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If you (and/or your dependents) have Medicare or will become eligible for Medicare in the next 12 months, a Federal law gives you more choices about your prescription drug coverage.

Please refer to the Certificate of Creditable Drug Coverage (Medicare Part D)

Notice on page 3 of this booklet for more details.



## **EMPLOYER REPRESENTATIVE**

#### **Employer Representative**

If you'd like additional information about any of these notices or your rights under them, please contact:

Lisa Silvertooth, Human Resources Manager (941) 316-1999, 1811 lsilvertooth@longboatkey.org

## **NOTICE OF CREDITABLE COVERAGE**

Important Notice from Town of Longboat Key
About Your Prescription Drug Coverage and Medicare

Please read this notice carefully and keep it where you can find it. This notice has information about your current prescription drug coverage with Town of Longboat Key and about your options under Medicare's prescription drug coverage. This information can help you decide whether or not you want to join a Medicare drug plan. If you are considering joining, you should compare your current coverage, including which drugs are covered at what cost, with the coverage and costs of the plans offering Medicare prescription drug coverage in your area. Information about where you can get help to make decisions about your prescription drug coverage is at the end of this notice.

There are two important things you need to know about your current coverage and Medicare's prescription drug coverage:

- 1. Medicare prescription drug coverage became available in 2006 to everyone with Medicare. You can get this coverage if you join a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan or join a Medicare Advantage Plan (like an HMO or PPO) that offers prescription drug coverage. All Medicare drug plans provide at least a standard level of coverage set by Medicare. Some plans may also offer more coverage for a higher monthly premium.
- 2. The Town of Longboat Key has determined that the prescription drug coverage offered through a Public Risk Management Group Health Trust medical plan is, on average for all plan participants, expected to pay out as much as standard Medicare prescription drug coverage pays and is therefore considered Creditable Coverage. Because your existing coverage is Creditable Coverage, you can keep this coverage and not pay a higher premium (a penalty) if you later decide to join a Medicare drug plan.

#### When Can You Join a Medicare Drug Plan?

You can join a Medicare drug plan when you first become eligible for Medicare and each year from October 15th to December 7th.





However, if you lose your current creditable prescription drug coverage, through no fault of your own, you will also be eligible for a two (2) month Special Enrollment Period (SEP) to join a Medicare drug plan.

#### What Happens to Your Current Coverage if You Decide to Join a Medicare Drug Plan?

If you decide to join a Medicare drug plan, your current Town of Longboat Key coverage will not be affected.

If you do decide to join a Medicare drug plan and drop your current Town of Longboat Key coverage, be aware that you and your dependents will not be able to get this coverage back.

#### When Will You Pay a Higher Premium (Penalty) to Join a Medicare Drug Plan?

You should also know that if you drop or lose your current coverage with the Town of Longboat Key and don't join a Medicare drug plan within 63 continuous days after your current coverage ends, you may pay a higher premium (a penalty) to join a Medicare drug plan later.

If you go 63 continuous days or longer without creditable prescription drug coverage, your monthly premium may go up by at least 1% of the Medicare base beneficiary premium per month for every month that you did not have that coverage. For example, if you go nineteen months without creditable coverage, your premium may consistently be at least 19% higher than the Medicare base beneficiary premium. You may have to pay this higher premium (a penalty) as long as you have Medicare prescription drug coverage. In addition, you may have to wait until the following October to join.

#### For More Information About This Notice or Your Current Prescription Drug Coverage...

Contact your Plan Administrator for further information. **NOTE:** You'll get this notice each year. You will also get it before the next period you can join a Medicare drug plan, and if this coverage through your Public Risk Management Group Health Trust medical plan changes. You also may request a copy of this notice at any time.

#### For More Information About Your Options Under Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage...

More detailed information about Medicare plans that offer prescription drug coverage is in the "Medicare & You" handbook. You'll get a copy of the handbook in the mail every year from Medicare. You may also be contacted directly by Medicare drug plans.

For more information about Medicare prescription drug coverage:

- Visit <u>www.medicare.gov</u>
- Call your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (see the inside back cover of your copy
  of the "Medicare & You" handbook for their telephone number) for personalized help
- Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.



If you have limited income and resources, extra help paying for Medicare prescription drug coverage is available. For information about this extra help, visit Social Security on the web at <a href="https://www.socialsecurity.gov">www.socialsecurity.gov</a>, or call them at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

Remember: Keep this Creditable Coverage Notice. If you decide to join one of the Medicare drug plans, you may be required to provide a copy of this notice when you join to show whether or not you have maintained creditable coverage and, therefore, whether or not you are required to pay a higher premium (a penalty).

Date: August 1, 2025

Name of Entity: Town of Longboat Key

Contact Position/Office: Lisa Silvertooth, Human Resources Manager Address: 501 Bay Isles Road, Longboat Key, FL 34228

Phone Number: (941) 316-1999, x1811

## Women's Health & Cancer Rights Act

If you have had or are going to have a mastectomy, you may be entitled to certain benefits under the Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998 ("WHCRA"). For individuals receiving mastectomy-related benefits, coverage will be provided in a manner determined in consultation with the attending physician and the patient, for:

- All stages of reconstruction of the breast on which the mastectomy was performed;
- Surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce a symmetrical appearance;
- Prostheses; and
- Treatment of physical complications of the mastectomy, including lymphedema.

These benefits will be provided subject to the same deductibles and coinsurance applicable to other medical and surgical benefits provided under the plan.

If you would like more information on WHCRA benefits, contact the Employer Representative.

### **Newborns' and Mothers' Health Protection Act**

Group health plans and health insurance issuers generally may not, under Federal law, restrict benefits for any hospital length of stay in connection with childbirth for the mother or newborn child to less than 48 hours following a vaginal delivery, or less than 96 hours following a cesarean section. However, Federal law generally does not prohibit the mother's or newborn's attending provider, after consulting with the mother, from discharging the mother or her newborn earlier than 48 hours (or 96 hours as applicable). In any case, plans and issuers may not, under Federal law, require that a provider obtain authorization from the plan or insurance issuer for prescribing a length of stay not in excess of 48 hours (or 96 hours).



### GENETIC INFORMATION NONDISCRIMINATION ACT (GINA)

The Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008 ("GINA") protects employees against discrimination based on their genetic information. Unless otherwise permitted, your Employer may not request or require any genetic information from you or your family members.

The Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008 (GINA) prohibits employers and other entities covered by GINA Title II from requesting or requiring genetic information of an individual or family member of the individual, except as specifically allowed by this law. To comply with this law, we are asking that you not provide any genetic information when responding to this request for medical information. "Genetic information," as defined by GINA, includes an individual's family medical history, the results of an individual's or family member's genetic tests, the fact that an individual or an individual's family member sought or received genetic services, and genetic information of a fetus carried by an individual or an individual's family member or an embryo lawfully held by an individual or family member receiving assistive reproductive services.

