

A PROPOSAL TO SOUTHCOAST PATIENTS AFFECTED BY BLUECROSS BLUESHIELD OF GEORGIA'S DECISION TO TERMINATE

The April 4, 2009 letter to Chatham County was sent after SouthCoast was informed of concerns many County employees had expressed upon learning from BCBSGa, they had to end their relationship with their physician. That is why we have made the decision, for a limited time, to see our Chatham County employed patients until June 29 for primary care physicians and August 29 for specialty physicians, and accept payment as if they were being seen by an in-network physician.

SouthCoast is concerned that our existing BCBSGa patients have not been given adequate time to find another physician, which will have a negative impact on their health. To prevent this, SouthCoast is prepared to offer any employer also affected, the opportunity to enter into a similar legally-binding agreement so its employees may continue to see one of our physicians. For our patients who do not receive their BCBSGa health insurance through an employer, we are happy to extend the same offer.

We trust that all insurance agents and brokers will make their clients aware of our offer.

SouthCoast has taken the initiative to bring BCBSGa back to the negotiating table. It is SouthCoast's hope that our BCBSGa patients will assist us by sending a powerful message to BCBSGa that the doctor you entrust with your care is more important than any insurance company.