



ROCKY MOUNTAIN
HEALTH PLANS®

Good health. That's the plan.
2775 Crossroads Boulevard
Grand Junction, CO 81506
970-244-7760 · 800-843-0719

NEWS RELEASE

December 6, 2004

Contact:

Kayla Arnesen, APR
Rocky Mountain Health Plans
Direct: 970-244-7967 · Cell: 970-250-4060

Liza Etienne
Wells Fargo & Company
612-316-2797

**Rocky Mountain Health Plans Collaborates with
Wells Fargo to Offer Health Savings Accounts**

Offering helps consumers control their own health care dollars

(GRAND JUNCTION, Colo.) – Rocky Mountain Health Plans announces a new collaboration with Wells Fargo Institutional Trust Services, one of America's leading financial institutions, to offer Health Savings Accounts (HSA) to its members throughout Colorado, effective February 1, 2005.

Health Savings Accounts (HSA) work with high-deductible medical benefit plans. After an individual is covered by a qualified high-deductible health plan, they are eligible to open a Health Savings Account. Contributions to the HSA can be made by the individual, their employer, or both, up to an annual maximum. As long as the funds are used to pay for qualified medical expenses, distributions are tax-free. RMHP members have the choice of group or individual high-deductible Good Health Savings Plans and six Wells Fargo mutual funds.

“At Rocky Mountain Health Plans, we take pride in our 30-year history of putting people first,” said John Hopkins, president and CEO, RMHP. “That’s why we work hard to meet market demands

(more)

Rocky Mountain Health Plans and Wells Fargo offer Health Savings Accounts

2-2-2

by developing products like high-deductible health plans and new collaborations like the one we've established with Wells Fargo. We are committed to offering our members new choices, expanded benefits, and the latest in health care options.”

Health Savings Accounts help consumers control their own health care dollars. Contributions are tax deductible, and interest earned in an HSA account is tax-free. Best of all, the money contributed to an HSA remains portable. If a person changes jobs, moves, or makes other life changes, the money in the account goes with them. Funds can also accumulate year to year, providing the opportunity to build a large health care safety net and the added security that they can afford their care coverage when they retire. Wells Fargo is also making withdrawing funds easy through a debit card, which gives consumers instant access to the funds they need.

“We're committed to meeting our clients' needs when, where, and how they want to be served,” said John Reynolds, Wells Fargo Institutional Trust Services senior vice president. “The HSA product is a great example of this commitment because it combines savings tools with high-deductible health plans, which, when combined, enable consumers to manage their health care expenses, plan for their retirement and leverage tax incentives.”

Rocky Mountain Health Plans (RMHP) provides medical benefit plans and services to 113,000 members statewide. The organization offers a wide range of medical benefit options, including PPO, HMO, and indemnity-based medical plans. RMHP serves a broad cross-section of Coloradans, including commercial groups, individuals, Medicare and Medicaid eligible persons, and children who receive care under the state's Child Health Plan Plus program.

In the 2004 *Health Matters Quality Report*, produced by the Colorado Business Group on Health, Rocky Mountain Health Plans received ***Significantly Higher Than Average*** scores for helpful customer service and for trouble-free access to specialty care.

(more)

Rocky Mountain Health Plans and Wells Fargo offer Health Savings Accounts
3-3-3

Wells Fargo & Company is a diversified financial services company with \$420 billion in assets, providing banking, insurance, investments, mortgage and consumer finance to more than 23 million customers from more than 6,000 stores and the Internet (wellsfargo.com) across North America and elsewhere internationally. Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., is the only “Aaa”-rated bank in the United States.

#