



MEDIA ADVISORY

OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL HENRY McMASTER
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

For Immediate Release
April 17, 2009

Contact: Mark Plowden
803-734-3670
mplowden@ag.state.sc.us

AG to Present Laurens County Medical Clinic With Settlement Money

Columbia, S.C. – Attorney General Henry McMaster will present the Good Shepherd Medical Clinic in Laurens County with a check for \$10,000 on **Monday, April 20, 2009**, to support their medical outreach to low-income, disabled, and elderly beneficiaries.

The check presentation will take place at **10:00 a.m. at the Good Shepherd Medical Clinic building, located at 245 Human Services Road in Clinton.**

The clinic serves low-income residents of the Laurens County area who have no medical coverage (no Medicaid, Medicare, or private health insurance).

The funds are part of a settlement reached by twenty-eight (28) state attorneys general early this year with Caremark, one of the nation's largest pharmacy benefits management companies. The company processes prescription drug claims and negotiates pharmaceutical volume discounts for employer and government health plans.

The complaint filed by the states against Caremark Rx, L.L.C., and subsidiaries Caremark, L.L.C. and CaremarkPCS, L.L.C., alleged that Caremark engaged in deceptive business practices by encouraging doctors to switch patients to different brand-name prescription drugs and representing that the patients and/or health plans would save money. Further, Caremark did not adequately inform doctors of the effect this switch would have on costs to patients and health plans.

Funds received by the states from this settlement are to be directed, at the discretion of the attorneys general, to benefit low-income, disabled, or elderly consumers of prescription medications, to promote lower drug costs for state residents, or to educate consumers concerning the cost differences among medications.

###