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City of Athens Residents Have Access to Easy-to-Use Prescription Drug Discount Card Launched Today

In current economic climate, where people are watching their spending, discount card can offer average savings of 20 percent off drug retail prices

January 26, 2009 — The City of Athens today launched a program to help provide residents with some relief from the high cost of prescription drugs. The city is making free prescription drug discount cards available to city residents through a program sponsored by the National League of Cities (NLC). The discount cards offer city residents average savings of 20 percent off the retail price of commonly prescribed drugs.

The discount cards may be used by all residents of Athens and has no restrictions based on the resident's age, income level, or existing health coverage. The NLC card can be used when purchasing prescription drugs at approximately 10 local pharmacies around the city, as well as at more than 59,000 participating retail pharmacies across the country.

"In the current economic climate, where many people are watching what they spend, the City of Athens is happy to partner with the National League of Cities to make this prescription discount card available for our residents," said City Manager Mitchell Moore. "Whether or not an individual has prescription coverage, this program can make it easier for our residents to afford the drugs they need to deal with a short-term illness or stay healthy by managing a chronic condition."

Cards are available at CVS (both locations), Riddle & Wallace, Madison Avenue Pharmacy, Walmart, Kmart, McMinn Senior Center, Good Faith Clinic, and Walgreens on Decatur Pike at no cost to city residents. City residents can call toll-free 1-888-620-1749 or visit www.caremark.com/nlc for assistance with the program.

"Not only does the NLC prescription discount card help residents save money on their medications, it is easy to use," said Moore. "Athens residents only have to show their card when purchasing medication at one of the many participating pharmacies. There is no enrollment form required to get a card, no membership fee of any kind and city residents and their family members can use the card any time their prescriptions are not covered by insurance."

The discount card program is administered by CVS Caremark.

About The National League of Cities

The National League of Cities (NLC) is the nation's oldest and largest organization devoted to strengthening and promoting cities as centers of opportunity, leadership and governance. NLC is a resource and advocate for 19,000 cities, towns and villages, representing more than 218 million Americans. To learn more about NLC, go to www.nlc.org.