

# The Benefits Blog

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## The U.S. Uninsured Help Line

Posted by Eric Johnson on January 29, 2009

I heard a commercial on the radio the other day for the “Uninsured Help Line.” It stated that a third of the people without health insurance in the United States are already eligible for a government program but just not enrolled. At the end of the commercial, it gave a toll-free number that people can call for more information. Of course, my immediate thought was “what type of scam is this?” But today I decided to do a Google search and see what I could find.

I was immediately pleased to see that this is a legitimate program. The U.S. Uninsured Help Line is one of the many resources offered by the [Foundation for Health Coverage Education](#), a non-profit organization based in San Jose, California. The FHCE’s stated mission is “to simplify public and private health insurance eligibility information in order to help more people access coverage.”

I’m actually familiar with the FHCE. They’ve done some work with the [National Association of Health Underwriters](#) and are the group that created the Health Care Options Matrix, a hand-held guide available for each state that outlines all of the public and private health insurance choices for individuals and groups in almost every demographic profile. This is a great tool which I’ll write about in a future article.



**The US Uninsured Help Line™—800.234.1317**

I’ve also talked with the Foundation’s president, Ankeny Minoux, on a couple different occasions. She is a very nice lady, and a couple years ago she was kind enough to send me a thank you card and a box of chocolates when I helped out an uninsured gentleman she referred me to.

The FHCE is funded by donations from private individuals and corporations, other non-profits, and some of the nation’s most well-known insurance companies, including Anthem Blue Cross Foundation, WellPoint Foundation, Kaiser, Blue Shield, and HealthNet. Information about all of their [tools and resources](#) can be found on their website, [CoverageForAll.org](#).