

*Welcome to the inaugural issue of the NY44 Board Meeting Notes!*

This communication will replace the monthly News Brief and will be provided after each NY44 Health Benefits Plan Trust Board of Trustees meeting. It's our way to ensure you have a chance to stay in touch with Board activities even if you haven't been able to view the meetings.

## FISCAL REPORT

**Revenue and Disbursements** – The chart below is of the full book of business for the Trust and the accounts are organized in the same manner as the annual audited financial statements. The three columns are revenue and disbursements recorded monthly, running fiscal to date total, and the year end of the previous year for comparison. The prior year column now includes the audited 2020-21 figures from the auditors. Line-item other expenses include operational expenses, insurance bond liability, secure email services, bank lockbox, etc. Throughout the fiscal year several months have five funding obligations to the carriers (Independent Health and MVP Healthcare).

Revenue & Disbursements	Time Period 12/01/2021	Year to Date 7/1/2021 - 12/31/2021	Audited Financial Statement Ending 6/30/2021 (Prior Year)
<b>Revenues</b>			
Participants' Premium Contributions	\$ 9,697,492	\$ 57,325,715	\$ 120,301,267
Participants' Assessments	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
RDS-Drug Subsidy	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 396,096
Interest Income	\$ 21,581	\$ 140,272	\$ 149,033
Trust Administrative Fee	\$ 72,512	\$ 427,815	\$ 830,640
Realized Chg in Investments	\$ -	\$ (200,430)	\$ (49,556)
Pharmacy Rebates	\$ -	\$ 1,684,631	\$ 7,175,033
Other Income- Stop Loss Reimbursement	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 281,726
Med Reimburse claims by TPA internal audits	\$ 849	\$ 206,980	\$ -
	\$ -		
<b>Total Revenues</b>	\$ 9,792,434	\$ 59,584,983	\$ 129,084,239
<b>Disbursements</b>			
Medical, Rx, and Dental Claim Payments	\$ 9,744,335	\$ 55,169,001	\$ 114,602,948
Claim Administrative fees-TPA	\$ 289,754	\$ 1,655,751	\$ 2,710,817
Salaries Payroll Taxes	\$ 17,700	\$ 115,414	\$ 84,145
Legal and Consulting	\$ 64,964	\$ 431,293	\$ 835,313
Insurance	\$ 57,353	\$ 398,241	\$ 671,251
PCORI	\$ -	\$ 38,418	\$ 46,569
Other	\$ 16,520	\$ 149,451	\$ 197,375
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Total Expenses</b>	\$ 10,190,626	\$ 57,957,569	\$ 119,148,418
<b>Net Revenues - Disbursements</b>	\$ (398,192)	\$ 1,627,415	\$ 9,935,821
<b>NET ASSETS, at beginning of Year</b>		\$ 47,990,544	\$ 38,054,723
<b>NET ASSETS, at YTD and end of year</b>		\$ 49,617,959	\$ 47,990,544
<b>*Med Reimburse credit is applied to the Medical Claims</b>			
<b>*Line Item Other Expenses Includes: Operational Exp, Insur. Bond Liability, Bank lockbox, Mtg. Exp., Quick Books Renewal, NeoCertified Secure email renewal, bswift set up fees for newy created files</b>			

## NY44 STAFF UPDATES

### Dental Plan: July 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021

To increase value and contain cost for enrollees the dental plan changed administrators effective January 1, 2021. The figures reported for dental encompass July – December 2021. Historically August and September have been months of high dental claims usage due to dependents going back to school. We see fluctuations again during recess months such as January and March/April, depending on the Spring break.



More information on dental benefits and newly added features can be found on the [www.ny44.e1b.org](http://www.ny44.e1b.org) website.

