



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:  
Wendy Wicks  
612-676-3567  
[wwicks@ucare.org](mailto:wwicks@ucare.org)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 15, 2017

**Office ribbon-cutting NEWS and PHOTO OP**

**UCare opens office in the Northland**

***Ribbon-cutting ceremony is Friday, June 16, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.***

**WHO:** [UCare](#) and the [Hermantown Area Chamber of Commerce](#)

**WHAT:** Ribbon-cutting festivities for new office opening in the Duluth Hermantown area.

**WHEN:** **Friday, June 16, 2017, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**

**11:30 a.m.** Reception – refreshments, giveaways, tours

**12:00 p.m.** Ribbon-cutting ceremony

**WHERE:** 4310 Menard Drive, Suite 600, Hermantown, MN 55811.

Next to Menards® on Highway 53 – 1.5 miles northwest of Miller Hill Mall

**DETAILS:**

UCare's new office in the Northland offers a comfortable setting for members of the community to visit with questions, discuss coverage needs and compare UCare plans. Senior Vice President of Public Affairs and Chief Marketing Officer Ghita Worcester, and a Duluth native, explained why UCare established a new office in northern Minnesota. "We've been serving the health care needs of Minnesotans for more than 30 years with a very personal brand of service. Our headquarters in Minneapolis were far enough from the Duluth area to limit our ability to foster the same deep connections with community we have in the Twin Cities. Now, with our local office, we've created a welcoming space for the community to gather and get to know more about our products and services, especially our regional EssentiaCare Medicare product."

UCare offers coverage for all generations through a suite of products for Medicare and/or Medical Assistance enrollees, and for individuals shopping for coverage on MNsure. The new office will be the site for Medicare basics meetings, product sales meetings, navigator trainings, community partner meetings and social events.

Staffed by Medicare Options Specialists Ellen Anderson and Leann Frestedt and Sales Manager Nicolle Olness, visitors have the opportunity to learn from their combined 40 years' experience in health care and meet other health care experts from the Minneapolis office. Office hours are Monday through Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. Staff can be reached at 218-336-4260.



#### About [UCare](#)

UCare ([www.ucare.org](http://www.ucare.org)) is an independent, not-for-profit health plan providing health care and administrative services to members throughout Minnesota. UCare partners with health care providers, counties and community organizations to create and deliver:

- National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA)-[accredited plans](#) for Minnesotans shopping on [MNsure](#).
- Plans for [adults with disabilities who have Medical Assistance](#) and who have [both Medical Assistance and Medicare](#).
- [Medicare plans](#) with an “Excellent” NCQA rating, and a [partnership](#) with Essentia Health in northern Minnesota.
- [Programs for older Minnesotans with Medical Assistance](#) or with [both Medical Assistance and Medicare](#).
- Income-based [Medicaid](#) and [MinnesotaCare](#) coverage for Minnesotans across the state.

UCare 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 seven consecutive years since the rankings began in 2010.