



**Arkansas
BlueCross BlueShield**
An Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

news release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Local agent named to Arkansas Blue Cross and Blue Shield's Preferred Agent Network

Jonesboro, Ark. (May 11, 2012) — George Ebbert of the Ebbert Insurance Agency in Jonesboro has been named as part of Arkansas Blue Cross and Blue Shield's Preferred Agent Network, which recognizes top-producing, independent agents and brokers.

"Agents and brokers who have been designated as preferred agents have a deep knowledge of the Arkansas Blue Cross product lines and have demonstrated their ability to help Arkansans understand and select health insurance plans that meet their unique benefit and budget needs," said Ron DeBerry, senior vice president of Statewide Business for Arkansas Blue Cross.

"We have a great working relationship with our preferred agents and we see them as an extension of the Arkansas Blue Cross family," said Mel Blackwood, senior executive for regional operations and regional executive for Arkansas Blue Cross. "They are a valuable asset to our company and we want to recognize them for their hard work and commitment to Arkansans."

Founded in 1948, Arkansas Blue Cross and Blue Shield, an Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association, is the largest health insurer in Arkansas. Arkansas Blue Cross and its affiliates have more than 2,700 employees. If combined, the 39 independent, locally operated Blue Cross and Blue Shield Plans collectively provide health care coverage for 93 million Americans.