**Dental Revenue:** \$680,986.00  
**Dental Expenses:** -\$568,830.63  
**Admin Fee Expense:** -\$36,402.50  
**Dental Net Income** \$ 75,752.87

### Bswift Reminder



As a reminder, it is important that all enrollee and dependent demographic information ([including email addresses](#)) is kept up to date in the bswift system as the Third-Party Administrators (Independent Health, MVP Healthcare, Capital Rx, etc.), government entities and the NY44 Trust rely on this information to communicate with members when necessary.

Please contact Stacey Porter at (716) 821-7073 if you need assistance with **bswift concerns or questions**. [sporter@e1b.org](mailto:sporter@e1b.org)

Please contact Lora Schasel at (716) 821-7161 if you need assistance with **billing concerns or questions**. [lschasel@e1b.org](mailto:lschasel@e1b.org)

## SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

### Benefits Subcommittee

The Benefits Subcommittee held its open forum meeting on 11/30/2021 where we discussed:

#### Chiropractic

- Effective 1/1/2022 – implemented an annual combined limit of 36 visits for the Traditional Plan

#### Dental

- 15.2% PEPM savings due to change in dental administrators implemented 1/1/2021
- More than 2,000 members eligible for an additional rollover amount

#### Prescription

- Capital Rx delay of standard formulary changes and an option to receive 90-day supply of maintenance drugs via Wegman's and Stony Point retail pharmacies
- Trust formulary changes due to Capital Rx transition will apply only to new prescriptions

We will meet again on February 15th to continue 2022 planning.

## Communications Subcommittee

The end of year Member Newsletter mailed in December. It contained important information on the latest Capital Rx prescription drug changes as well as a summary of what members need to know about Payer Matrix, a new prescription-related vendor introduced in July 2021.

There was also a reminder on the need to report life event changes within 30 days.

Members received a copy at the address listed in the bSwift administration system.

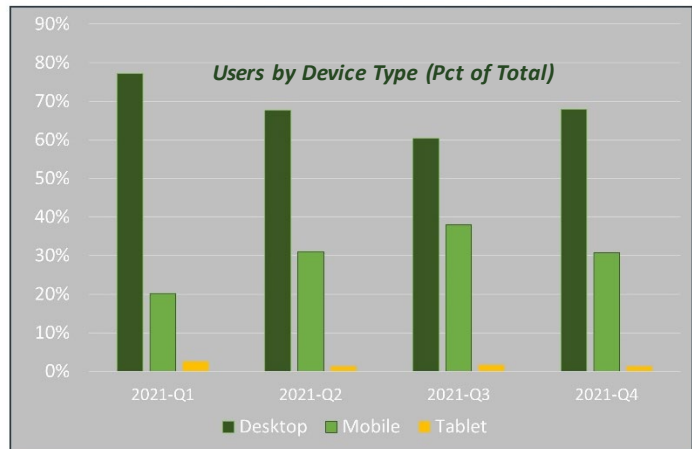
A digital copy can, of course, be found on the NY44 website.

We periodically measure and report on various measures of activity at the NY44 website. This helps us understand member activity and allows us to devise ways to enhance the member website experience.

Below is data showing that visits from mobile devices (smartphones) remained strong. Usage slipped a little into the fourth quarter, likely due to the holiday and vacation season.



Quarter	Users	Pageviews
2021-Q1	1,194	8,532
2021-Q2	3,076	14,707
2021-Q3	2,228	10,660
2021-Q4	1,615	7,121



## Finance Subcommittee

Utilization performance through November 2021.