### **HIPAA NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES REMINDER**

#### **Protecting Your Health Information Privacy Rights**

The Town of Longboat Key is committed to the privacy of your health information. The administrators of the Town of Longboat Key (the "Plan") use strict privacy standards to protect your health information from unauthorized use or disclosure.

The Plan's policies protecting your privacy rights and your rights under the law are described in the Plan's Notice of Privacy Practices. You may receive a copy of the Notice of Privacy Practices by contacting Lisa Silvertooth at (941) 316-1999, x1811 or <a href="mailto:lsilvertooth@longboatkey.org">lsilvertooth@longboatkey.org</a>. The notice also is available online on the Human Resources page on SharePoint.



# PREMIUM ASSISTANCE UNDER MEDICAID AND THE CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM (CHIP)

If you or your children are eligible for Medicaid or CHIP and you're eligible for health coverage from your employer, your state may have a premium assistance program that can help pay for coverage, using funds from their Medicaid or CHIP programs. If you or your children aren't eligible for Medicaid or CHIP, you won't be eligible for these premium assistance programs but you may be able to buy individual insurance coverage through the Health Insurance Marketplace. For more information, visit www.healthcare.gov.

If you or your dependents are already enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP and you live in a State listed below, contact your State Medicaid or CHIP office to find out if premium assistance is available.

If you or your dependents are NOT currently enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP, and you think you or any of your dependents might be eligible for either of these programs, contact your State Medicaid or CHIP office or dial 1-877-KIDS NOW or <a href="www.insurekidsnow.gov">www.insurekidsnow.gov</a> to find out how to apply. If you qualify, ask your state if it has a program that might help you pay the premiums for an employer-sponsored plan.

If you or your dependents are eligible for premium assistance under Medicaid or CHIP, as well as eligible under your employer plan, your employer must allow you to enroll in your employer plan if you aren't already enrolled. This is called a "special enrollment" opportunity, and you must request coverage within 60 days of being determined eligible for premium assistance. If you have questions about enrolling in your employer plan, contact the Department of Labor at <a href="https://www.askebsa.dol.gov">www.askebsa.dol.gov</a> or call 1-866-444-EBSA (3272).

If you live in one of the following states, you may be eligible for assistance paying your employer health plan premiums. The following list of states is current as of March 17, 2025. Contact your State for more information on eligibility –

ALABAMA – Medicaid	CALIFORNIA – Medicaid
Website: <a href="http://myalhipp.com/">http://myalhipp.com/</a>	Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP) Program Website:
Phone: 1-855-692-5447	http://dhcs.ca.gov/hipp
	Phone: 916-445-8322
	Fax: 916-440-5676
	Email: hipp@dhcs.ca.gov
ALASKA – Medicaid	COLORADO-Health First Colorado (Colorado's
ALASKA – Medicald	Medicaid Program) & Child Health Plan Plus (CHP+)
The AK Health Insurance Premium Payment	Health First Colorado Website:
Program	https://www.healthfirstcolorado.com/
Website: <a href="http://myakhipp.com/">http://myakhipp.com/</a>	Health First Colorado Member Contact Center:
Phone: 1-866-251-4861	1-800-221-3943/State Relay 711
Email: <u>CustomerService@MyAKHIPP.com</u>	CHP+: https://hcpf.colorado.gov/child-health-plan-plus
Medicaid Eligibility:	CHP+ Customer Service: 1-800-359-1991/State Relay 711
https://health.alaska.gov/dpa/Pages/default.aspx	Health Insurance Buy-In Program (HIBI):
	https://www.mycohibi.com/
	HIBI Customer Service: 1-855-692-6442
ARKANSAS – Medicaid	FLORIDA – Medicaid
Website: <a href="http://myarhipp.com/">http://myarhipp.com/</a>	Website:
Phone: 1-855-MyARHIPP (855-692-7447)	https://www.flmedicaidtplrecovery.com/flmedicaidtplrecovery.co
	m/hipp/index.html
	Phone: 1-877-357-3268



GEORGIA-Medicaid	MAINE-Medicaid
A HIPP Website: https://medicaid.georgia.gov/health-	Enrollment Website:
insurance-premium-payment-program-hipp	https://www.mymaineconnection.gov/benefits/s/?language=
Phone: 678-564-1162, Press 1	en US
GA CHIPRA Website:	Phone: 1-800-442-6003
https://medicaid.georgia.gov/programs/third-party-	TTY: Maine relay 711
liability/childrens-health-insurance-program-	Private Health Insurance Premium Webpage:
reauthorization-act-2009-chipra	https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/applications-forms
Phone: 678-564-1162, Press 2	Phone: 1-800-977-6740
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	TTY: Maine relay 711
INDIANA-Medicaid	MASSACHUSETTS-Medicaid and CHIP
Health Insurance Premium Payment Program	Website: https://www.mass.gov/masshealth/pa
All other Medicaid	Phone: 1-800-862-4840
Website: <a href="https://www.in.gov/medicaid/">https://www.in.gov/medicaid/</a>	TTY: 711
http://www.in.gov/fssa/dfr/	Email: masspremassistance@accenture.com
Family and Social Services Administration	•
Phone: 1-800-403-0864	
Member Services Phone: 1-800-457-4584	
IOWA-Medicaid and CHIP (Hawki)	MINNESOTA-Medicaid
Medicaid Website:	Website:
Iowa Medicaid   Health & Human Services	https://mn.gov/dhs/health-care-coverage/
Medicaid Phone: 1-800-338-8366	Phone: 1-800-657-3672
Hawki Website:	
Hawki - Healthy and Well Kids in Iowa   Health & Human	
Services	
Hawki Phone: 1-800-257-8563	
HIPP Website: Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP)	
Health & Human Services (iowa.gov)	
HIPP Phone: 1-888-346-9562	
KANSAS-Medicaid	MISSOURI-Medicaid
Website: https://www.kancare.ks.gov/	Website:
Phone: 1-800-792-4884	http://www.dss.mo.gov/mhd/participants/pages/hipp.htm
HIPP Phone: 1-800-967-4660	Phone: 573-751-2005
KENTUCKY-Medicaid	MONTANA-Medicaid
Kentucky Integrated Health Insurance Premium Payment	Website:
Program (KI-HIPP) Website:	http://dphhs.mt.gov/MontanaHealthcarePrograms/HIPP
https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms/member/Pages/kihipp.	Phone: 1-800-694-3084
<u>aspx</u>	Email: HHSHIPPProgram@mt.gov
	Elliali. Hilotiff F Flograni@inc.gov
Phone: 1-855-459-6328	Eman. mismrerrogrameme.gov
	Email. Histire Program@mc.gov
Phone: 1-855-459-6328	Email. Histirrrrograme me.gov
Phone: 1-855-459-6328 Email: KIHIPP.PROGRAM@ky.gov KCHIP Website: https://kynect.ky.gov Phone: 1-877-524-4718	Eman. mismrrriogrameme.gov
Phone: 1-855-459-6328 Email: KIHIPP.PROGRAM@ky.gov KCHIP Website: https://kynect.ky.gov Phone: 1-877-524-4718 Kentucky Medicaid Website:	Eman. mismrrrogrameme.gov
Phone: 1-855-459-6328 Email: KIHIPP.PROGRAM@ky.gov KCHIP Website: https://kynect.ky.gov Phone: 1-877-524-4718	Email. Histirrrrograme inc.gov
Phone: 1-855-459-6328 Email: KIHIPP.PROGRAM@ky.gov KCHIP Website: https://kynect.ky.gov Phone: 1-877-524-4718 Kentucky Medicaid Website: https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms	
Phone: 1-855-459-6328 Email: KIHIPP.PROGRAM@ky.gov KCHIP Website: https://kynect.ky.gov Phone: 1-877-524-4718 Kentucky Medicaid Website: https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms  LOUISIANA-Medicaid	NEBRASKA-Medicaid
Phone: 1-855-459-6328 Email: KIHIPP.PROGRAM@ky.gov KCHIP Website: https://kynect.ky.gov Phone: 1-877-524-4718 Kentucky Medicaid Website: https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms  LOUISIANA-Medicaid Website: www.medicaid.la.gov or www.ldh.la.gov/lahipp	NEBRASKA-Medicaid Website: http://www.ACCESSNebraska.ne.gov
Phone: 1-855-459-6328 Email: KIHIPP.PROGRAM@ky.gov KCHIP Website: https://kynect.ky.gov Phone: 1-877-524-4718 Kentucky Medicaid Website: https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms  LOUISIANA-Medicaid Website: www.medicaid.la.gov or www.ldh.la.gov/lahipp Phone: 1-888-342-6207 (Medicaid hotline) or	NEBRASKA-Medicaid
Phone: 1-855-459-6328 Email: KIHIPP.PROGRAM@ky.gov KCHIP Website: https://kynect.ky.gov Phone: 1-877-524-4718 Kentucky Medicaid Website: https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms  LOUISIANA-Medicaid Website: www.medicaid.la.gov or www.ldh.la.gov/lahipp	NEBRASKA-Medicaid Website: http://www.ACCESSNebraska.ne.gov Phone: 1-855-632-7633



