **supplement (Medigap) plans**
- **Continued benefits for members with specific chronic conditions** in some plans – including **meal delivery** after hospital discharge for members with congestive heart failure and acupuncture to manage pain for members with qualifying diagnoses

“Members and prospects told us they wanted more value from their Medicare plans at every stage of their health journey,” said Ghita Worcester, Senior Vice President of

Public Affairs and Chief Marketing Officer. “We focused on reducing out-of-pocket costs and providing a robust set of options for members as their coverage needs change.”

Medicare shoppers can learn about UCare’s 2021 plans by:

- Visiting [UCare’s Medicare site](#)
- Attending an [online meeting](#)
- Talking with their insurance broker
- Calling UCare sales at 1-877-523-1518, 8 am to 5 pm, Monday through Friday
- Emailing sales@ucare.org.

\* except for UCare partner plans - UCare Medicare with M Health Fairview & North Memorial and EssentiaCare

\*\* SHINGRIX is a registered trademark of GlaxoSmithKline Biologicals, S.A.

### **About UCare**

[UCare](#) is an independent, nonprofit health plan providing health care and administrative services to more than 500,000 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. All of its plans are National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) certified.

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.

### **Additional Information**

This information is not a complete description of benefits. Call 1-877-523-1518 (TTY users call 1-800-688-2534) for more information.

UCare Minnesota is an HMO-POS plan with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in UCare Minnesota depends on contract renewal.

Y0120\_2459\_10146\_102020\_M