

SCGOVHEALTHNEWS

Sarasota County Health and Human Services | Florida Department of Health | scgov.net | 941.861.5000
| TV 19

August 21, 2008

Media Contact: Dianne Shipley 941-861-2852; Dianne_Shipley@doh.state.fl.us

Program Contact: Jackie Chanudet, 941-861-2880;
Jacqueline_Chanudet@doh.state.fl.us

Community forum: Affordable health care and prescription coverage

A free educational forum will highlight affordable health care options for families, individuals under age 65 and small businesses on Tuesday, Aug. 26 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the North Port Library, 13800 S. Tamiami Trail in North Port. A panel of industry experts will discuss what people should look for in a small business or individual health insurance plan. The presentation will include information on health insurance options, low-cost and free healthcare, and prescription pricing and programs.

The forum will not address Medicare questions. Panelists from **Get Sarasota County Insured** will provide unbiased information without the intent to promote any insurance product, plan or vendor. Get Sarasota Insured is a volunteer group comprised of local experts working to inform residents about health insurance options through community education forums.

Forum sponsors include Get Sarasota Insured, a project of the Community Health Improvement Partnership (CHIP) in conjunction with the North Port Library, and the North Port Community Health Action Team (CHAT).

The Community Health Improvement Partnership is a private-public collaborative effort dedicated to improving the health of Sarasota, Charlotte and DeSoto county residents. The Sarasota County health Department provides staffing for the program, with funding from the Gulf Coast Community Foundation of Venice, the Community Foundation of Sarasota, the Sarasota County Health Department, Sarasota County Government, as well as local and regional hospitals and health departments.

For more information on future forums, visit www.getsarasotainsured.com or get your copy of CHIP's monthly newsletter, HealthNews, which is available at all local libraries. HealthNews can also be viewed on the Internet at www.chip4health.org.

-end-