NEVADA-Medicaid	SOUTH CAROLINA-Medicaid
Medicaid Website: http://dhcfp.nv.gov	Website: https://www.scdhhs.gov
Medicaid Phone: 1-800-992-0900	Phone: 1-888-549-0820
NEW HAMPSHIRE-Medicaid	SOUTH DAKOTA -Medicaid
Website: https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/programs-	Website: http://dss.sd.gov
services/medicaid/health-insurance-premium-program	Phone: 1-888-828-0059
Phone: 603-271-5218	
Toll free number for the HIPP program: 1-800-852-3345, ext. 15218	
Email: DHHS.ThirdPartyLiabi@dhhs.nh.gov	
NEW JERSEY-Medicaid and CHIP	TEXAS-Medicaid
Medicaid Website:	Website: Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP)
http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmahs/clients/medicaid/	Program   Texas Health and Human Services Phone: 1-800-440-0493
Phone: 1-800-356-1561	1 Holle: 1-000-440-0473
CHIP Premium Assistance Phone: 609-631-2392	
CHIP Website: <a href="http://www.njfamilycare.org/index.html">http://www.njfamilycare.org/index.html</a>	
CHIP Phone: 1-800-701-0710 (TTY: 711)	
NEW YORK-Medicaid	UTAH -Medicaid and CHIP
Website:	Utah's Premium Partnership for Health Insurance (UPP)
https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/	Website: https://medicaid.utah.gov/upp/
Phone: 1-800-541-2831	Email: <u>upp@utah.gov</u> Phone: 1-888-222-2542
	Adult Expansion Website:
	https://medicaid.utah.gov/expansion/
	Utah Medicaid Buyout Program Website:
	https://medicaid.utah.gov/buyout-program/
	CHIP Website: <a href="https://chip.utah.gov/">https://chip.utah.gov/</a>
NORTH CAROLINA-Medicaid	VERMONT-Medicaid
Website: https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/	Website: <u>Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP)</u>
Phone: 919-855-4100	Program   Department of Vermont Health Access
	Phone: 1-800-250-8427
NORTH DAKOTA-Medicaid	VIRGINIA-Medicaid and CHIP
Website: https://www.hhs.nd.gov/healthcare	Website:
Phone: 1-844-854-4825	https://coverva.dmas.virginia.gov/learn/premium-assistance/famis-select
	https://coverva.dmas.virginia.gov/learn/premium-
	assistance/health-insurance-premium-payment-hipp-
	programs
	Medicaid/CHIP Phone: 1-800-432-5924
OKLAHOMA-Medicaid and CHIP	WASHINGTON-Medicaid
Website: http://www.insureoklahoma.org	Website: https://www.hca.wa.gov/
Phone: 1-888-365-3742	Phone: 1-800-562-3022
ODEGOV M. P	WEST VIDGINIA M P LGHIP
OREGON-Medicaid	WEST VIRGINIA-Medicaid and CHIP
Website: <a href="http://healthcare.oregon.gov/Pages/index.aspx">http://healthcare.oregon.gov/Pages/index.aspx</a> Phone: 1-800-699-9075	Website: https://dhhr.wv.gov/bms/ http://mywyhipp.com/
1 Holle, 1 000 077 7075	Medicaid Phone: 304-558-1700
	CHIP Toll-free phone: 1-855-MyWVHIPP (1-855-699-8447)



PENNSYLVANIA-Medicaid	WISCONSIN-Medicaid and CHIP
Website: https://www.pa.gov/en/services/dhs/apply-	Website:
for-medicaid-health-insurance-premium-payment-	https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/badgercareplus/p-
program-hipp.html	<u>10095.htm</u>
Phone: 1-800-692-7462	Phone: 1-800-362-3002
CHIP Website: Children's Health Insurance Program	
(CHIP) (pa.gov)	
CHIP Phone: 1-800-986-KIDS (5437)	
RHODE ISLAND-Medicaid and CHIP	WYOMING-Medicaid
Website: <a href="http://www.eohhs.ri.gov/">http://www.eohhs.ri.gov/</a>	Website:
Phone: 1-855-697-4347, or	https://health.wyo.gov/healthcarefin/medicaid/programs-
401-462-0311 (Direct RIte Share Line)	and-eligibility/
	Phone: 1-800-251-1269

To see if any other states have added a premium assistance program since March 17, 2025, or for more information on special enrollment rights, contact either:

U.S. Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration www.dol.gov/agencies/ebsa 1-866-444-EBSA (3272) U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services www.cms.hhs.gov 1-877-267-2323, Menu Option 4, Ext. 61565

#### **Paperwork Reduction Act Statement**

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13) (PRA), no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. The Department notes that a Federal agency cannot conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it is approved by OMB under the PRA, and displays a currently valid OMB control number, and the public is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. See 44 U.S.C. 3507. Also, notwithstanding any other provisions of law, no person shall be subject to penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information if the collection of information does not display a currently valid OMB control number. See 44 U.S.C. 3512.

