

NY44 Health Benefits Plan Trust Board Meeting

Minutes: Number 134, October 17, 2023

Opening of Meeting 3:01 PM

In attendance: Chair Jim Fregelette, Vice Chair Donna Walters, Trustees Deborah Piatek, Candace Reimer, Wayne Drescher, Michelle Struzik, Maria Massaro, Alicia Savino, John Pope, Christa McHale, Michelle Okal-Fink, Elizabeth Freas, Robert Giannicchi and David Scalzo. Also attending: Benefits Specialist, Stacey Porter, Fiscal Agent, Lora Schasel, Darcie Falsioni, Esq. Representatives from Oswald Companies, Steve Baltas, Gretchen Heil, John Kertis, Medhat Kaldas and Molly Mausar.

1. Public Comments and Questions

Donna Walters brought up a member who had to take her child to the ER twice in one month and the concern for the \$300.00 copay each time.

A. Presentations/ Informational Items

1. Fiscal Update

Fiscal Agent, Lora Schasel reported that the Trust's total assets as of Sept 2023 were \$68.6M and the total equity was \$56.9M. The Trust's net assets as of Sept 30, 2023, are \$55.5 M. Lora also advised that both the prior year and year to date numbers will change once our audit is completed. The reported numbers are unaudited.

As of September 2023, the trust has gained 40 enrollees across all coverage tiers.

Total cash and investments are currently \$71.7M. Revenue versus Expenses shows the Trust continues to be in good financial health with revenues ahead of expenses.

Lora advised that in July & August there were higher than normal medical claims due to extra funding requirements by IHA and MVP. As a result, the Trust is currently at a \$3M deficit for Medical/Rx.

It was reported that our dental claims for July through September were higher than normal as a result, we are currently at an almost \$39K deficit through the end of September. Claims for October will be \$102,114 which is below average, and revenue will be \$117,987 which is above average, so we should finish October with \$10.3K in income, decreasing the YTD loss to \$28.4K.

Administrative Report

1. 2023 School Audits

Stacey Porter reported that she has completed all the audits for the school districts for the year of 2023. All the districts had good audits and continue to obtain the necessary documents that we use for auditing purposes. (Special needs, Domestic Partner)

NY44 Health Benefits Plan Trust Board Meeting

Minutes: Number 134, October 17, 2023

2. Healthcare Bluebook Highlights

Stacey reported that since the program started May 2023, we have issued \$5,410 in rewards to members for using the platform.

3. Brook+ Highlights

Stacey reported that IHA members received the Brook+ email about a month ago. The email for the MVP members should be going out by Friday, October 20th, 2023. To date, 148 members have registered for Brook+ and we have a cumulative 426 lbs. lost for an average of 2.7 lbs. per person. There will be future communications including flyers for the districts, mailings to members and 2nd email to members.

4. Personal Email Address Campaign Update

Stacey reported that we have a total of 1,942 personal email addresses collected as of October 17, 2023. With school back in session, another email will be sent to the districts asking for their personal email address for information on the HCBB and Brook + programs.

B. Consultant Report

1. Subcommittee Updates

a. Financial Committee

Medhat Kaldas, Oswald Companies, reported on utilization. The August PEPM was \$1,961, which was 22% higher than the annual average of \$1,607. The medical and Rx total claim utilization is up by 15% from the average.

From July 2022 through June 2023, the 10 largest claimants made up 10.0% of all claims. The largest claim for medical was \$512,081.

b. Communications Committee

John Kertis, Oswald Companies, reported on the website analytics. Users by device have remained steady with the desktop being the most used device. Robust usage of HealthCare Bluebook in the summer and HCBB continues to show good usage.

HCBB continues to be in the top 5 in page views. The *Pay Less* page is catching everyone's attention as well. Brook + is in 8th place. The analytics illustrate that the programs we have been promoting are being visited.

The Communications Subcommittee hosted an Open Forum on September 21, 2023, and covered the following topics: Optum to Replace Walmart, Brook+ Diabetes Prevention Program, Healthcare Bluebook.

NY44 Health Benefits Plan Trust Board Meeting

Minutes: Number 134, October 17, 2023

A Communication Plan was put together for the Capital Rx change from Walmart to Optum for Home Delivery and Specialty Medications. This was shared with the Benefit Administrators.

The NY44 Website has been updated with information on the change from Walmart to Optum-effective 1/1/24.

c. Population Health Committee

Molly Mausar reported that monthly wellness topics include:

- Global Handwashing Day
- National Breast Cancer Awareness Month
- Trick or Treat? How to have a Safe Holiday!

Molly gave a review of the Engagement Incentive Program which provides districts with an opportunity to earn participation points towards cash incentives for wellness related activities for their school.

A reminder was given that the Performance dashboard is a summary report of relevant district population health data such as demographics, top chronic conditions, top prescription drug utilization, etc. If schools are interested in a report for their district, they can send an email to NY44@oswaldcompanies.com to request one.

Molly went over the Healthcare Bluebook Utilization and the Top 10 Procedures Logged.

There are “On demand” wellness resources on the website under the participating schools tab which includes:

- Monthly Wellness Tips & Information
- Healthy recipe library, exercise videos, health related articles
- Mindfulness Accessibility
- Downloadable Exercise & Nutrition Logs

d. Innovation Committee

Gretchen Heil discussed the transition with Capital Rx from Walmart to Optum. She also discussed the timeline for mailings and member notification.

The Humira Plan Impact was discussed as far as the Current State and Cost Impact.

Gretchen discussed the Galleri – Multi-Cancer Early Detection Blood Test. This was discussed in the last Innovation Subcommittee. The Galleri blood test can detect up to 50+ cancer types. Further discussions will take place in the next Innovations meeting.

NY44 Health Benefits Plan Trust Board Meeting

Minutes: Number 134, October 17, 2023

e. Benefits Committee

Steve Baltas, Oswald Companies, reported:

- Most recent meeting was September 21, 2023.
- The subcommittee is currently focused on: Communication and education with the team for the upcoming Optum Mail Order benefit change as well as working with the Finance Committee on other benefits and administration issues.

The Subcommittee will meet again on October 18, 2023.

General Trust Business

None

Approval of Minutes

1. Meeting Number 133, August 24, 2023

The motion to approve the minutes from Meeting Number 133 held on 8/24/23, was made by Deborah Piatek, seconded by Christa McHale and carried unanimously. **CARRIED (by both Management and Labor Units)**

C. Old Business

None

D. New Business

1. Vote on Board Resolutions

a. Approval of Change to the Engagement Strategy

The motion to approve a change to the Engagement Strategy to allow either a Management or Labor Representative to attend Trust meetings to earn points for the Engagement Incentive was made by John Pope and seconded by Christa McHale and carried unanimously. **CARRIED (by both Management and Labor Units)**

Adjournment

1. Next Board of Trustees' Meeting will be on January 18, 2024, at 3:00 PM

The motion to adjourn at 3:56 PM was made by Candace Reimer, seconded by John Pope and unanimously approved. **CARRIED (by both Management and Labor Units)**

Respectfully Submitted,

Stacey Porter
Interim Secretary to the Board of Trustees