

ST. LOUIS, Sept. 10 /PRNewswire/ -- Centene Corporation (NYSE: CNC) announced today its new subsidiary, IlliniCare Health Plan, was selected by the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) as one of one of two vendors to provide managed care services to approximately 40,000 Older Adults and Adults with Disabilities in six Chicago area counties.

"Centene is proud to enter into this new expanded program for the state of Illinois. We believe we can provide an integrated care solution that improves health outcomes for the program's participants," said Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Michael Neidorff. "IlliniCare is the latest example of Centene's dedication to providing innovative health solutions for members while helping the state address critical budget issues."

The five-year contract carries an option to renew for up to five additional years at the state's discretion and is expected to take effect in early 2011.

About Centene Corporation

Centene Corporation, a Fortune 500 company, is a leading multi-line healthcare enterprise that provides programs and related services to the rising number of under-insured and uninsured individuals. Many receive benefits provided under Medicaid, including the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), as well as Aged, Blind or Disabled (ABD), Foster Care, long-term care, other state-sponsored programs and Medicare (Special Needs Plans). Centene's CeltiCare subsidiary offers states unique "exchange-based" and other cost-effective coverage solutions for low-income populations. The company operates local health plans and offers a range of health insurance solutions. It also contracts with other healthcare and commercial organizations to provide specialty services including behavioral health, life and health management, managed vision, telehealth services, and pharmacy benefits management. More information regarding Centene is available at www.centene.com.

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