



I. Steven Udvarhelyi, M.D. | President and Chief Executive Officer

Dear Valued Member:

For almost a century, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana has focused on its mission of improving the health and lives of Louisianians. As we all know, healthcare has changed dramatically during the last 90 years and we have evolved to respond to the changing healthcare landscape so that we can continue to fulfill our mission.

Today, we are taking the next step in our evolution by announcing a bold move to secure the future of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana for generations to come by entering into an agreement to be acquired by Elevance Health, subject to customary closing conditions.

As the leading health insurer in the state, we have a deep understanding of the unique needs of our members, our customers, the providers we work with and the communities we serve. Aligning with Elevance Health will allow us to accelerate our mission of improving the health and lives of Louisianians.

Across healthcare, scale has become increasingly important. That is why the BCBSLA board, members of senior management and I initiated a formal process to identify a partner with the ability to help us secure a strong future for our company, and specifically a partner that could provide leading innovations, products, capabilities and services at a faster pace, and more comprehensively, than we could alone.

I'm sure you have questions about what today's announcement means to you. Let me assure you, we will continue to be the locally based Blue Cross and Blue Shield company Louisianians have trusted for almost 90 years. There is no change to your current benefits, network providers or services, and you should continue to call the customer service number on the back of your membership ID card or access our website at www.bcbsla.com as you always have for information about your benefits. In addition, our plan headquarters will remain in Baton Rouge, and regional sales offices will still be located across the state, including the recently announced Medicare Advantage Center of Excellence in Monroe.

While those things will stay the same, there are things changing for the better when we become part of Elevance Health. Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana members will be able to access a portfolio of solutions and capabilities developed by Elevance Health and its healthcare services organization, Carelon, with more than \$4 billion in investments over the past several years. These investments have improved access to behavioral health, complex and chronic care programs and innovative digital models.

These solutions have demonstrated success nationally in improving members' health and keeping them healthier. We will also bring more effective and efficient solutions such as integrated pharmacy, care navigation, and member advocacy, focused on helping improve member health outcomes. Further, Elevance Health is committed to continued investment in broadening its breadth of services to advance the whole health of its members. All of this means we will be able to better serve you, and to do more to improve your health and give you access to affordable health care.

Finally, I'm very pleased to let you know that the proceeds from the transaction will fund a multi-billion dollar foundation that will focus only on the unique and complex needs of Louisianians. The *Accelerate Louisiana*

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Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana is an independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association and is incorporated as Louisiana Health Service & Indemnity Company.

Initiative foundation's mission - like ours - will be to improve the health and lives of the people of Louisiana. The foundation will focus on strengthening communities by addressing health inequities and broader community needs in Louisiana, which continues to lag the nation in many important health metrics.

We believe the transaction with Elevance Health will not only allow us to continue to meet our mission and serve our policyholders, our members and all of our stakeholders, but will also have a material positive impact on the health of Louisiana through the Accelerate Louisiana Initiative.

Today's announcement simply signals the intent of two organizations coming together. The acquisition requires customary regulatory approvals, and approvals by the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association before it can close. While we do not know when the transaction will close, it is important to note that from the standpoint of our business and customers, **it will be business as usual**. We will continue to serve you as we always have. Additional information on the transaction can be found at www.bcbsla.com/facts.

Thank you for the trust you put in Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana for your health insurance needs. We look forward to continuing to serve you as we bring new and exciting products and services to Louisiana.

Sincerely,



I. Steven Udvarhelyi M.D.
President and CEO

