



**For Immediate Release**

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## HealthSmart Appoints James Vertino As Chief Information Officer

*Vertino to enhance information technology operations throughout the company*

**(Dallas, Texas) May 19, 2017** – HealthSmart, the largest independent benefits administrator in the country, is pleased to announce the appointment of James (Jim) Vertino as Chief Information Officer (CIO). He will be joining HealthSmart at the end of May. Vertino is a proven, transformational leader who drives innovation and business performance. He defines strategic roadmaps by reimagining business processes—bridging the gap between information technology and business. Vertino will report to Phil Christianson, HealthSmart’s Chief Executive Officer.

As CIO, Vertino will be responsible for leading all facets of HealthSmart’s technology platforms and processes. He will be instrumental in creating an infrastructure that sustains forecasted growth, enhances the member experience, and supports HealthSmart’s associates to deliver preeminent customer service.

Vertino has 24 years of experience in IT leadership and product development. He has spent the past six years as CIO of HealthPlan Services. There, he spearheaded the creation of products and services to assist large healthcare payers with the enrollment and financial management aspects of healthcare reform. His previous experience also includes serving as CIO at CareSource Management Group, Vice President of Technology for MetLife and Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer of Equity Technologies at Lehman Brothers.

“Jim Vertino is an innovator who will create unique services for HealthSmart that will protect members and the bottom line,” said Phil Christianson, CEO. “I look forward to seeing the exciting solutions our IT division produces under his leadership.”

“I am very excited to join such a dynamic team of professionals focused on driving better ways to deliver healthcare to an industry in dire need of improvements. I plan to hit the ground running, partnering with the HealthSmart technology, clinical and operational teams to develop best-in-class products and solutions for our clients,” said Vertino.

Vertino graduated magna cum laude from Medaille College in Buffalo, New York, with a bachelor’s degree in computer information systems.

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### **About HealthSmart**

For more than 40 years, HealthSmart has offered a wide array of customizable and scalable health plan solutions for self-funded employers. HealthSmart’s comprehensive service suite addresses individual health from all angles. This includes claims and benefits administration, provider networks, pharmacy benefit management services, business intelligence, onsite employer clinics, care management, a variety of health and wellness initiatives and web-based reporting. The Company’s headquarters is in Dallas, Texas, with regional hubs throughout the country. HealthSmart’s mission is to improve member health and reduce healthcare costs.