



COMMUNITY HEALTH NETWORK

SAN JUAN ISLANDS



PURPOSE OF THE DAY



Connect with partners across the county and region



Hear from local and regional partners about health care access topics relevant to your work in the community



Exchange ideas and share feedback about where Network projects are headed

PURPOSE OF THE NETWORK

Build Capacity

Coordinate funding procurement

Increase communication & collaboration

Build and improve infrastructure for health systems

What do we do together?

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A Countywide Collaborative

Launched April 2, 2026 to bring health systems, hospital districts, resource centers, and county partners together across Orcas, San Juan, and Lopez Islands.

A decorative wavy line in shades of blue and yellow.

Grounded in Community Data

Built on priorities identified through the county's Community Health Assessment, ensuring work reflects real, documented community needs.

A decorative wavy line in shades of blue and green.

Shared Governance; shared investment

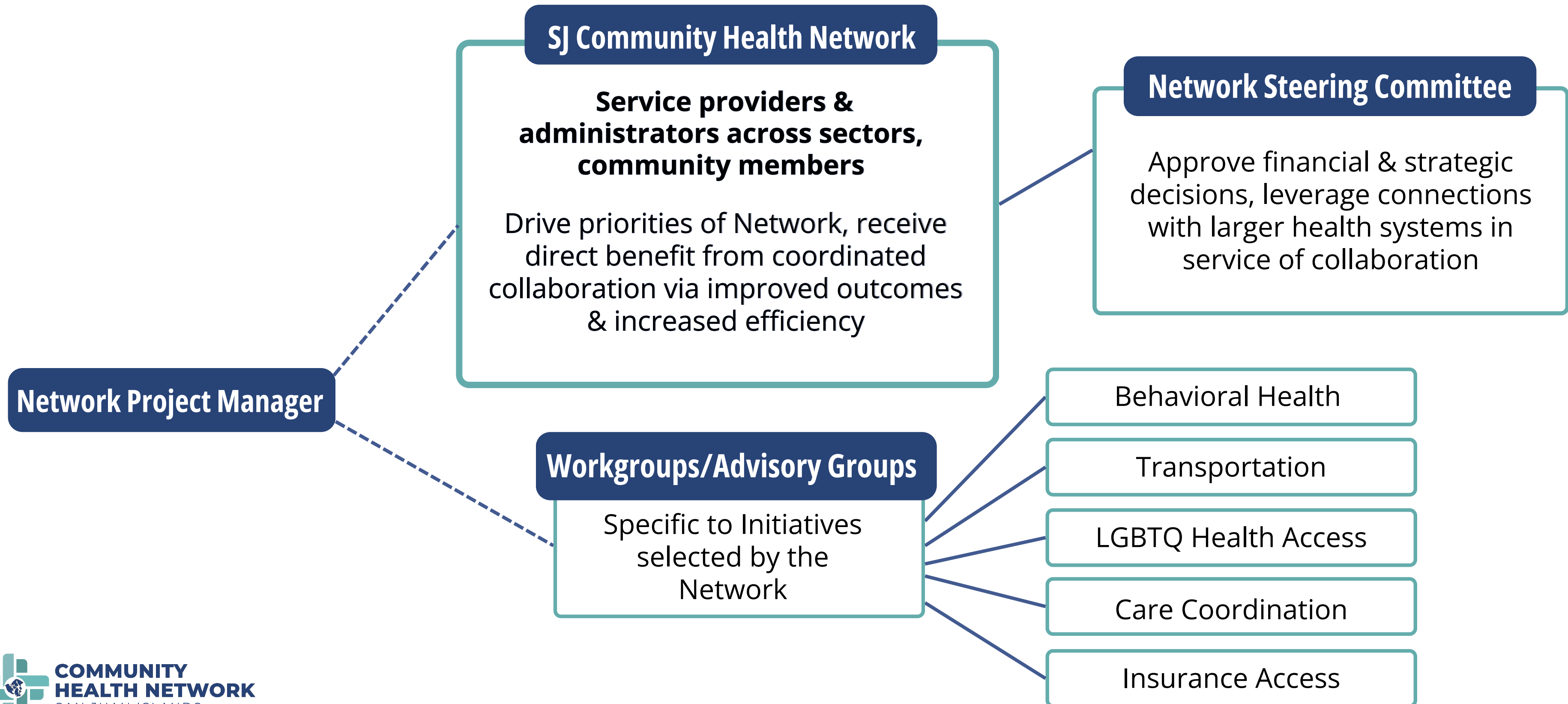
The Orcas Island Health Care District serves as fiscal sponsor; a cross-island Steering Committee provides oversight and accountability to workgroups. All three hospital districts have committed financially to supporting the Network in 2027.