The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average approximately seven minutes per respondent. Interested parties are encouraged to send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the U.S. Department of Labor, Employee Benefits Security Administration, Office of Policy and Research, Attention: PRA Clearance Officer, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Room N-5718, Washington, DC 20210 or email ebsa.opr@dol.gov and reference the OMB Control Number 1210-0137.



## **HIPAA SPECIAL ENROLLMENT RIGHTS**

#### The Town of Longboat Key Notice of Your HIPAA Special Enrollment Rights

Our records show that you are eligible to participate in the Town of Longboat Key's employee benefits for the upcoming 2025-2026 plan year (to actually participate, you must complete an enrollment form and pay part of the premium through payroll deduction).

A federal law called HIPAA requires that we notify you about an important provision in the plan - your right to enroll in the plan under its "special enrollment provision" if you acquire a new dependent, or if you decline coverage under this plan for yourself or an eligible dependent while other coverage is in effect and later lose that other coverage for certain qualifying reasons.

Loss of Other Coverage (Excluding Medicaid or a State Children's Health Insurance Program). If you decline enrollment for yourself or for an eligible dependent (including your spouse) while other health insurance or group health plan coverage is in effect, you may be able to enroll yourself and your dependents in this plan if you or your dependents lose eligibility for that other coverage (or if the employer stops contributing toward your or your dependents' other coverage). However, you must request enrollment within 30 days after your or your dependents' other coverage ends (or after the employer stops contributing toward the other coverage).

Loss of Coverage for Medicaid or a State Children's Health Insurance Program. If you decline enrollment for yourself or for an eligible dependent (including your spouse) while Medicaid coverage or coverage under a state children's health insurance program is in effect, you may be able to enroll yourself and your dependents in this plan if you or your dependents lose eligibility for that other coverage. However, you must request enrollment within 60 days after your or your dependents' coverage ends under Medicaid or a state children's health insurance program.

**New Dependent by Marriage, Birth, Adoption, or Placement for Adoption.** If you have a new dependent as a result of marriage, birth, adoption, or placement for adoption, you may be able to enroll yourself and your new dependents. However, you must request enrollment within 30 days after the marriage, birth, adoption, or placement for adoption.

Eligibility for Premium Assistance Under Medicaid or a State Children's Health Insurance Program – If you or your dependents (including your spouse) become eligible for a state premium assistance subsidy from Medicaid or through a state children's health insurance program with respect to coverage under this plan, you may be able to enroll yourself and your dependents in this plan. However, you must request enrollment within 60 days after your or your dependents' determination of eligibility for such assistance.

To request special enrollment or to obtain more information about the plan's special enrollment provisions, contact Lisa Silvertooth, Human Resources Manager, (941) 316-1999, x1811, lsilvertooth@longboatkey.org.



## No Surprise Billing

When you get emergency care or are treated by an out-of-network provider at an in-network hospital or ambulatory surgical center, you are protected from balance billing. In these cases, you shouldn't be charged more than your plan's copayments, coinsurance and/or deductible.

#### What is "balance billing" (sometimes called "surprise billing")?

When you see a doctor or other health care provider, you may owe certain <u>out-of-pocket costs</u>, like a <u>copayment</u>, <u>coinsurance</u>, or <u>deductible</u>. You may have additional costs or have to pay the entire bill if you see a provider or visit a health care facility that isn't in your health plan's network.

"Out-of-network" means providers and facilities that haven't signed a contract with your health plan to provide services. Out-of-network providers may be allowed to bill you for the difference between what your plan pays and the full amount charged for a service. This is called "balance billing." This amount is likely more than in-network costs for the same service and might not count toward your plan's deductible or annual out-of-pocket limit.

"Surprise billing" is an unexpected balance bill. This can happen when you can't control who is involved in your care—like when you have an emergency or when you schedule a visit at an innetwork facility but are unexpectedly treated by an out-of-network provider. Surprise medical bills could cost thousands of dollars depending on the procedure or service.

#### You're protected from balance billing for:

• Emergency services

If you have an emergency medical condition and get emergency services from an out-of- network provider or facility, the most they can bill you is your plan's in-network cost-sharing amount (such as copayments, coinsurance, and deductibles). You **can't** be balance billed for these emergency services. This includes services you may get after you're in stable condition unless you give written consent and give up your protections not to be balanced billed for these post-stabilization services.

• Certain services at an in-network hospital or ambulatory surgical center

When you get services from an in-network hospital or ambulatory surgical center, certain providers there may be out-of-network. In these cases, the most those providers can bill you is your plan's innetwork cost-sharing amount. This applies to emergency medicine, anesthesia, pathology, radiology, laboratory, neonatology, assistant surgeon, hospitalist, or intensivist services. These providers **can't** balance bill you and may **not** ask you to give up your protections not to be balance billed.

If you get other types of services at these in-network facilities, out-of-network providers **can't** balance bill you unless you give written consent and give up your protections.

You're <u>never</u> required to give up your protections from balance billing. You also aren't required to get out-of-network care. You can choose a provider or facility in your plan's network.





#### When balance billing isn't allowed, you also have these protections:

- You're only responsible for paying your share of the cost (like the copayments, coinsurance, and deductible that you would pay if the provider or facility was in-network). Your health plan will pay any additional costs to out-of-network providers and facilities directly.
- Generally, your health plan must:
  - Cover emergency services without requiring you to get approval for services in advance (also known as "prior authorization").
  - o Cover emergency services by out-of-network providers.
  - Base what you owe the provider or facility (cost-sharing) on what it would pay an innetwork provider or facility and show that amount in your explanation of benefits.
  - Count any amount you pay for emergency services or out-of-network services toward your in-network deductible and out-of-pocket limit.

**If you think you've been wrongly billed**, contact the No Surprises Help Desk, operated by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, at 1-800-985-3059.

Visit www.cms.gov/nosurprises/consumers for more information about your rights under federal law.



