

**WILLIAMSON COUNTY & CITIES HEALTH DISTRICT
MEMORANDUM**

Date: March 14, 2008

To: Judge Dan Gattis, Sr., Comm. Lisa Birkman, Comm. Ron Morrison, Comm. Valerie Covey, Comm. Cynthia Long, County Auditor David Flores

From: James K. Morgan, MD, Executive Director WCCHD, and Bride Roberts, WCCHD Community Health Education & Social Services Division Assistant Director

Subject: National Association of Counties' (NACo) Prescription Drug Discount Card Program

Recommended Action: Consider formal participation in the NACo Prescription Drug Discount Card Program to make it available to Williamson County residents.

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Issue:

Williamson County is not currently participating in a prescription drug discount card program made available through NACo. This program provides an average discount of 20% on prescription drugs that are not covered by insurance or other prescription drug programs and can be made available to any county resident, without regard to age, income or insurance status. Detailed information about this program, already in use in 64 Texas counties, may be found at www.naco.org. There is no cost to participating counties- the contracted pharmacy benefits manager recoups costs through manufacturer rebate programs.

Proposal:

- Williamson County to become a participating member county of the NACo Prescription Drug Discount Card Program- a "value added" service to be provided by Williamson County and made available to any Williamson County resident.
- WCCHD to assist Williamson County in the receipt, storage and distribution of prescription drug discount cards to any county resident who would like to take advantage of this program. WCCHD, at the will of the County Judge and Commissioners, would act as the county's agent to administer the program. Distribution points could include WCCHD service sites and any number of other appropriate county offices.

A primary goal: Assisting a greater number of Williamson County residents who are unable to afford needed prescription drugs thereby preventing unnecessary morbidity and costs

WCCHD envisions providing prescription drug discount cards to county residents as a strategy to assist more un/underinsured people and conserve funding in other county funded insurance and medical assistance programs that are currently utilized to cover drug and medical care costs for county residents. WCCHD would distribute prescription discount cards together with:

- Information sheets regarding low cost generic medications available though pharmacies such as Walmart, Target and HEB.
- Information regarding how qualifying persons may apply to manufacturers' Patient Assistance Programs (PAP's) for donated medications.

WCCHD would continue to assist residents enrolled in the County Indigent Health Care Program, or WilCo Care Card Program in accessing all available prescription discount/assistance programs to supplement the current coverage limit of three prescription drugs per month.