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STEP Office of Aging Receives Grant from Universal American
*Monies will be used to connect seniors to programs that will lower their
Medicare Costs in Lycoming and Clinton Counties*

WILLIAMSPORT, PENN. (DECEMBER 22, 2009) – The STEP Office of Aging, serving senior citizens in Lycoming and Clinton Counties of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, is pleased to announce that it has received a \$10,000 grant from Universal American and its family of companies which offers Medicare Advantage plans and Medicare prescription drug plans. Universal American’s *Collaborating for Good Health* Giving Back Program will connect STEP’s Apprise Health Insurance Counseling Program to STEP’s Meals-on-Wheels program.

“We are delighted that Universal American has selected our organization for this grant,” said Frederick Shrimp, aging director of STEP, Inc. “We recognize that the health and wellbeing of our seniors is dependent on support from generous community partners like Universal American.”

STEP’s Apprise Program for health insurance counseling will work with STEP’s Meals-on-Wheels program to educate and provide application assistance to older residents who receive Meals-on-Wheels about Medicare Savings Programs and the Low Income Subsidy. If the seniors are found eligible for a Medicare Savings Program or the Low Income Subsidy, they will save substantial money on their medical and/or prescription drug costs. STEP will use the funds provided by Universal American to help recruit and train more Apprise volunteers in order to complete this initiative and expand Apprise activities to the senior community centers across the two counties.

According to Kevin Davis, vice president and general manager of Pennsylvania for Universal American, “Our Healthy CollaborationSM model demonstrates our approach to healthcare and that the key to an older adult’s wellbeing is their relationship to the community. It is an honor to support organizations like STEP that share this same commitment to embracing older adults.”

Universal American, through its family of healthcare companies, is focused on providing comprehensive and affordable healthcare for people with Medicare. Universal American’s Medicare plans are based on A Healthy CollaborationSM, which is a dedication to working collaboratively with its members and their healthcare professionals in order to improve their overall health and wellbeing.

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About STEP

STEP, Inc., engages diverse individuals, families and communities in the pursuit of social and economic success. STEP programs have their own diversity and focus on: a wide range of ages from children to seniors; from preparation for school and life to dignified, independent living in retirement; from employment issues to energy efficiencies; from debt reduction to home ownership. STEP programs include the Office of Aging, Head Start, Outreach (social services for those under age 60), Weatherization, Housing Options, Workforce Development, Linkage Lycoming, Early Care and Education Administration, Child Care Information services, AmeriCorps and Transportation. These and other STEP services assist by making available Pathways to Success for Child Development and Early Learning; Workforce Development, Housing Options; Independent Living and Community Collaboration.

About Universal American

Universal American, through its family of healthcare companies, offers benefit plans designed to promote collaboration among our members and their healthcare professionals. This Healthy CollaborationSM improves the health and well being of more than two million people with Medicare every day. For more information on Universal American and its Medicare Advantage and Prescription Drug Plans, which include:

Today's Options[®] PPO, Today's Options[®] PFFS, Community CCRxSM PDP and PrescribaRxSM PDP, offered in the Pennsylvania area, visit our Web site at www.UniversalAmerican.com.

About Universal American's *Collaborating for Good Health Giving Back Program*

Through its Giving Back Program, Universal American supports local organizations that are dedicated to helping older adults and people with Medicare maximize access to services and increase their quality of life.