## **GENERAL FMLA NOTICE**

## Employee Rights Under the Family and Medical Leave Act according to The United States Department of Labor Wage and Hour Division

#### **Leave Entitlements**

Eligible employees who work for a covered employer can take up to 12 weeks of unpaid, job-protected leave in a 12-month period for the following reasons:

- The birth of a child or placement of a child for adoption or foster care;
- To bond with a child (leave must be taken within 1 year of the child's birth or placement);
- To care for the employee's spouse, child, or parent who has a qualifying serious health condition;
- For the employee's own qualifying serious health condition that makes the employee unable to perform the employee's job;
- For qualifying exigencies related to the foreign deployment of a military member who is the employee's spouse, child, or parent.

An eligible employee who is a covered servicemember's spouse, child, parent, or next of kin may also take up to 26 weeks of FMLA leave in a single 12-month period to care for the servicemember with a serious injury or illness.

An employee does not need to use leave in one block. When it is medically necessary or otherwise permitted, employees may take leave intermittently or on a reduced schedule.

Employees may choose, or an employer may require, use of accrued paid leave while taking FMLA leave. If an employee substitutes accrued paid leave for FMLA leave, the employee must comply with the employer's normal paid leave policies.

#### **Benefits & Protections**

While employees are on FMLA leave, employers must continue health insurance coverage as if the employees were not on leave.

Upon return from FMLA leave, most employees must be restored to the same job or one nearly identical to it with equivalent pay, benefits, and other employment terms and conditions.

An employer may not interfere with an individual's FMLA rights or retaliate against someone for using or trying to use FMLA leave, opposing any practice made unlawful by the FMLA, or being involved in any proceeding under or related to the FMLA.

#### **Eligibility Requirements**

An employee who works for a covered employer must meet three criteria in order to be eligible for FMLA leave. The employee must:

- Have worked for the employer for at least 12 months;
- Have at least 1,250 hours of service in the 12 months before taking leave; and
- Work at a location where the employer has at least 50 employees within 75 miles of the employee's worksite.





#### Requesting Leave

Generally, employees must give 30-days' advance notice of the need for FMLA leave. If it is not possible to give 30-days' notice, an employee must notify the employer as soon as possible and, generally, follow the employer's usual procedures.

Employees do not have to share a medical diagnosis but must provide enough information to the employer so it can determine if the leave qualifies for FMLA protection. Sufficient information could include informing an employer that the employee is or will be unable to perform his or her job functions, that a family member cannot perform daily activities, or that hospitalization or continuing medical treatment is necessary. Employees must inform the employer if the need for leave is for a reason for which FMLA leave was previously taken or certified.

Employers can require a certification or periodic recertification supporting the need for leave. If the employer determines that the certification is incomplete, it must provide a written notice indicating what additional information is required.

#### **Employer Responsibilities**

Once an employer becomes aware that an employee's need for leave is for a reason that may qualify under the FMLA, the employer must notify the employee if he or she is eligible for FMLA leave and, if eligible, must also provide a notice of rights and responsibilities under the FMLA. If the employee is not eligible, the employer must provide a reason for ineligibility.

Employers must notify its employees if leave will be designated as FMLA leave, and if so, how much leave will be designated as FMLA leave.

#### **Enforcement**

Employees may file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Labor, Wage and Hour Division, or may bring a private lawsuit against an employer.

The FMLA does not affect any federal or state law prohibiting discrimination or supersede any state or local law or collective bargaining agreement that provides greater family or medical leave rights.

For additional information or to file a complaint:

1-866-4-USWAGE

(1-866-487-9243) TTY: 1-877-889-5627

www.dol.gov/whd

U.S. Department of Labor – Wage and Hour Division



## **USERRA NOTICE**

#### Your Rights Under The Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act

USERRA protects the job rights of individuals who voluntarily or involuntarily leave employment positions to undertake military service or certain types of service in the National Disaster Medical System. USERRA also prohibits employers from discriminating against past and present members of the uniformed services, and applicants to the uniformed services.

#### **Reemployment Rights**

You have the right to be reemployed in your civilian job if you leave that job to perform service in the uniformed service and:

- You ensure that your employer receives advance written or verbal notice of your service;
- You have five years or less of cumulative service in the uniformed services while with that particular employer;
- You return to work or apply for reemployment in a timely manner after conclusion of service;
   and
- You have not been separated from service with a disqualifying discharge or under other than honorable conditions.

If you are eligible to be reemployed, you must be restored to the job and benefits you would have attained if you had not been absent due to military service or, in some cases, a comparable job.

#### Right to Be Free from Discrimination and Retaliation

If you:

- Are a past or present member of the uniformed service;
- Have applied for membership in the uniformed service; or
- Are obligated to serve in the uniformed service; then an employer may not deny you
  - Initial employment;
  - Reemployment;
  - Retention in employment;
  - o Promotion; or
  - Any benefit of employment because of this status.

In addition, an employer may not retaliate against anyone assisting in the enforcement of USERRA rights, including testifying or making a statement in connection with a proceeding under USERRA, even if that person has no service connection.



#### **Health Insurance Protection**

- If you leave your job to perform military service, you have the right to elect to continue your existing employer-based health plan coverage for you and your dependents for up to 24 months while in the military.
- Even if you do not elect to continue coverage during your military service, you have the right to be reinstated in your employer's health plan when you are reemployed, generally without any waiting periods or exclusions (e.g., pre-existing condition exclusions) except for service-connected illnesses or injuries.

#### **Enforcement**

• The U.S. Department of Labor, Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS) is authorized to investigate and resolve complaints of USERRA violations.

For assistance in filing a complaint, or for any other information on USERRA, contact VETS at 1-866-4-USA-DOL or visit its Web site at <a href="https://www.dol.gov/agencies/vets/programs/userra">https://www.dol.gov/agencies/vets/programs/userra</a>. An interactive online USERRA Advisor can be viewed at <a href="https://webapps.dol.gov/elaws/vets/userra/">https://webapps.dol.gov/elaws/vets/userra/</a>.

- If you file a complaint with VETS and VETS is unable to resolve it, you may request that your
  case be referred to the Department of Justice or the Office of Special Counsel, as applicable,
  for representation.
- You may also bypass the VETS process and bring a civil action against an employer for violations of USERRA.

The rights listed here may vary depending on the circumstances. The text of this notice was prepared by VETS and may be viewed here: <a href="https://www.dol.gov/agencies/vets/programs/userra/poster">https://www.dol.gov/agencies/vets/programs/userra/poster</a>.

Federal law requires employers to notify employees of their rights under USERRA, and employers may meet this requirement by displaying the text of this notice where they customarily place notices for employees. U.S. Department of Labor, Veterans' Employment and Training Service, 1-866-487-2365.



## **COBRA GENERAL NOTICE**

## Model General Notice of COBRA Continuation Coverage Rights (For use by single-employer group health plans)

\*\*Continuation Coverage Rights Under COBRA\*\*

#### Introduction

You're getting this notice because you recently gained coverage under a group health plan (the Plan). This notice has important information about your right to COBRA continuation coverage, which is a temporary extension of coverage under the Plan. This notice explains COBRA continuation coverage, when it may become available to you and your family, and what you need to do to protect your right to get it. When you become eligible for COBRA, you may also become eligible for other coverage options that may cost less than COBRA continuation coverage.