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Action Through Workgroups

Four active workgroups translate priorities into concrete, resourced projects with owners, timelines, and measurable goals.

Structure of the Network





Behavioral Health Access

MAIN GOALS

- **SUD assessment:** Improve Substance Use Disorder (SUD) assessment access across the islands
- **Mental health assessment:** Improve mental health assessment access and speed — tracked as its own workstream, distinct from SUD
- **Medication access & retention:** Help people connect faster to psychiatric medications, including medication-assisted treatment, and stay on them
- **Crisis-response & mental health training:** Equip local businesses and nonprofits with plain-language crisis-response guidance and a shared source of vetted human services trainings



Insurance & Services Access

MAIN GOALS

- **Coverage retention:** Help community members navigate coverage retention — especially Medicaid redetermination and work-requirement documentation
- **Preventative care access:** Identify and deploy consistent, islands-wide access points for preventative care for people who are uninsured or opted out of the marketplace
- **Legislative advocacy:** Advocate at the state level to address San Juan County's single-carrier insurance marketplace problem
- **Shared quality measures:** Align health systems around a small set of shared quality measures, coordinated with the county's data monitoring and the Community Health Improvement Plan

STANDOUT ACTIVITIES

- **Legislative momentum:** County council has elevated this to an official legislative priority, Rep Lekanoff is excited to take this issue on.
- **Health Systems Collaboration:** PeaceHealth, Island Hospital, and Sea Mar have selected colorectal cancer screening county-wide as a shared objective across systems



MAIN GOALS

- **Medevac membership enrollment:** Increase San Juan County households enrolled in all three medevac flight membership programs
- **Off-island care & discharge:** Improve reliable transportation to off-island care, plus coordinated return-home / discharge support
- **Visiting Services access:** Expand access to visiting services; reduce barriers for off-island providers; including ferry policy advocacy

STANDOUT ACTIVITIES

- **MedFlight poster approved:** MedFlight membership poster finalized, reviewed, and approved by all three flight companies; promotional plan in development
- **ED discharge project:** PeaceHealth ED discharge project underway: staff will flag San Juan Islands patients and offer a hotel/taxi voucher for safe discharge
- **Priority boarding advocacy:** Expanding priority boarding to service providers confirmed as an active county legislative priority this session



MAIN GOALS

- **Mobile Integrated Health Program launch & coordination:** Invest in coordinating MIH program development and resource/experience sharing across the islands
- **CHW role & reimbursement:** Develop Community-Based Worker (CHW and other care coordination) role development and reimbursement pathways

STANDOUT ACTIVITIES

- **MIH Program Development on Orcas & Lopez:** Orcas MIH program in early launch phase; Lopez conducting baseline research to prepare for program design
- **CHW/care coordination funding:** Exploring multiple Medicaid-based funding options for care coordination work, with the conversation broadening beyond CHWs specifically to care coordination services generally



MAIN GOALS

Overarching goal: Understand how LGBTQ people are navigating health care in the San Juans, and improve how they experience or navigate that care wherever there's room to do so.

