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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**CALOPTIMA RESTORES FUNDING FOR
CENTERS SERVING FRAIL SENIORS**

Thirty local adult day health care centers to receive financial support from CalOptima

ORANGE, Calif. (March 6, 2014) — CalOptima’s Board of Directors approved an action that strengthens access to daily community-based health care services for more than 3,500 frail seniors in Orange County. CalOptima will absorb a state-imposed budget reduction of \$2.2 million to ensure that providers of critical Community-Based Adult Services (CBAS) remain operational.

CalOptima contracts with 30 CBAS centers that offer adult day health care services covered by Medi-Cal. CBAS nurses, social workers, occupational therapists and other professionals work with seniors to keep them independent in the community. This saves state and federal Medi-Cal dollars by avoiding costly nursing home care and providing respite for family members.

“Adult day health care provided by CBAS centers is important to the well-being of CalOptima members,” said CalOptima CEO Michael Schrader. “CBAS is an essential component of CalOptima’s current and future plans to provide integrated health care services to those in our community who have the greatest need.”

In a state budget action in 2011, CBAS centers received a 10 percent payment reduction, which resulted in many centers closing or reducing services. Statewide, 50 centers have shut down, resulting in thousands of participants losing these vital services.

About CalOptima

A county organized health system, CalOptima provides publicly funded health plan coverage for low-income families, seniors and people with disabilities in Orange County, Calif. CalOptima’s mission is to provide members with access to quality health care services delivered in a cost-effective and compassionate manner. One in seven Orange County residents is a CalOptima member through Medi-Cal, OneCare (a Medicare Advantage Special Needs Plan) or PACE (Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly). The dedication of more than 600 staff to ensure members have quality care earned CalOptima’s Medi-Cal plan National Committee for Quality Assurance “commendable” accreditation. In total, CalOptima serves nearly 500,000 members with a network of more than 6,500 primary care doctors and specialists, as well as 30 hospitals.

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