The right to COBRA continuation coverage was created by a federal law, the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (COBRA). COBRA continuation coverage can become available to you and other members of your family when group health coverage would otherwise end. For more information about your rights and obligations under the Plan and under federal law, you should review the Plan's Summary Plan Description or contact the Plan Administrator.

You may have other options available to you when you lose group health coverage. For example, you may be eligible to buy an individual plan through the Health Insurance Marketplace. By enrolling in coverage through the Marketplace, you may qualify for lower costs on your monthly premiums and lower out-of-pocket costs. Additionally, you may qualify for a 30-day special enrollment period for another group health plan for which you are eligible (such as a spouse's plan), even if that plan generally doesn't accept late enrollees.

#### What is COBRA continuation coverage?

COBRA continuation coverage is a continuation of Plan coverage when it would otherwise end because of a life event. This is also called a "qualifying event." Specific qualifying events are listed later in this notice. After a qualifying event, COBRA continuation coverage must be offered to each person who is a "qualified beneficiary." You, your spouse, and your dependent children could become qualified beneficiaries if coverage under the Plan is lost because of the qualifying event. Under the Plan, qualified beneficiaries who elect COBRA continuation coverage must pay for COBRA continuation coverage.

If you're an employee, you'll become a qualified beneficiary if you lose your coverage under the Plan because of the following qualifying events:

- Your hours of employment are reduced, or
- Your employment ends for any reason other than your gross misconduct.



If you're the spouse of an employee, you'll become a qualified beneficiary if you lose your coverage under the Plan because of the following qualifying events:

- Your spouse dies;
- Your spouse's hours of employment are reduced;
- Your spouse's employment ends for any reason other than his or her gross misconduct;
- Your spouse becomes entitled to Medicare benefits (under Part A, Part B, or both); or
- You become divorced or legally separated from your spouse.

Your dependent children will become qualified beneficiaries if they lose coverage under the Plan because of the following qualifying events:

- The parent-employee dies;
- The parent-employee's hours of employment are reduced;
- The parent-employee's employment ends for any reason other than his or her gross misconduct;
- The parent-employee becomes entitled to Medicare benefits (Part A, Part B, or both);
- · The parents become divorced or legally separated; or
- The child stops being eligible for coverage under the Plan as a "dependent child."

Sometimes, filing a proceeding in bankruptcy under title 11 of the United States Code can be a qualifying event. If a proceeding in bankruptcy is filed with respect to the Town of Longboat Key, and that bankruptcy results in the loss of coverage of any retired employee covered under the Plan, the retired employee will become a qualified beneficiary. The retired employee's spouse, surviving spouse, and dependent children will also become qualified beneficiaries if bankruptcy results in the loss of their coverage under the Plan.

#### When is COBRA continuation coverage available?

The Plan will offer COBRA continuation coverage to qualified beneficiaries only after the Plan Administrator has been notified that a qualifying event has occurred. The employer must notify the Plan Administrator of the following qualifying events:

- The end of employment or reduction of hours of employment;
- · Death of the employee;
- · Commencement of a proceeding in bankruptcy with respect to the employer; or
- The employee's becoming entitled to Medicare benefits (under Part A, Part B, or both).

For all other qualifying events (divorce or legal separation of the employee and spouse or a dependent child's losing eligibility for coverage as a dependent child), you must notify the Plan Administrator within 30 days after the qualifying event occurs. You must provide this notice to: Lisa Silvertooth, Human Resources Manager, at (941) 316-1999, x1811, or <a href="mailto:lsilvertooth@longboatkey.org">lsilvertooth@longboatkey.org</a>.



#### How is COBRA continuation coverage provided?

Once the Plan Administrator receives notice that a qualifying event has occurred, COBRA continuation coverage will be offered to each of the qualified beneficiaries. Each qualified beneficiary will have an independent right to elect COBRA continuation coverage. Covered employees may elect COBRA continuation coverage on behalf of their spouses, and parents may elect COBRA continuation coverage on behalf of their children.

COBRA continuation coverage is a temporary continuation of coverage that generally lasts for 18 months due to employment termination or reduction of hours of work. Certain qualifying events, or a second qualifying event during the initial period of coverage, may permit a beneficiary to receive a maximum of 36 months of coverage.

There are also ways in which this 18-month period of COBRA continuation coverage can be extended:

Disability extension of 18-month period of COBRA continuation coverage

If you or anyone in your family covered under the Plan is determined by Social Security to be disabled and you notify the Plan Administrator in a timely fashion, you and your entire family may be entitled to get up to an additional 11 months of COBRA continuation coverage, for a maximum of 29 months. The disability would have to have started at some time before the 60th day of COBRA continuation coverage and must last at least until the end of the 18-month period of COBRA continuation coverage.

Second qualifying event extension of 18-month period of continuation coverage

If your family experiences another qualifying event during the 18 months of COBRA continuation coverage, the spouse and dependent children in your family can get up to 18 additional months of COBRA continuation coverage, for a maximum of 36 months, if the Plan is properly notified about the second qualifying event. This extension may be available to the spouse and any dependent children getting COBRA continuation coverage if the employee or former employee dies; becomes entitled to Medicare benefits (under Part A, Part B, or both); gets divorced or legally separated; or if the dependent child stops being eligible under the Plan as a dependent child. This extension is only available if the second qualifying event would have caused the spouse or dependent child to lose coverage under the Plan had the first qualifying event not occurred.

#### Are there other coverage options besides COBRA Continuation Coverage?

Yes. Instead of enrolling in COBRA continuation coverage, there may be other coverage options for you and your family through the Health Insurance Marketplace, Medicare, Medicaid, Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), or other group health plan coverage options (such as a spouse's plan) through what is called a "special enrollment period." Some of these options may cost less than COBRA continuation coverage. You can learn more about many of these options at <a href="https://www.healthcare.gov/">www.healthcare.gov/</a>.



## Can I enroll in Medicare instead of COBRA continuation coverage after my group health plan coverage ends?

In general, if you don't enroll in Medicare Part A or B when you are first eligible because you are still employed, after the Medicare initial enrollment period, you have an 8-month special enrollment period to sign up for Medicare Part A or B, beginning on the earlier of

- The month after your employment ends; or
- The month after group health plan coverage based on current employment ends.

If you don't enroll in Medicare and elect COBRA continuation coverage instead, you may have to pay a Part B late enrollment penalty and you may have a gap in coverage if you decide you want Part B later. If you elect COBRA continuation coverage and later enroll in Medicare Part A or B before the COBRA continuation coverage ends, the Plan may terminate your continuation coverage. However, if Medicare Part A or B is effective on or before the date of the COBRA election, COBRA coverage may not be discontinued on account of Medicare entitlement, even if you enroll in the other part of Medicare after the date of the election of COBRA coverage.

