

December 7, 2020  
Press Release  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
CONTACT:  
Dr. Sharon Harris: 516- 676-2008  
[safeglencove@yahoo.com](mailto:safeglencove@yahoo.com)

## **SAFE Glen Cove Coalition: Tobacco Action Coalition Shares American Lung Association Resources to help Navigate the Affordable Health Care ACT Open Enrollment 2021**

In their continuing partnerships mission to keep the community apprised and informed of strategies to live an alcohol, tobacco and substance use free healthy life style, SAFE Coalition member, Carol Meschkow TLI- Manager, would like to share this timely public education information from the American Lung Association (ALA) regarding Open Enrollment for affordable Healthcare Coverages.

The ALA is committed to assist patients to sign up for quality and affordable healthcare coverage through the Affordable Care Act during this year's open enrollment period. From November 1 until December 15, individuals who purchase health insurance on the individual market or are uninsured can sign up for quality and affordable health insurance coverage at [Healthcare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov) for 2021. This year, open enrollment is especially important for the millions of Americans who have lost employed-sponsored coverage as a result of Covid-19.

The American Lung Association has resources to help individuals sign up for quality and affordable health coverage at [www.lung.org/openenrollment](https://www.lung.org/openenrollment). They have added information on healthcare coverage during COVID-19, translated some of our key materials into Spanish, and developed new infographics for patients with lung disease. Please feel free to share these resources widely.

Finally, the Lung Association is seeking insights from individuals who have been impacted by a challenge with their healthcare, especially:

- Someone who has been denied health insurance because of a pre-existing condition or has been denied for treatments.
- An experience (positive or negative!) in signing up for healthcare coverage – whether that be on [Healthcare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov) or through Medicaid programs.

If one or all apply to you, would you be willing to participate in a 30-minute phone interview with a member of the American Lung Association to share your experiences. If so, please email [champions@lung.org](mailto:champions@lung.org) with your **name, phone number and the best time to talk**, and you can share your important story with us to help our nation's leaders understand why quality and affordable healthcare coverage is so important.

To learn more about the SAFE Glen Cove Coalition please visit us at: [www.safeglencove.org](https://www.safeglencove.org).

This message was brought to you from the American Lung Association at a time when maintaining optimum health is key to a strong immune system. If you or a loved one would like more information on the impacts of tobacco and lung health, or would like Cessation/Quit help please contact ALA at Lung HelpLine: 1-800-LUNGUSA