STANDOUT ACTIVITIES

- **Newly formed:** two meetings held; still in the early, foundational stage
- **Defining scope**-- Still determining what the group wants to learn:
 - **From health systems**, about current practices, policies, and internal improvement mechanisms
 - **From community members**, about how they seek and experience care

Medicaid (Apple Health) Coverage Is Changing

A new federal law, HR1, changes Apple Health on different dates depending on who you are. Here's what to expect.

NO CHANGE FOR THESE GROUPS



Pregnant women



Parents of kids under 14



Children under 19



Adults 65+



Adults with disabilities



American Indian & Alaska Native (AI/AN) beneficiaries

Your Apple Health eligibility stays exactly the same — no new steps to take.



For Non-Citizens

OCT 2026

Apple Health coverage is limited to only lawful permanent residents (past or exempt from the 5-year bar), and Cuban/Haitian entrants.

JAN 2027

Medicare eligibility is limited to the same groups.

JAN 2027

Tax credits become limited to only those whose income is over 100% of the Federal Poverty Level.

Also an Apple Health Adult (18-64)? The changes at right apply to you too, unless you're in a no-change group above.



For Adults 18–64

Not pregnant, not a parent of a child under 14, not 65+, not blind or disabled

JAN 2027

Work requirement: earn \$580/mo, be a half-time student, join a work program, or do 80 hrs/mo of community service.

JAN 2027

Renew coverage every 6 months, instead of yearly.

JAN 2027

Retroactive coverage cut to 1 month (2 months for other Apple Health categories).

OCT 2028

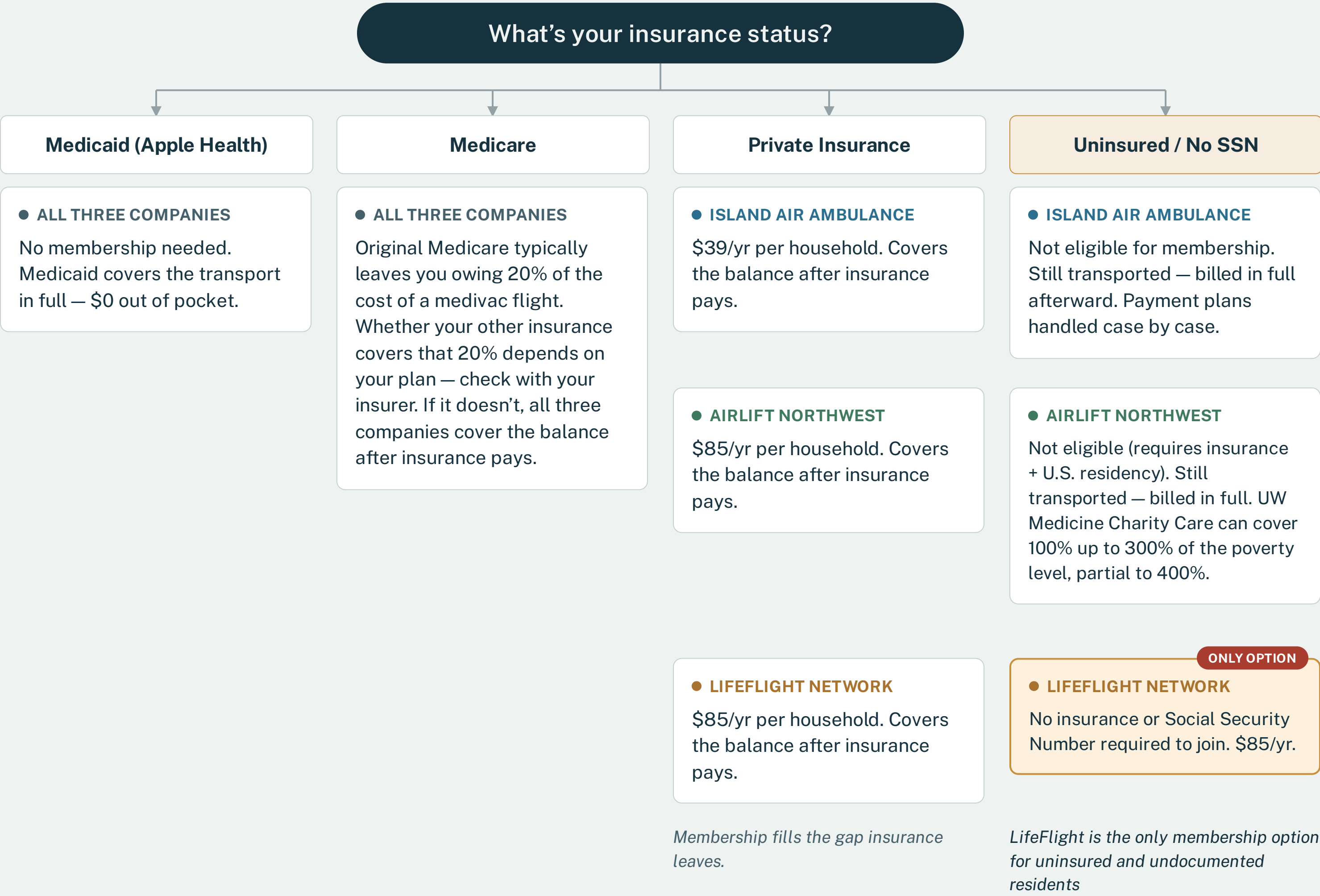
Co-pays up to \$35 per service if income is over 100% FPL.