If you are enrolled in both COBRA continuation coverage and Medicare, Medicare will generally pay first (primary payer) and COBRA continuation coverage will pay second. Certain plans may pay as if secondary to Medicare, even if you are not enrolled in Medicare.

For more information visit <a href="https://www.medicare.gov/medicare-and-you">https://www.medicare.gov/medicare-and-you</a>.

#### Questions?

Questions concerning your Plan or your COBRA continuation coverage rights should be addressed to the contact or contacts identified below. For more information about your rights under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), including COBRA, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, and other laws affecting group health plans, contact the nearest Regional or District Office of the U.S. Department of Labor's Employee Benefits Security Administration (EBSA) in your area or visit <a href="www.dol.gov/ebsa">www.dol.gov/ebsa</a>. (Addresses and phone numbers of Regional and District EBSA Offices are available through EBSA's website.) For more information about the Marketplace, visit <a href="www.healthcare.gov">www.healthcare.gov</a>.

#### **Keep Your Plan informed of Address Changes**

To protect your family's rights, let the Plan Administrator know about any changes in the addresses of family members. You should also keep a copy, for your records, of any notices you send to the Plan Administrator.

#### **Plan Administrator Contact Information**

Lisa Silvertooth, Human Resources Manager, at (941) 316-1999, 1811, Isilvertooth@longboatkey.org

<sup>1</sup> https://www.medicare.gov/sign-up-change-plans/how-do-i-get-parts-a-b/part-a-part-b-sign-up-periods.



## **MARKETPLACE NOTICE**

#### **New Health Insurance Marketplace Coverage Options and Your Health Coverage**

#### PART A: General Information

When key parts of the health care law take effect in 2014, there will be a new way to buy health insurance: the Health Insurance Marketplace. To assist you as you evaluate options for you and your family, this notice provides some basic information about the new Marketplace and employment-based health coverage offered by your employer.

#### What is the Health Insurance Marketplace?

The Marketplace is designed to help you find health insurance that meets your needs and fits your budget. The Marketplace offers "one-stop shopping" to find and compare private health insurance options. You may also be eligible for a new kind of tax credit that lowers your monthly premium right away. Open enrollment for health insurance coverage through the Marketplace begins in October 2013 for coverage starting as early as January 1, 2014.

#### Can I Save Money on my Health Insurance Premiums in the Marketplace?

You may qualify to save money and lower your monthly premium, but only if your employer does not offer coverage, or offers coverage that doesn't meet certain standards. The savings on your premium that you're eligible for depends on your household income.

## Does Employer Health Coverage Affect Eligibility for Premium Savings through the Marketplace?

Yes. If you have an offer of health coverage from your employer that meets certain standards, you will not be eligible for a tax credit through the Marketplace and may wish to enroll in your employer's health plan. However, you may be eligible for a tax credit that lowers your monthly premium, or a reduction in certain cost-sharing if your employer does not offer coverage to you at all or does not offer coverage that meets certain standards. If the cost of a plan from your employer that would cover you (and not any other members of your family) is more than 9.5% of your household income for the year, or if the coverage your employer provides does not meet the "minimum value" standard set by the Affordable Care Act, you may be eligible for a tax credit.<sup>2</sup>

**Note:** If you purchase a health plan through the Marketplace instead of accepting health coverage offered by your employer, then you may lose the employer contribution (if any) to the employer-offered coverage. Also, this employer contribution -as well as your employee contribution to employer-offered coverage- is often excluded from income for Federal and State income tax purposes. Your payments for coverage through the Marketplace are made on an after- tax basis.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> An employer-sponsored health plan meets the "minimum value standard" if the plan's share of the total allowed benefit costs covered by the plan is no less than 60 percent of such costs.





#### **How Can I Get More Information?**

For more information about your coverage offered by your employer, please check your summary plan description or contact Lisa Silvertooth, Human Resources Manager, at (941) 316-1999, x1811.

The Marketplace can help you evaluate your coverage options, including your eligibility for coverage through the Marketplace and its cost. Please visit HealthCare.gov for more information, including an online application for health insurance coverage and contact information for a Health Insurance Marketplace in your area.

#### PART B: Information About Health Coverage Offered by Your Employer

This section contains information about any health coverage offered by your employer. If you decide to complete an application for coverage in the Marketplace, you will be asked to provide this information. This information is numbered to correspond to the Marketplace application.

3. Employer name Town of Longboat Key		4. Employer Identification Number (EIN) 59-6017152		
5. Employer address 501 Bay Isles Road		6. Employer phone number (941) 316-1999		
7. City  Longboat Key		8.	State Florida	9. ZIP code 34228
10. Who can we contact about employee health coverage at this job?  Lisa Silvertooth, Human Resources Manager				
11. Phone number (if different from above)	12. Email address lsilvertooth@long	gboa	tkey.org	

Here is some basic information about health coverage offered by this employer:

- •As your employer, we offer a health plan to:
- ☐ All employees. Eligible employees are:
- Some employees. Eligible employees are:
  Full-time employees are eligible for Group Health Benefits the first day of the month following thirty (30) days of continuous employment.
- •With respect to dependents:
- We do offer coverage. Eligible dependents are:

  Dependents of full-time employees described above are eligible for Group Health Benefits, the first day of the month following thirty (30) days of continuous employment.
- ☐ We do not offer coverage.
- If checked, this coverage meets the minimum value standard, and the cost of this coverage to you is intended to be affordable, based on employee wages.





\*Even if your employer intends your coverage to be affordable, you may still be eligible for a premium discount through the Marketplace. The Marketplace will use your household income, along with other factors, to determine whether you may be eligible for a premium discount. If, for example, your wages vary from week to week (perhaps you are an hourly employee or you work on a commission basis), if you are newly employed mid-year, or if you have other income losses, you may still qualify for a premium discount.

If you decide to shop for coverage in the Marketplace, HealthCare.gov will guide you through the process. Here's the employer information you'll enter when you visit HealthCare.gov to find out if you can get a tax credit to lower your monthly premiums.

The information below corresponds to the Marketplace Employer Coverage Tool. Completing this section is optional for employers but will help ensure employees understand their coverage choices.