Most Recent	1 Month	3 Months	12 Months	5 Month(s)
	November 2021	September 2021 - November 2021	December 2020 - November 2021	July 2021 - November 2021

Month	Quarter	Year	Fiscal Year
Per Employee Per Month: <b>\$1,228</b> November 2021	Average Per Employee Per Month: <b>\$1,440</b> September 2021 - November 2021	Average Per Employee Per Month: <b>\$1,604</b> December 2020 - November 2021	Average Per Employee Per Month: <b>\$1,546</b> July 2021 - November 2021

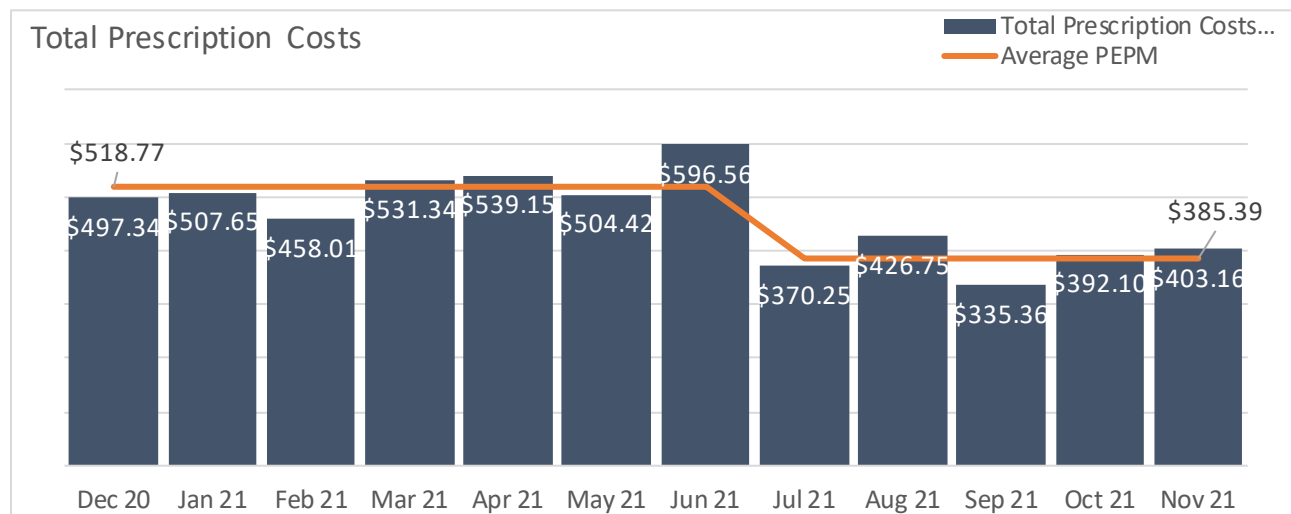
The fiscal year is averaging \$1,546 Per Enrolled Per Month (PEPM), up 1.8% compared to the same period last year [\$1,518 PEPM from July 2020 – November 2020]. The PEPM for most recent total of \$1,228 for November 2021 is about 20.6% lower than the fiscal year average of \$1,546.

The chart below isolates the prescriptions costs to measure the financial impact to the trust. The information used for this measurement includes all fees associated with the new pharmacy administrator. The 12-month window of time below shows an average of \$518.77 PEPM for prescriptions before implementation of the Pharmacy Managers. The average after dropped by 25.7% to \$385.39 PEPM.

In the Fiscal year (Jul-Nov 2021 5 months), the 10 largest claimants averaged \$282K each. Six members have utilized \$300K or more for medical and prescription care.

The timing of Rx rebate influences the fluctuations in percentages from one reported period to the next. Rebates are still part of the agreement but not included in this calculation, due to the lagged reporting structure. We will continue to monitor claims as they develop and mature throughout the year. Rebates however are included in the overall utilization across the top where reporting is appropriate and available.

*Total Costs include all Medical and Rx related charges, specifically: Claims, Stop-loss Premiums, Third-Party Administration Fees, Rebates, and Taxes.*



### Innovation Subcommittee

- Our committee continues to explore the Quality & Cost Transparency concept that we discussed at the May 2021 Board meeting.
- The Return on Investment (ROI) analysis is completed. The Innovations Subcommittee met in December 2021 to review.
- Subcommittee members requested specific examples of actual claims and providers used by NY44 members.
- At the next Subcommittee meeting, we will determine if additional information is sufficient to report their findings to the NY44 Board at next scheduled board meeting.

