

Centene Donates Connected Devices to Foster Youth - Sep 20, 2021

Centene teams with AT&T, Connected Nation, Dell Technologies and Intel to ensure youth have internet access at foster organizations in Florida and Missouri

ST. LOUIS, Sept. 20, 2021 [/PRNewswire/](#) -- Centene Corporation (NYSE: CNC) has teamed up with AT&T, Connected Nation, Dell Technologies, and Intel to bridge the Digital Divide among youth in foster care by enabling greater internet access. Through the K-12 Digital Divide Program, Centene and the other groups donated more than 1,000 laptops and 2,200 hotspots to foster care agencies in Florida and Missouri.

The Digital Divide refers to the economic, educational, and social inequalities between those with internet access and those without. The K-12 Digital Divide Program is an initiative aimed at providing foster youth with much-needed hardware to access the internet for schoolwork, telehealth, behavioral health services, online tutoring, job searches, and other daily activities. For foster children who may experience additional challenges in education, [researchers suggest](#) that online technology can be a tremendous advantage in this area. The Digital Divide has been acute during the COVID-19 pandemic, as computers and internet access have been required for everyday tasks from attending school to visiting the doctor, which could ultimately impact the youth's overall health and wellness.

"The COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated the importance of reliable access to the internet due to the shift to remote learning," said Brent Layton, President and Chief Operating Officer for Centene. "We believe that by providing children in foster care communities with reliable access to proper equipment and the internet, we can help to bridge the Digital Divide."

With this initiative, Centene, AT&T, Connected Nation, Dell Technologies, and Intel have deployed the Dell Chromebooks and Wi-Fi-enabled hotspots to foster care agencies. The foster care agencies will then identify youth who have the greatest need to receive the devices. The computers include access to online productivity applications and communications tools, allowing the youth to use them for school and also telehealth visits if needed.

"In a world that's increasingly reliant on technology, connectivity is one of the most important tools for advancing the education of students everywhere," said Mylayna Albright, AVP, Corporate Social Responsibility, AT&T. "This program brings together major players in the health and technology industries to ensure foster youth can access important digital resources that address physical, mental and emotional wellbeing."

"This program addresses a critical need for children who are already facing unique challenges and difficulties," said Tom Ferree, Chairman & CEO, Connected Nation. "By providing youth who are in foster care with the tools they need to take part in our increasingly digital world, we are not only giving them the access to resources that will help them grow in a positive way and flourish, but we are saying to these children that we care about and want to help them excel."

"We believe that technology has the ability to transform communities. While the pandemic resulted in a new, virtual way of living, it dramatically increased the disparity between those with access and those without," said Jessica Anderson, Director of Strategic Giving, Dell Technologies. "The K-12 Digital Divide Program helps provide equitable access to participating foster families, giving them some of the resources they need for school, healthcare and work."

"As part of Intel's RISE 2030 goals, our company aims to make technology fully inclusive and expand digital readiness. This project aligned perfectly with our Intel Rise Technology Initiative, where we review and fund projects related to healthcare, education and the economy with dedicated workstreams for social equity and human rights, accessibility, and climate action," said Rick Echevarria, VP and GM of Intel's Enterprise Sales Solutions. "At a basic level, we can only address the Digital Divide in education by first ensuring students have the necessary technology resources and tools to succeed. It is only by working with others that we can find innovative solutions to this persistent issue."

About Centene Corporation

Centene Corporation, a Fortune 25 company, is a leading multi-national healthcare enterprise that is committed to helping people live healthier lives. The Company takes a local approach – with local brands and local teams – to provide fully integrated, high-quality, and cost-effective services to government-sponsored and commercial healthcare programs, focusing on under-insured and uninsured individuals. Centene offers affordable and high-quality products to nearly 1 in 15 individuals across the nation, including Medicaid and Medicare members (including Medicare Prescription Drug Plans) as well as individuals and families served by the Health Insurance Marketplace, the TRICARE program, and individuals in correctional facilities. The Company also serves several international markets, and contracts with other healthcare and commercial organizations to provide a variety of specialty services focused on treating the whole person. Centene focuses on long-term growth and the development of its people, systems and capabilities so that it can better serve its members, providers, local communities, and government partners.

Forward-Looking Statements

All statements, other than statements of current or historical fact, contained in this press release are forward-looking statements. Without limiting the foregoing, forward-looking statements often use words such as "believe," "anticipate," "plan,"

