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## Community Health Center earns federal grant for uninsured

The Community Health Center, which operates clinics in New London, Groton and 11 other communities around the state, will receive a \$238,366 federal grant for programs to enroll uninsured patients in new health coverage options that will be made available through the Affordable Care Act, the Department of Health and Human Services announced Wednesday.

Eliza Cole, spokesman for the Middletown-based Community Health Center, said patients at all the center's clinics will benefit from the grant programs.

Statewide, 13 health centers received grants for the insurance programs, HHS said in a news release. Together the centers serve more than 300,000 patients, 23 percent of whom are uninsured, the release said.

The funds will enable the 13 centers to hire a total of 28 workers who will enroll 23,167 state residents in health insurance coverage, according to the release. The workers will help patients understand coverage options that will be available under Connecticut's new health insurance marketplace, Access Health CT, which plans to begin operating this fall, the release said. The workers also will help determine a patient's eligibility for Medicaid, insurance programs for children and financial assistance, as well as enroll them in an insurance plan.

Across the country, 1,159 health centers will receive \$150 million in grants for the insurance programs.