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THE ALLIANCE ANNUAL REPORT CELEBRATES COOPERATIVE BENEFITS

Alliance provider contracts save members more than \$133,520,000

MADISON, WIS., November 16, 2011— At a time when there is great change economically and legislatively, one member-owned health cooperative is able to share success with its members. Detailing achievements from June 2010 to May 2011, The Alliance annual report shows how the cooperative continues to benefit its members, yielding an average savings of \$33.86 for every \$1 paid — an increased savings of \$2.09 from last year, with no net price increases. Collectively, Alliance members purchased more than \$450 million in health care throughout the fiscal year and saved \$133,525,771 on charges performed using The Alliance’s network of providers. From 2006 - 2010, Alliance members’ medical costs have increased just 5.5 percent per employee per year, not including pharmaceutical costs. Here are some other highlights found in the annual report. In fiscal year 2011, The Alliance:

- Added 127 clinics, with more than 1,150 providers and three hospitals
- Welcomed 18 new members with nearly 2,800 individuals
- Repriced and forwarded more than 746,500 total claims to members’ benefit administrators with an average turnaround of less than one day per claim, with more than 98 percent accuracy
- Brought more than 500 members and guests together to learn about health care legislation and other health benefit issues at Alliance Learning Circles and other events

The report also highlights The Alliance’s strategic initiatives for 2012, includes a list of members, and categorizes members by industry category.

“This past year, The Alliance continued steadily ahead in our work of fulfilling our mission to move health care forward,” explains Michael McDonald, Alliance Board Chair, and VP of Human Resources, Safety and Communication, Foremost Farms USA. “Inside you’ll see examples of how we are doing this by controlling costs, improving quality, and engaging individuals in their health.”

Quick Response codes take smart phone users to bonus information

New this year, the annual report features Quick Response (QR) codes that smart phone users can scan to get bonus information found only online. For example, they can access more information about Alliance members, board members, health policy committee members, event speakers and Alliance staff. They can also access a worksheet to breakdown the requirements of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA). And, they can hear a podcast of Alliance President and CEO Cheryl DeMars discussing the implementation of PPACA and the future of health care.

The Alliance is an employer-owned, not-for-profit cooperative of more than 160 members that self-fund their health benefit and provide health insurance coverage to more than 83,000 individuals in southern Wisconsin, Illinois and Iowa. More than a provider network, The Alliance moves health care forward by controlling costs, improving quality, and engaging individuals in their health. They use the purchasing power of cooperative members to negotiate with and provide access to an extensive network of doctors and hospitals paid to improve quality by performing better, not doing more. Ten board members provide leadership to The Alliance staff and members. They include members from some of the area's largest companies.

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