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Over 1,400 Residents Utilized Free Prescription Discount Card, Save Over \$50K

Arlington "Top 20" Municipality Nationwide in NLC Prescription Card Program

Through its participation in the National League of Cities' (NLC) Prescription Discount Card program, Arlington has saved its residents over \$50,000 on prescription drugs. Since launching the program 1,435 residents have saved an average of 27.8% per prescription as of Feb 28, 2011. At this time, Arlington entered the top 20 municipalities, out of 457 participating in the program nationwide, in cumulative savings to their constituents.

"We're pleased so many residents are taking advantage of this program," said Town Manager, Brian Sullivan "costs continue to rise in all areas of healthcare and any savings we can find are welcome. We encourage all residents to look at the program for their family and in some cases, their pets."

The discount cards may be used by all residents of Arlington and has no restrictions based on the resident's age, income level, or existing health coverage. Pets that take prescriptions used to treat human conditions are also covered.

With the cost of prescription drugs increasing, this program makes it more affordable for residents to purchase drugs needed to help with short-term illnesses or chronic conditions. The discount card benefits not only those without insurance, but can also be used by underinsured residents to obtain prescriptions that are excluded from health benefit plans.

The NLC card can be used when purchasing prescription drugs at six pharmacies around the Town, as well as at more than 60,000 participating retail pharmacies across the country.

Using the program is easy for residents. Cards are available at participating pharmacies include both Walgreens and CVS locations, Maida Pharmacy, and the pharmacy at Stop and Shop. There is no cost or enrollment process, just pick up the card and start using it at any participating pharmacy in town or nationwide. Cards can also be printed online. Residents can visit <u>arlingtonma.gov/prescriptioncards</u> to download a card and learn more about the program. They can also call toll-free 1-888-620-1749 for assistance with the program.

The program is administered by CVS Caremark.

About The National League of Cities

The National League of Cities (NLC) is the nation's oldest and largest organization devoted to strengthening and promoting cities as centers of opportunity, leadership and governance. NLC is a resource and advocate for 19,000 cities, towns and villages, representing more than 218 million Americans. To learn more about NLC, go to www.nlc.org.