

**CITY OF BALTIMORE**

SHEILA DIXON, Mayor



**HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

Olivia D. Farrow, Esq., R.S.,  
Interim Commissioner  
1001 E. Fayette Street  
Baltimore, MD 21202

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

***MEDIA CONTACT: Brian Schleiter***

***PHONE: 443-984-2623***

***[Mediahealth@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:Mediahealth@baltimorecity.gov)***

## **Baltimore Launches Prescription Drug Discount Card For City Residents**

***Discount Cards Offering Average Savings Of 20 Percent Off Retail Price***

**BALTIMORE, MD** (July 8, 2009) – Baltimore City officials launched a discount card program to help consumers cope with the high price of prescription drugs. The city is making free prescription drug discount cards available under a program sponsored by the National Association of Counties (NACo) that offers average savings of 20 percent off the retail price of commonly prescribed drugs.

The cards may be used by all city residents, regardless of age, income, or existing health coverage. Residents do not have to be Medicare beneficiaries to be eligible for this program. A national network of more than 59,000 participating retail pharmacies also will honor the NACo prescription discount card.

“Baltimore City is proud to join with other cities nationwide in participating with NACo,” said Interim Commissioner Farrow. “The NACo prescription discount card offers significant savings for the uninsured and underinsured residents of our city, and even those fortunate to have prescription coverage can use the card to save money on drugs that are not covered by their health plan.”

Best of all, there is no cost to city taxpayers for NACo and Baltimore City to make these money saving cards available to residents.

Cards will be available at pharmacies, community health clinics, libraries, etc., and can also be obtained by calling Baltimore HealthCare Access at 410-649-0500. City residents can call toll free 1-877-321-2652 or visit [www.caremark.com/naco](http://www.caremark.com/naco) for assistance with the program.

“Using the NACo prescription discount card is easy,” said Kathleen Westcoat, President of Baltimore HealthCare Access, “Simply present it at a participating pharmacy. There is no enrollment form, no membership fee and no restrictions or limits on frequency of use. Cardholders and their family members may use the card any time their prescriptions are not covered by insurance.”

The discount card program is administered by CVS Caremark.

NACo is the only national organization that represents county governments in the United States. Founded in 1935, NACo provides essential services to the nation’s 3,066 counties. NACo advances issues with a unified voice before the federal government, improves the public’s understanding of county government,

assists counties in finding and sharing innovative solutions through education and research, and provides value-added services to save counties and taxpayers money.

NACo's membership totals more than 2,000 counties, representing over 80 percent of the nation's population.

###