"expect," "estimate," "intend," "seek," "target," "goal," "may," "will," "would," "could," "should," "can," "continue" and other similar words or expressions (and the negative thereof). Centene (the Company, our, or we) intends such forward-looking statements to be covered by the safe-harbor provisions for forward-looking statements contained in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, and we are including this statement for purposes of complying with these safe-harbor provisions. In particular, these statements include, without limitation, statements about our future operating or financial performance, market opportunity, growth strategy, competition, expected activities in completed and future acquisitions, including statements about the impact of our proposed acquisition of Magellan Health (the Magellan Acquisition), our completed acquisition of WellCare Health Plans, Inc. (WellCare and such acquisition, the WellCare Acquisition), other recent and future acquisitions, investments, the adequacy of our available cash resources and our settlements with Ohio and Mississippi to resolve claims and/or allegations made by those states with regard to past practices at Envolve Pharmacy Solutions, Inc. (Envolve), as our pharmacy benefits manager (PBM) subsidiary, and other possible future claims and settlements related to the past practices at Envolve and our ability to settle claims with other states within the reserve estimate we have recorded and on other acceptable terms, or at all. These forward-looking statements reflect our current views with respect to future events and are based on numerous assumptions and assessments made by us in light of our experience and perception of historical trends, current conditions, business strategies, operating environments, future developments and other factors we believe appropriate. By their nature, forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties and are subject to change because they relate to events and depend on circumstances that will occur in the future, including economic, regulatory, competitive and other factors that may cause our or our industry's actual results, levels of activity, performance or achievements to be materially different from any future results, levels of activity, performance or achievements expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements. These statements are not guarantees of future performance and are subject to risks, uncertainties and assumptions. All forward-looking statements included in this press release are based on information available to us on the date hereof. Except as may be otherwise required by law, we undertake no obligation to update or revise the forward-looking statements included in this press release, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, after the date hereof. You should not place undue reliance on any forward-looking statements, as actual results may differ materially from projections, estimates, or other forward-looking statements due to a variety of important factors, variables and events including, but not limited to: the impact of COVID-19 on global markets, economic conditions, the healthcare industry and our results of operations and the response by governments and other third parties; the risk that regulatory or other approvals required for the Magellan Acquisition may be delayed or not obtained or are subject to unanticipated conditions that could require the exertion of management's time and our resources or otherwise have an adverse effect on us; the possibility that certain conditions to the consummation of the Magellan Acquisition will not be satisfied or completed on a timely basis and accordingly, the Magellan Acquisition may not be consummated on a timely basis or at all; uncertainty as to the expected financial performance of the combined company following completion of the Magellan Acquisition; the possibility that the expected synergies and value creation from the Magellan Acquisition or the WellCare Acquisition (or other acquired businesses) will not be realized, or will not be realized within the respective expected time periods; the risk that unexpected costs will be incurred in connection with the completion and/or integration of the Magellan Acquisition or that the integration of Magellan Health will be more difficult or time consuming than expected; the risk that potential litigation in connection with the Magellan Acquisition may affect the timing or occurrence of the Magellan Acquisition or result in significant costs of defense, indemnification and liability; a downgrade of the credit rating of our indebtedness; the inability to retain key personnel; disruption from the announcement, pendency, completion and/or integration of the Magellan Acquisition or from the integration of the WellCare Acquisition, or similar risks from other acquisitions we may announce or complete from time to time, including potential adverse reactions or changes to business relationships with customers, employees, suppliers or regulators, making it more difficult to maintain business and operational relationships; our ability to accurately predict and effectively manage health benefits and other operating expenses and reserves, including fluctuations in medical utilization rates due to the impact of COVID-19; competition; membership and revenue declines or unexpected trends; changes in healthcare practices, new technologies and advances in medicine; increased healthcare costs; changes in economic, political or market conditions; changes in federal or state laws or regulations, including changes with respect to income tax reform or government healthcare programs as well as changes with respect to the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and the Health Care and Education Affordability Reconciliation Act (collectively referred to as the ACA) and any regulations enacted thereunder that may result from changing political conditions, the new administration or judicial actions; rate cuts or other payment reductions or delays by governmental payors and other risks and uncertainties affecting our government businesses; our ability to adequately price products; tax matters; disasters or major epidemics; changes in expected contract start dates; provider, state, federal, foreign and other contract changes and timing of regulatory approval of contracts; the expiration, suspension, or termination of our contracts with federal or state governments (including, but not limited to, Medicaid, Medicare, TRICARE or other customers); the difficulty of predicting the timing or outcome of legal or regulatory proceedings or matters, including claims against our PBM business or whether additional claims, reviews or investigations relating to our PBM business will be

brought by states, the federal government or shareholder litigants, or government investigations; challenges to our contract awards; cyber-attacks or other privacy or data security incidents; the exertion of management's time and our resources, and other expenses incurred and business changes required in connection with complying with the undertakings in connection with any regulatory, governmental or third party consents or approvals for acquisitions, including the Magellan Acquisition; disruption caused by significant completed and pending acquisitions making it more difficult to maintain business and operational relationships; the risk that unexpected costs will be incurred in connection with the completion and/or integration of acquisition transactions; changes in expected closing dates, estimated purchase price and accretion for acquisitions; the risk that acquired businesses will not be integrated successfully; restrictions and limitations in connection with our indebtedness; our ability to maintain or achieve improvement in the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Star ratings and maintain or achieve improvement in other quality scores in each case that can impact revenue and future growth; availability of debt and equity financing, on terms that are favorable to us; inflation; foreign currency fluctuations and risks and uncertainties discussed in the reports that Centene has filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. This list of important factors is not intended to be exhaustive. We discuss certain of these matters more fully, as well as certain other factors that may affect our business operations, financial condition and results of operations, in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), including our annual report on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q and current reports on Form 8-K. Due to these important factors and risks, we cannot give assurances with respect to our future performance, including without limitation our ability to maintain adequate premium levels or our ability to control our future medical and selling, general and administrative costs.

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