

Healthcare Cost Containment Committee Minutes

March 5, 2014

3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Attendees: Carolyn Belfiore, Karen Bonin, Bill Byron, Marge Chiafery, Debie Clayton, Kim Demaso, Sandi Eherenman, Linda Freeman, Bob Gidari, Linda Hastings, George Markwell, Marsha McGill, Linda Murgo, Christine Soucy, Paula Williams

1. Introduce Bill Byron, HealthTrust Representative

Marge Chiafery introduced Bill Byron, a HealthTrust representative for thirteen years.

2. Approval of February 12, 2014 Minutes

Sandi Eherenman moved (seconded by Karen Bonin) to approve the February 12, 2014 minutes.

The motion passed 12-0-3 with Bob Gidari, Debie Clayton, and Marsha McGill abstaining.

3. Health Assessment (HA) Participation

a) Rate for February 2014

Bill Byron reported the Health Assessment Survey participation rate for February was 42% compared to the HealthTrust membership average of approximately 32%. The District's participation rate for self-directed programs and the portal usage is also above the HealthTrust membership average rate.

b) Promotion Strategies for March

- It was noted that the District's Health Assessment participation rate is less than it was last year at this time.
- 1% is equivalent to approximately 12 or 13 individuals.
- Promote the fact that dependents 18 years and above are now eligible to complete the Health Assessment Survey and receive the \$75 reward. Encourage college students to complete the survey during spring break.
- Bill Byron offered to create a pie chart entitled "How much money do you want?" with Life Point information on the back side.
- Promote ways to enter drawings for free Visa gift cards. The Merrimack School District has had one Visa card recipient each quarter. Two winners that have come forward to date are Carol Scopa, a paraeducator from Thorntons Ferry Elementary School and President of the Merrimack Educational Support Staff (MESSA) and Jane Hoover, guidance counselor from James Masticola Elementary School. It was suggested that Carol and Jane be invited to attend the April meeting to share an overview, without exposing details, how they became eligible. The committee would like to know the number of winners from the District since the inception of the program.

4. Promotion of Biometric Health Screening on March 12, 2014

Bill Byron reported that the last open slots for the biometric health screening are expected to be full prior to March 12th. He has been attending the regional screenings and gaining firsthand knowledge of the event. The HealthTrust will provide a laptop at the biometric screening in the event individuals want to complete the Health Assessment survey.

Bill Byron reported that dependents 18 years and older have been participating in the biometric screenings.

5. Health and Safety Academy Report

Christine Soucy and Bob Gidari attended the Health and Safety Academy. The District received \$1,000 as a result of their participation. Bob and Christine highlighted several of the Health and Safety activities/programs they received. Many of the activities/programs can be structured competitively or individually. Bob and Christine each received a blood pressure monitor with interchangeable cuffs for the District's use.

Bill Byron reported there are currently 106 Health and Safety representatives. The distribution of the blood pressure monitors was a result of many individuals not knowing their blood pressure when completing the Health Assessment Survey.

Marge Chiafery encouraged committee members to peruse the Health and Safety Academy resources.

6. Reflections Upon Material Regarding District's Health

Marge Chiafery asked that a particular page from a previous distribution of material be returned to her for shredding because the document could link individuals to medical conditions.

In response to a question asked at a previous meeting, Debie Clayton reported Merrimack has 778 enrollees compared to the overall July pool of 21,043. Debie explained that the HealthTrust uses the same formula for all member groups.

Debie Clayton reported that she will report the health insurance rate for the District at the April meeting. Insurance costs were reviewed.

Debie Clayton noted that the District's average member cost share for prescriptions is 10.5% compared to the HealthTrust overall average of 6%.

Marge Chiafery noted that more individuals in the District have become better informed about the cost of their health care. The Compass Smart Shopper program has resulted in a cost savings to the District. The amount of savings for the District as a result of using the Compass Smart Shopper will be announced at the April meeting.

Individuals who do not have a username and password for dependents 18 years and older should call OnLife Health at 1-866-564-5237.

It was noted that HealthTrust vendors are Anthem, Delta Dental, CVS/Caremark and OnLife Health.

The next meeting will be held on April 2, 2014.

2013-2014 School Year Meeting Dates

| Meeting Date | Refreshments |
|--------------|-------------------------------|
| April 2 | Linda Murgo |
| May 7 | Marge Chiafery, Sandy Swanson |
| June 4 | Debie Clayton, Bill Byron |
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