Optimizing San Mateo County residents’ health by focusing on prevention and proactive health management.

For more information about the San Mateo County MCE Program, please call the San Mateo County Health Coverage Unit at (650) 616-2002.

www.smchcu.org
What is the MCE program?
The San Mateo County MCE program is a health coverage option available at the San Mateo Medical Center main campus and clinics, and Ravenswood Family Health Center. It is NOT an insurance program. MCE is a "bridge" program created by the State of California and the federal government for individuals who are expected to qualify for expanded Medicaid benefits in 2014, under the new federal health care reform law.

Who is eligible?
San Mateo County residents who are NOT eligible for coverage through Medicare, Full- Scope or Share-of-Cost Medi-Cal may be eligible for the MCE program. Enrollees must have income at or below 133% of the Federal Poverty Level and must either be a U.S. citizen or a Legal Permanent Resident for 5+ years.

How do I sign up?
Staff is available to assist with San Mateo County MCE enrollments at the San Mateo Medical Center main campus and clinics, Ravenswood, and community enrollment sites. At San Mateo Medical Center, staff is available in the Health Coverage Unit office (1st Floor – near the West entrance). You can also call the San Mateo County Health Coverage Unit at 650-616-2002 to schedule an appointment.

As part of the San Mateo County MCE program eligibility process, you must sign an enrollment form declaring, under penalty of perjury, that the information given about you to determine your eligibility status is true and correct. You will be required to provide your social security number, current proof of San Mateo County residency, and household income. In addition, you will be required to present original documents proving identity and either U.S. citizenship or U.S. Legal Permanent Resident status.

When can I enroll?
You are encouraged to apply for the San Mateo County MCE program if you are currently uninsured. The San Mateo County MCE can be a secondary coverage program for those who have other coverage such as employer sponsored insurance.

What benefits are covered?
The benefits covered under the San Mateo County MCE include primary care and specialty care, ancillary services such as laboratory and radiology, inpatient hospitalization, mental health and substance abuse services, short term skilled nursing (<30 days), and emergency care and treatment.

What benefits are NOT covered?
The San Mateo County MCE program does not cover cosmetic surgery, bariatric surgery, transplants, pregnancy-related services, family planning1, impotence/infertility, non-medically necessary services, long-term care for more than 30 days, experimental or investigational treatments or therapies, non-emergent dental, gender reassignment surgery and related hormonal treatment and certain prescriptions such as vitamins, some pain medications and tranquilizers, etc. Some scheduled admissions and day surgeries must be pre-authorized for medical necessity.

Where are services available?
Services are available only at the San Mateo Medical Center’s main campus and clinics, and Ravenswood Family Health Center. You will select a primary care provider (PCP) clinic where you will receive your primary care and any referrals to specialized medical services. Prescriptions can only be filled at the pharmacy that is associated with your PCP.

Mental health and substance abuse services are provided at the San Mateo County Behavior Health and Recovery Services (BHRS) county and community locations.

Who can I call if I have questions?
Please call the San Mateo County Health Coverage Unit at (650) 616-2002.

Who can I call if I have questions about a bill or if I have a bill I can’t pay?
If you have questions about a bill or if you can’t afford to pay your bill, contact the San Mateo Medical Center Business Services office at (650) 573-2525.

What are the fees?
There are no fees or co-pays associated with this program.

1 Family planning, mammograms and some cancer detection services (pap smears, cervical exams) are covered by other State/ Federal programs.