OCT 2029

Address verification required.

Three air ambulance companies serve San Juan County. It isn’t possible to know in advance which company would respond to a given emergency.

Memberships through Island Air Ambulance, Airlift Northwest, and LifeFlight Network act as a non-insurance supplement to your existing coverage — they pay the out-of-pocket costs (co-pays, deductibles) insurance leaves behind. Many San Juan County households hold all three, since there’s no way to know in advance which company will respond.



How “household” coverage differs

Same idea, three different rules for who’s actually covered under one membership:

- ISLAND AIR — \$39/YR

Covers everyone who resides at your address and is listed on the account — caregivers and live-in help count even without a blood relation, as do kids away at college or splitting time between parents.
- AIRLIFT NORTHWEST — \$85/YR

Covers a spouse/partner and tax dependents. New members need written notice (name, DOB, relationship, insurance); newborns within 30 days. No stated maximum household size.
- LIFEFLIGHT — \$85/YR

Covers the primary member, spouse/partner, and household members who are 24 or younger, disabled, or 65+. Working-age adult children (25–64, not disabled) are **not** covered — they’d need their own membership.

EMERGENCY AIR TRANSPORT

What island residents need to know about flight memberships.

Three air ambulance companies serve San Juan County. **It isn't possible to know in advance which company would respond** to a given emergency.

- Memberships typically extend to a spouse and dependents.
- Annual costs range from about \$39 to \$85 per company.
- Enrolled residents generally pay nothing out of pocket when transported by a company they're enrolled with.
- Without an active membership, the transporting company bills the patient directly afterward.

ON MEDICAID (APPLE HEALTH)?

Medicaid covers emergency air transport in full. A membership with any of these companies is neither needed nor available for purchase in this case.

THE THREE COMPANIES SERVING SAN JUAN COUNTY



Island Air Ambulance

\$39/year

Requires health insurance. Medicare is accepted.

Sign up: **360-378-2376**



Scan to sign up



Airlift Northwest

\$85/year

Requires health insurance. Medicare is accepted.

Sign up: **888-835-1599**



Scan to sign up



Life Flight Network

\$85/year

Does not require insurance to enroll. Medicare is accepted.

Sign up: **800-982-9299**



Scan to sign up

MORE INFORMATION

www.orcasfire.org/aeromedical-services

Questions about flight memberships? Your island's **Fire/EMS** department or **local resource center** can help.