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NEWS RELEASE

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(For immediate release)

FAIRFIELD MEDICAL CENTER APPROVED AS AN OHIO SENIOR HEALTH INSURANCE INFORMATION PROGRAM SITE

LANCASTER, Ohio (September 25, 2009) – Fairfield Medical Center was approved September 2, 2009, by the Ohio Senior Health Insurance Information Program (OSHIIP) as an organization that supports and facilitates OSHIIP's outreach efforts in Fairfield county and surrounding counties.

As an OSHIIP site, Fairfield Medical Center supports the community by:

- ❑ Ensuring complete beneficiary confidentiality
- ❑ Educating its staff about OSHIIP
- ❑ Providing access to an OSHIIP volunteer
- ❑ Providing OSHIIP educational material
- ❑ Providing a quiet location in which an OSHIIP volunteer can meet to discuss personal and sensitive issues with a beneficiary
- ❑ Hosting activities promoting OSHIIP's program within the community
- ❑ Agreeing the site and its staff will assist without personal financial gain

Sharon Scruggs, Fairfield Medical Center Contracts and Collections Manager, said, "This program has proven to be very beneficial to people in our community. We all know that medical insurance can be overwhelming and complicated to say the very least. Having a trained professional guide you through the process is such a relief and we can see immediate results as soon as we start someone in the program here at Fairfield Medical Center."

Contact Debbie Mead, Medicare Financial Representative, at (740) 689-6419 for more information about OSHIIP at Fairfield Medical Center.

OSHIIP, which was founded in 1992, is administered by the Ohio Department of Insurance and funded by both a federal grant and an Ohio grant. Trained volunteers help people interested in or already receiving Medicare to better understand their Ohio health insurance not only by handing out publications and working information sites, but also by counseling Ohio residents about their options for affordable health insurance in Ohio. In the past 14 years, Ohio residents have saved over three million dollars on health insurance costs thanks to OSHIIP. For more information about OSHIIP in Ohio please visit:

www.insurance.ohio.gov/Consumer/Pages/ConsumerTab2.aspx

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