13.	Is the employee currently eligible for coverage offered by this employer, or will the employee be eligible in the next 3 months?
	Yes (Continue) 13a. If the employee is not eligible today, including as a result of a waiting or probationary period, when is the employee eligible for coverage? (Continue) No
14.	Does the employer offer a health plan that meets the minimum value standard*?  Yes (Go to question 15)   No (STOP and return form to employee)
15.	For the lowest cost plan that meets the minimum value standard <sup>3</sup> offered only to the employee (don't include family plans): If the employer has wellness programs, provide the premium that the employee would pay if he/she received the maximum discount for any tobacco cessation programs, and didn't receive any other discounts based on wellness programs.  a. How much would the employee have to pay in premiums for this plan?  b. How often?   Weekly   Every 2 weeks   Twice a month   Monthly   Quarterly   Yearly

\* An employer-sponsored health plan meets the "minimum value standard" if the plan's share of the total allowed benefit costs covered by the plan is no less than 60 percent of such costs (Section 36B(c)(2)(C)(ii) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986)

If the plan year will end soon and you know that the health plans offered will change, go to guestion





16. If you don't know, STOP and return form to employee.

16.	What change will the employer make for the new plan year?
	□ Employer won't offer health coverage
	<ul> <li>Employer will start offering health coverage to employees or change the premium for the lowest-cost plan available only to the employee that meets the minimum value standard.* (Premium should reflect the discount for wellness programs. See question 15.)</li> </ul>
	a. How much would the employee have to pay in premiums for this plan? b. How often? □ Weekly □ Every 2 weeks □ Twice a month □ Monthly □ Quarterly □ Yearly



## SELF-FUNDED, NON-FEDERAL GOVERNMENTAL PLAN OPT-OUT NOTICE

#### **Notice to Enrollees**

Under a Federal law known as the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA), Public Law 104-191, as amended, group health plans must generally comply with the requirements listed below. However, the law also permits State and local governmental employers that sponsor health plans to elect to exempt a plan from these requirements for any part of the plan that is "self-funded" by the employer, rather than provided through a health insurance policy. We (in conjunction with other local Florida governmental employers) offer our health insurance through a self-funded group health plan called the Public Risk Management of Florida ("PRM") Group Health Trust. The self-funded health plan is sponsored by PRM and we are a voting member of the PRM Board of Directors. The PRM Board of Directors has elected to exempt the PRM Group Health Trust from the following federal requirement:

**Parity in the application of certain limits to mental health benefits.** Group health plans (of employers that employ more than 50 employees) that provide both medical and surgical benefits and mental health or substance use disorder benefits must ensure that financial requirements and treatment limitations applicable to mental health or substance use disorder benefits are no more restrictive than the predominant financial requirements and treatment limitations applicable to substantially all medical and surgical benefits covered by the plan.

The exemption from this Federal requirement will be in effect for the period of plan coverage beginning October 1, 2025 and ending September 30, 2026. The election may be renewed for subsequent plan years.

However, you should be aware that the PRM Group Health Trust will continue to provide mental health and substance abuse benefits as required by Florida statute for the 2025/2026 period of coverage. Those mental health and substance abuse benefits are the same mental health and substance abuse benefits that were available to you in the 2024/2025 plan year. Those benefits are summarized in the Summary of Benefits distributed to you during open enrollment.

#### **PRA Disclosure Statement**

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is **0938-0702**. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gather the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. If you have comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate(s) or suggestions for improving this form, please write to: CMS, 7500 Security Boulevard, Attn: PRA Reports Clearance Officer, Mail Stop C4- 26-05, Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850.



## **WELLNESS PROGRAM DISCLOSURES**

Your health plan is committed to helping you achieve your best health. Rewards for participating in a wellness program are available to all employees. If you think you might be unable to meet a standard for a reward under this wellness program, you might qualify for an opportunity to earn the same reward by different means. Contact us at (941) 316-1999, x1811, and we will work with you (and, if you wish, with your doctor) to find a wellness program with the same reward that is right for you in light of your health status.

#### NOTICE REGARDING WELLNESS PROGRAM

The Town of Longboat Key Wellness Program is a voluntary wellness program available to all employees. The program is administered according to federal rules permitting employer-sponsored wellness programs that seek to improve employee health or prevent disease, including the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008, and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, as applicable, among others. If you choose to participate in the wellness program you will be asked to complete a voluntary health risk assessment or "HRA" that asks a series of questions about your health-related activities and behaviors and whether you have or had certain medical conditions (e.g., cancer, diabetes, or heart disease). You will also be asked to complete a biometric screening, which will include a blood test for blood glucose and cholesterol levels. You are not required to complete the HRA or to participate in the blood test or other medical examinations.

However, when an employee chooses to participate in the wellness program, the employee will receive an incentive of up to two paid shifts off: Earn 500 points to receive one shift off; earn 1,000 points to receive a second shift off. "Shift" is defined as 12 hours for Police employees and 8 hours for General employees. Although you are not required to complete the HRA or participate in the biometric screening, only employees who do so will receive points toward the incentive. Additionally, once you earn 1,200 points or more, you will be entered into a raffle drawing. If you are unable to participate in any of the health-related activities or achieve any of the health outcomes required to earn an incentive, you may be entitled to a reasonable accommodation or an alternative standard. You may request a reasonable accommodation or an alternative standard by contacting the Human Resources department at (941) 316-1999, 1811.

The information from your HRA and the results from your biometric screening will be used to provide you with information to help you understand your current health and potential risks, and may also be used to offer you services through the wellness program, such as coaching. You also are encouraged to share your results or concerns with your own doctor.



#### **Protections from Disclosure of Medical Information**

We are required by law to maintain the privacy and security of your personally identifiable health information. Although the wellness program and the Town of Longboat Key may use aggregate information it collects to design a program based on identified health risks in the workplace, the Town of Longboat Key Wellness Program will never disclose any of your personal information either publicly or to the employer, except as necessary to respond to a request from you for a reasonable accommodation needed to participate in the wellness program, or as expressly permitted by law. Medical information that personally identifies you that is provided in connection with the wellness program will not be provided employment.

Your health information will not be sold, exchanged, transferred, or otherwise disclosed except to the extent permitted by law to carry out specific activities related to the wellness program, and you will not be asked or required to waive the confidentiality of your health information as a condition of participating in the wellness program or receiving an incentive. Anyone who receives your information for purposes of providing you services as part of the wellness program will abide by the same confidentiality requirements. The only individual(s) who will receive your personally identifiable health information is Florida Blue in order to provide you with services under the wellness program.

In addition, all medical information obtained through the wellness program will be maintained separate from your personnel records, information stored electronically will be encrypted, and no information you provide as part of the wellness program will be used in making any employment decision. Appropriate precautions will be taken to avoid any data breach, and in the event a data breach occurs involving information you provide in connection with the wellness program, we will notify you immediately.

You may not be discriminated against in employment because of the medical information you provide as part of participating in the wellness program, nor may you be subjected to retaliation if you choose not to participate.

If you have questions or concerns regarding this notice, or about protections against discrimination and retaliation, please contact Lisa Silvertooth, Human Resources Manager, (941) 316-1999, x1811, <a href="mailto:lsilvertooth@longboatkey.org">lsilvertooth@longboatkey.org</a>.

