



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

Contact:

Scott A. Bowers  
President, Unison Health Plan of Ohio  
scott.bowers@unisonhealthplan.com  
614.890.6850  
www.unisonhealthplan.com

**Ohio Selects Health Care Leader to Expand its Quality Health Care Coverage**

Columbus, OH (20 March 2006) – Unison Health Plan has received preliminary notification that it has been selected by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services through a competitive process to provide quality health care coverage to Medicaid consumers in three regions of the state.

Unison's reputation for quality in government-sponsored health care programs in Pennsylvania, South Carolina, and Tennessee was recently recognized by the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA). In addition, *U.S. News & World Report* ranked Unison Health Plan 16th among hundreds of Medicare and Medicaid health plans. The ranking was based on clinical performance, member satisfaction and NCQA Accreditation.

Unison will now enter a readiness review phase to expand access to health care to the 300,000 Medicaid Covered Families and Children in the following three regions:

1. **Northeast-Central:** Columbiana, Mahoning, and Trumbull Counties
2. **East-Central:** Ashland, Carroll, Holmes, Portage, Richland, Stark, Summit, Tuscarawas, and Wayne Counties
3. **Southeast:** Athens, Belmont, Coshocton, Gallia, Guernsey, Harrison, Jackson, Jefferson, Lawrence, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Muskingum, Noble, Vinton, and Washington Counties

-More-

Unison Health Plan

Page 2

Unison began serving members and providers November 1st in Trumbull and Mahoning Counties. As a quality leader in the public sector managed care industry, Unison Health Plan will continue to work together with members, providers and community leaders to offer some of the highest quality health care services available today.

Scott A. Bowers, President of Unison Health Plan of Ohio, is excited about bringing Unison's commitment to community-based healthcare to twenty-eight counties throughout Ohio.

“We are pleased to continue our partnership with the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services to bring increased access and quality care to the Medicaid-eligible citizens of Ohio. Through solid relationships within the hospital and physician communities, we'll continue to work to breakdown barriers that have historically plagued the Medicaid population.”

#### About Unison Health Plan

Since 1995, Unison Health Plan's dynamic health care plans have specialized in government sponsored health programs such as Medicaid, the State Children's Health Insurance Program, State General Assistance, and Medicare. Unison is partnered with more than 280,000 members and 15,000 providers throughout Pennsylvania, Ohio, South Carolina, and Tennessee. Unison provides high quality, cost effective health care and responsive customer service that empowers their members and providers to work together for better health. For additional information visit [www.unisonhealthplan.com](http://www.unisonhealthplan.com).

###