**The Quality Cost Transparency program can be added to the existing NY44 benefit plans and networks offered today.**

- **Payer Matrix Program** – saved the Trust a total of **\$3,115,950** through December 31st in claim costs for specialty drugs that qualified and were approved for alternate funding. Additionally, members who qualified for alternate funding had little to no out-of-pocket costs.

## Population Health Subcommittee

Our Population Health Subcommittee has finalized the 2022 Trust Incentive and Engagement initiative. To begin earning incentives for your district, plan on attending important NY44 Trust meetings beginning now-June 2022. Each district has received an email specifying the potential dollar amount incentive.

As a reminder, the Healthcare and Claims Performance Dashboards are still available. These reports show valuable population health information about unique demographics, top chronic conditions and prescription drug utilization and much more. Send an email to [NY44@oswaldcompanies.com](mailto:NY44@oswaldcompanies.com) to request the report. Please include your contact information in your message.

As always SparkUNPLUG is available on demand as an excellent mindfulness, stress reduction and gratitude resource to share with your employees ([SparkUNPLUG](#)), as well as highlighted wellness articles are below.

## WELLNESS TIPS FOR BETTER POPULATION HEALTH

### 8 Ways to Fight Winter Weight Gain

Imagine that it's April. The weather is warming up and it's time to pull your spring clothes out of storage, including the bathing suit you shoved in the back of your closet in September. [Here](#) are some tips to help you overcome the most common winter hurdles.



### Benefits of Exercising During the Workday

It's common knowledge that exercise makes you stronger, fitter, and healthier, both mentally and physically. But it has many other, lesser-known benefits – like helping you get more done at work. So, how does exercise make you a more efficient employee? Click [here](#) to find out.

### National Blood Donor Month

January is National Blood Donor Month! Every donation is critical, and you can make a lifesaving difference. Click [here](#) to make your blood donation appointment.



## Other Sharing Points:

Our team works together to provide relevant updates regarding the NY44 Health Benefits Plan Trust. The News Brief is one of the communication mechanisms used. There are also Subcommittees, which hold Open Forums to keep you updated. The calendar of upcoming Open Forums can be found [here](#). We hope you'll be able to join each of the Subcommittee Open Forums so that you can become actively engaged and learn more about the following topics: benefits, population health, communication, finances, and innovations. The Open Forums are in a format that allows open discussion. Please join us!

If your school is interested in Guardian Dental, please contact Steve Baltas at [SBaltas@oswaldcompanies.com](mailto:SBaltas@oswaldcompanies.com). Check the [www.ny44.e1b.org](http://www.ny44.e1b.org) website for updates.

The 2020-21 Financial Audit is posted on the NY44 Health Trust website.

The next upcoming Board of Trustees meeting will be February 17 at 3:00 PM.  
Click on the icon to the right to download an Outlook meeting invitation.



You are receiving the *NY44 Board Meeting Notes* as an individual who has been identified by your school district as a contact person, either as the Superintendent, Business Official, Union President, or Benefit Administrator.

Periodically email communication will be sent out from the NY44 Trust or from our consultants at Oswald Companies. The communications may include surveys, updates, Board/Annual meetings, or Subcommittee summaries of open forum meetings. We ask that at the district level a process to coordinate the delivery of information to your enrollees is implemented on the best practices you have already developed. Some successful areas used in the past are the internal staff intranet or emailing directly to the enrollee from HR-Benefits, Union Presidents, or depending on the message a mass email to all active and retired employees. The school has available the most current email addresses. We have found that the bswift enrollment system is missing or has not been updated with the current contact information. There will be other communication that will be sent from or on behalf of the NY44 Trust to the enrollees too, such as postcards and newsletters.

The NY44 Health Benefits Plan Trust is a self-funded plan working in partnership with the school districts. As we continue to have the Committee Open forums, we appreciate your participation and ask that you join us. Thank you.