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PATRICK CATES
Board Chairman

Rates are Dropping for Everyone Next Year!

The Public Employees' Benefits Program (PEBP) Board met on Thursday, March 22, 2018 to approve Plan Year 2019 rates as well as approve master plan documents for all plans, ratify contracts, expand a pilot program for healthcare services, and discuss upcoming legislative priorities.

Rates decreased for all members on all tiers on all plans at PEBP! This includes the statewide Consumer Driven Health Plan (CDHP), southern Nevada HMO (Health Plan of Nevada), and PEBP's new Premier (EPO) Plan (replacing Hometown Health HMO starting July). Based on excellent plan management and strategic decision-making by the PEBP Board, PEBP was positioned to provide this rate relief to all of our members next year. PEBP will have final rates uploaded on our website by April 15, 2018. Once posted, please navigate to the Rates section to see your new monthly premiums.

As part of the rates approval, the PEBP Board also approved a one-time supplemental distribution of \$2 per month per year of service to all Medicare retirees participating on the Medicare Exchange through Towers Watson. For a retiree with 15 years of service, this becomes an additional \$360 added to the Medicare retiree's Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA) account. These funds will be available in the first few weeks of July.

The Board also approved a contract with Saint Mary's in Reno, Nevada increasing the available providers in that region significantly while saving costs over current arrangements today. Furthermore, the Board approved expanding this opportunity to Carson City members by applying these cost savings with Carson Tahoe Health. Saint Mary's and their system of care (primary care, specialists, and hospital services) will be available to PEBP members on both the CDHP and Premier Plan starting July.

The Premier Plan was unveiled at the PEBP Board meeting with the complete Master Plan Document posted for review. The Premier Plan is PEBP's replacement to the Hometown Health HMO Plan starting July. Many similarities were implemented between these two plans to continue to provide similar levels of care and costs to the members who select this plan next year.

PEBP will be releasing our April newsletter next month which will include more information and a schedule of Open Enrollment meetings in May. We will also periodically send you information on new programs and opportunities to maximize your benefits.

PEBP is proud to provide state and local employees, retirees, and their families with high quality benefits at affordable prices. We are excited to share the news and hope the rate decrease provides some financial relief to our members!