

PALATINE, Ill., Jan. 13, 2014 /PRNewswire/ -- One of the nation's first studies examining the effect real-time tracking of health status can have on health outcomes has begun within the context of Illinois' Integrated Care Program (ICP). IlliniCare Health Plan, a subsidiary of Centene Corp. (NYSE: [CNC](#)), and Addus HomeCare Corporation (NASDAQ: [ADUS](#)), a national provider of Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS), announced today they have initiated a study to assess the impact of equipping home care workers with mobile devices, enabling real-time reporting of change in consumer condition.

IlliniCare Health Plan is one of two managed care organizations (MCO) selected to manage the coordination of comprehensive health care services, including HCBS, for participants in ICP – Illinois' ongoing initiative to manage health care for its Medicaid population. In the future the program will encompass a much larger pool of individuals eligible for both Medicaid and Medicare benefits – the "dual eligible."

As a provider of HCBS, Addus Home Care Aides (HCA) visit IlliniCare's ICP participants' homes on a continual basis to assist with activities of daily living such as meal preparation, personal care, and transportation to doctor appointments. HCAs are uniquely positioned to be extensions of IlliniCare's case management. By detecting and reporting changes in participants' physical, mental, and environmental conditions, case management can intervene before these changes develop into more complicated health issues. Beyond general health observations, HCA's look for diagnosis-specific signs of decline such as loss of appetite, fatigue, swollen feet or ankles, fever, weight gain/loss, and lack of medication adherence.

"Connecting the home care aide with the rest of the health care team is something that has historically been disregarded," says Addus CEO Mark Heaney. "Enabling real-time data sharing through the use of mobile technology makes the aide in the home the point person in successful management of consumers along the health care continuum. We anticipate the pilot will show our model leads to better patient outcomes and reduced healthcare costs among



and the Medicare-Medicaid Alignment Initiative (MMAI). IlliniCare is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Centene Corporation (NYSE: [CNC](#)), a leading multi-line healthcare enterprise offering both core Medicaid and specialty services. Since

May 1<sup>st</sup>

, 2011, IlliniCare has served approximately 17,900 members as part of the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services Integrated Care Program (ICP) in suburban

Cook

(outside the 606 zip code),

DuPage

,  
Lake

,  
Kane

,  
Kankakee

and

Will

Counties. In April of this year, IlliniCare expanded the Integrated Care Program to serve

Boone

,  
McHenry

and

Winnebago

Counties. IlliniCare was also recently selected by the Department of Healthcare and Family Services as one of the six Managed Care Organizations to participate in the Medicare-Medicaid Alignment Initiative (MMAI) within the greater Chicagoland area. Information regarding IlliniCare is available at

[www.illinicare.com](http://www.illinicare.com)

**Addus** HomeCare is a comprehensive provider of home and community based services which are primarily social in nature and are provided in the home, focused on the dual eligible population. Addus' services include personal care and assistance with activities of daily living, and adult day services. Addus' consumers are individuals who are at risk of hospitalization or institutionalization, such as the elderly, chronically ill and disabled. Addus' payor clients include federal, state and local governmental agencies, commercial insurers and private individuals.

For more information, please visit [www.addus.com](http://www.addus.com).

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## IlliniCare Health Plan, Addus Examine Home Care's Role in Managed Long Term Care

Written by Australian Business

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