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CMAP observes 'Cover the Uninsured Week'

A total of 23.8 percent of Central Louisiana residents between the ages of 18 and 64 have no insurance coverage for healthcare expenses. Nationwide, 47 million Americans are uninsured. More than eight out of 10 are in working families – all forced to gamble every day that they won't get sick or injured. Living without health insurance is a risk no one should have to take.

Cover the Uninsured Week, a project of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, is a national effort to highlight the fact that too many Americans are living without health insurance and to demand solutions from our nation's leaders. Cover the Uninsured Week will take place April 27-May 3 to raise awareness of this important issue. For more information about the nationwide movement, please visit <http://covertheuninsured.org/>

There is hope for uninsured residents in Central Louisiana in the form of CMAP, the Cenla Medication Access Program. CMAP, a program of The Rapides Foundation, provides medicine to adults under age 65 who cannot afford insurance.

CMAP gives people access to a wide range of free medications made available from donations from Abbott, Merck, Novartis, Tap and AstraZeneca pharmaceutical companies.

"Unfortunately we have a lot of people in Louisiana who are uninsured, and with the rising cost of health insurance that rate will only continue to grow. CMAP is an efficient way to help people get the necessary medications that are needed to treat and control their medical conditions," said Wendy Roy, CMAP program director. "We hope that by providing our clients with needed medications, they will have a better quality of life with fewer emergency room visits and hospitalizations."

For more information about CMAP, please call Program Director Wendy Roy at (318)767-3026 / (888)443-7494 or by e-mail at wroy@cmaprx.org