



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**LOYOLA MEDICINE AND AETNA BETTER HEALTH TEAM UP TO IMPROVE MATERNAL HEALTH**

**CHICAGO** (Jan. 25, 2021)—Loyola Medicine today announced it has received a \$100,180 grant award from Aetna Better Health of Illinois, a CVS Health company, to assist in meeting a number of maternal health goals for the communities it serves by helping to bring the CenteringParenting program to Loyola.

Loyola strives to increase the number of women engaging in prenatal, early life and postpartum care, particularly among those with limited available support during pregnancy and those with significant financial need. By offering more personalized prenatal care through the CenteringParenting program, Loyola aims to reduce maternal complications; reduce the risk of preterm birth and lessen disparities in preterm birth rates; reduce the risk of NICU admission; and reduce triage visits.

"We are grateful for this grant and know that it will contribute to improving the well-being of our most vulnerable mothers and babies," says Ronald K. Potkul, MD, professor and chair of the department of obstetrics and gynecology at Loyola Medicine.

"Access to maternal health care is critical to affecting more positive outcomes for pregnant moms and babies and to reducing health disparities, particularly with regards to maternal mortality and preterm births," said Kim Foltz, CEO of Aetna Better Health of Illinois. "That's why we're continually working with community and provider partners such as Loyola to reduce barriers and increase access to care, especially for historically underserved communities."

The CenteringParenting program engages parents in their baby's care and fosters a supportive environment for parents to ask questions. It brings parents, partners, support people and their same-age infants who may be sharing similar pre- and postnatal experiences together with their healthcare providers. Providers and support staff facilitate discussions and interactive activities on topics such as safe sleep, breastfeeding, nutrition, early literacy, development and safety. They also address topics related to a mother's health and wellness, including stress management, nutrition and weight and family planning.

Aetna Better Health of Illinois offers quality, affordable health care to individuals through the State's HealthChoice Illinois Medicaid program. The health plan and serves nearly 400,000 members in 102 counties.

For more information about Loyola Medicine, visit [loyolamedicine.org](http://loyolamedicine.org)

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**About Aetna Medicaid**

Aetna Medicaid Administrators LLC (Aetna Medicaid), a CVS Health business, has over 30 years of experience managing the care of the most medically vulnerable, using innovative approaches and a local presence in each market to achieve both successful health care results and effective cost outcomes. Aetna Medicaid has particular expertise serving high-need Medicaid members, including those who are dually eligible for Medicaid and Medicare. Currently, Aetna Medicaid owns and/or administers Medicaid



managed health care plans under the names of Aetna Better Health and other affiliate names. Together, these plans serve approximately 2.6 million people in 16 states, including Arizona, California, Florida, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, and Texas. For more information, see [www.aetnabetterhealth.com](http://www.aetnabetterhealth.com).

### **About Loyola Medicine**

Loyola Medicine, a member of Trinity Health, is a nationally ranked academic, quaternary care system based in Chicago's western suburbs. The three-hospital system includes Loyola University Medical Center, Gottlieb Memorial Hospital and MacNeal Hospital, as well as convenient locations offering primary care, specialty care and immediate care services from more than 1,800 physicians throughout Cook, Will and DuPage counties. Loyola is a 547-licensed-bed hospital in Maywood that includes the William G. & Mary A. Ryan Center for Heart & Vascular Medicine, the Cardinal Bernardin Cancer Center, a Level 1 trauma center, Illinois's largest burn center, a certified comprehensive stroke center and a children's hospital. Loyola also trains the next generation of caregivers through its academic affiliation with Loyola University Chicago's Stritch School of Medicine and Marcella Niehoff School of Nursing. Gottlieb is a 247-licensed-bed community hospital in Melrose Park with the newly renovated Judd A. Weinberg Emergency Department, the Loyola Center for Metabolic Surgery and Bariatric Care and the Loyola Cancer Care & Research facility at the Marjorie G. Weinberg Cancer Center. MacNeal is a 374-licensed-bed teaching hospital in Berwyn with advanced medical, surgical and psychiatric services, acute rehabilitation, an inpatient skilled nursing facility and a 68-bed behavioral health program and community clinics. Loyola Medical Group, a team of primary and specialty care physicians, offers care at over 15 Chicago-area locations. For more information, visit [loyolamedicine.org](http://loyolamedicine.org). You can also follow Loyola Medicine on [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#).

### **About Trinity Health**

Trinity Health is one of the largest multi-institutional Catholic health care delivery systems in the nation, serving diverse communities that include more than 30 million people across 22 states. Trinity Health includes 92 hospitals, as well as 100 continuing care locations that include PACE programs, senior living facilities, and home care and hospice services. Its continuing care programs provide nearly 2.5 million visits annually. Based in Livonia, Mich., and with annual operating revenues of \$18.8 billion and assets of \$30.5 billion, the organization returns \$1.3 billion to its communities annually in the form of charity care and other community benefit programs. Trinity Health employs about 123,000 colleagues, including 6,800 employed physicians and clinicians. Committed to those who are poor and underserved in its communities, Trinity Health is known for its focus on the country's aging population. As a single, unified ministry, the organization is the innovator of Senior Emergency Departments, the largest not-for-profit provider of home health care services — ranked by number of visits — in the nation, as well as the nation's leading provider of PACE (Program of All Inclusive Care for the Elderly) based on the number of available programs. For more information, visit [trinity-health.org](http://trinity-health.org). You can also follow Trinity Health on [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#).